

Minutes of Board Meeting Unit 361

Date:

June 2, 2018

Location:

Denver Metro Bridge Club

Time:

10:01 AM

Attendees:

Margaret Devere, Wayne Eckerling, Rick Gardner, Alice Kinningham, Dan Marthaler, Vard Nelson, Nancy Rassbach, Bob Stansbury, Rob Vetter
District 17 Representatives: Jennifer O'Neill, Jerry Ranney
Legal Counsel: Penny Coffman

The meeting was called to order by President Rick Gardner.

Minutes:

Minutes from the May meeting were approved.

Financial Reports:

The final numbers from the Regional are not yet available, but indications are that revenues will be up significantly over last year.

The financial report from the March Sectional will be sent by the end of this week.

Action Items Review:

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| Rick | Discussion with Colorado Springs indicated that they are planning to host the Front Range Challenge again this year. Rick sent an email to club owners regarding the mentor program but has not received any feedback. |
| Rob | Flyers will be available for the I/N tournament at the July Sectional. We have not received any information about distributing Pianola emails to a wider geographic area for Regional advertising. |
| Dan | Having issues with recording Purple Pass data for the Regional in QuickBooks. Lack of restroom facilities at Wells Fargo bank locations is an issue for Dan, and he will look at the possibility of changing our account to a different bank. |
| Bob | Bob will contact the ACBL via email to update Tourney Trax. |
| Vard | Noted that he was unable to access partnership email. Rob will check this out. |

Margaret Steel Images has agreed to provide new name tags at no charge, since the ones they provided have a variegated background and are difficult to read. Margaret will request two sample badges, one with the light copper color, one with the yellow, both with the new font. HostGator can copy files from the account owned by Kitty Cooper if they have her ID and password. HostGator supports setting up subsites.

Budget Discussion:

Dan presented the budget document. It was suggested that years prior to 2018 should show actual amounts, and that 2017 should show both budgeted and actuals. The board voted to approve the draft budget as the official 2018 budget, after one input error is corrected and the actuals are included. Dan will provide an updated document.

Regional Review:

We had more than 200 additional tables over last year, and revenues apparently increased from approximately \$88,000 to \$98,000. The group discussed Wayne's survey results, which showed largely favorable opinions.

Although we have contracts with the hotel for the next three years, we want to begin negotiations for future years. Jerry mentioned that we may be able to get help from a D17 person who was in the profession of negotiating contracts. It was agreed that the hotel location is generally acceptable for most local and out of town players.

A comment was made about the lack of pencil sharpeners. Jerry resolved the issue during the tournament, and also explained how to plug in the sharpeners using floor outlets.

There were a few issues regarding the use of the new Purple Pass (credit card) facility. It was proposed that in the future we may use the facility to purchase entry vouchers (or possibly Bridge Bucks) that can be then used to purchase entries. This would remove the bottleneck at the entry selling desk.

It was noted that the food service between sessions was improved over previous years.

The use of bridge ambassadors, people who volunteered to play with players who could not be matched with partners and were given a free play to do so, was considered successful.

It was noted that caddies capable of moving heavy objects should be engaged for next year's tournament to do tear down of mezzanine rooms on Sunday or early Monday.

Rather than have a more detailed review of the regional, it was decided to handle the extended review by email and an offsite meeting. To begin, Rick requested that people send an email with any comments on directors.

July Sectional Preparation:

Vard as Partnership Chairman agreed to coordinate teams for the Friday night Eight Is Enough event. Rob will check to ensure that the partnership email address is working and is accessible to Vard.

Board Vacancy:

Pam Root resigned from the board due to not being mentioned in Rick's speech on Monday at the Regional. The board discussed options for hospitality for the July Sectional. Possible replacements are Ramona Berger, Joe Jenkins, or Shelbie Bastiaans. Rick will contact Jeanne Achziger, who was previously hospitality chairman, to see if she would be willing to fill in for the remainder of this year or to assist someone else, as no current board members have

experience as hospitality chairman. Alice volunteered to assist for this year if no new person is available.

It was suggested that it might be a good idea to identify “board alternates” and have them standing by for similar issues in the future.

District 17 Report:

The District determined that there will be “core” Regionals every year in Albuquerque, Tucson, Denver, Las Vegas, and Phoenix. An additional Regional will alternate between Taos and Colorado Springs. Due to financial issues in Las Vegas, this Regional will be run by the District rather than the Unit.

District 17 is now back in the Western Conference, but the conference no longer has an expense to the District, as there is no publication. The Western Conference is now only responsible for STACs, and will share revenue with the District.

The percentage of gold points awarded at Non-Life Master Regionals has been increased. Masterpoint awards for GNTs will be increased for next year. The District will add a subsidy for 4th place pairs in the NAP in B and C flights.

The Customer Service Desk at the Regional was seen as a success, and will be renamed Member Service Desk in future tournaments.

Front Range Challenge:

Colorado Springs has agreed to host the event on September 8. We need to determine bracket point requirements and selection criteria.

Action Items:

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| Rick | Contact Jeanne Achziger about hospitality assistance for July and November.
Contact other people mentioned about filling in for the remainder of Pam's term (rest of 2018).
Contact Jim Calhoun to verify Front Range Challenge winners for missing years.
Update website to show “Eight Is Enough” as Friday night game for July Sectional.
Email Kitty Cooper to get ID and password to transfer documents to new website.
Create list of possible standby board members for sudden resignations. |
| Bob | Send email to tournaments@acbl.org to update people's names for future tournaments. Be sure to specify the sanction number. |
| Margaret | Attempt to acquire sample name tags using new font plus both light copper color (matching some older badges) and lemon yellow. The board authorized paying for the samples if necessary. |
| Dan | Provide updated 2018 budget to include actuals from prior years and 2017 budget amounts.
Send report for March Sectional to board members.
Check into the possibility of shifting bank account to another bank.
Finalize Regional finances/report. |
| Rob | Check with directors whether they can run a Swiss Pairs event as a possible alternative for the November Sectional.
Provide flyers for the I/N and November Sectionals for review at the next meeting |

to be distributed at the July Sectional.
Create new website with forwarding to current site.
Send Pianola email for July Friday night Eight Is Enough game.
Work with Vard to ensure that Partnership email account is working.

Wayne Convene a group to discuss next year's Regional after the July Sectional.
Get new contracts going with the hotel.

All Email Rick regarding any issues with directors at the May Regional.

Next Meeting:

July 7, 2018, at 10 AM at Denver Metro Bridge.

Adjournment:

11:43 AM

Respectfully submitted,

NANCY RASSBACH
Secretary 2018
Unit 361