

Unit 361 June Board Meeting minutes, 7/21/2021. **Actions are in red.**

Meeting began at 10:02. Attendees: Rick Gardner, Carol Gumpert, Tom Barrett, Jennifer O'neill (District 17 rep), Rita Simas, Ed Yosses, Rob Vetter, Kathleen Murphy, Donna Givner, Tom Purl. Not attended: Julie Clark

Last month's meeting minutes accepted.

**Financials:** Ed sent June 2021 to the board. No issues.

**Skip Carson** presented some thoughts and comments to the board. 1) What is the purpose of the Board, 2) What does the Board want to achieve and what is their money to be used for. In the past, excess money was distributed to clubs based on relative headcount.

**Contracts:** 3 are in process with Lexie at Arapahoe Fairgrounds. Roxie's still in process for Summit.

**Membership:** Tom B presented results of membership subcommittee discussions. Goals are to increase young players, increase retired players, and increase diversity/minority players. He spoke with James Dulan regarding the ABA association which has a Sertoma service event where we might be able to be involved with. **Tom will get a contact from James.** Also, we should expand to other service groups such as Elks, etc. **Rita will try to get a contact for Hispanic groups from the Democratic Latino Initiative.**

Rick felt that time and effort to recruit young players has a low reward. Discussed issues with dealing with schools such as requiring background checks, requiring a teacher sponsor, and cannibalizing other clubs such as chess and mathletes. Rita felt we should focus on college dorms and retirement (55+) communities. **Jennifer will contact Sally Knesser to see if we can help convert her students to duplicate players.** Other communities mentioned are Heather Gardens and Windsor Gardens. Colleges would be DU, CU, CSU, Mines, Regis.

**Sectional:** Kathleen reviewed ACBL Covid requirements as of now, and what we need to tell ACBL we are doing for our sectional. Jennifer read ACBL message that masks are no longer required for vaccinated people. We should have a COVID poster to display showing rules. Discussed ACBL exemption process. **Jennifer will find out how it works** (is it up to the assigned Director, do forms get emailed in prior to event, etc.). Carol presented information about hand stamps. It was decided to use wrist bands for November and evaluate afterwards. (they are available on Amazon). **Kathleen needs to get with Roxie regarding schedule for Cowboy deliveries and storage of crates. Also, Jim Calhoun wants to fix broken crates – is there a place for him to do that (e.g. loading dock) without noise to the players.** With 9' table centers, we expect to be able to have 82 tables and do not expect to overflow so we are not setting up a reservation system.

Caddies – **Tom has letter ready to go out to potential caddies** on August 1. However, he no longer has the list that was given to him so he handed out a list of the people he still knew about. Let him know of others before Aug 1 letter. Also, **Julie should help him re-contact the player whose Church helps with providing caddies.** Caddies are paid \$50 per session. **Ask Julie if we have an age requirement.** They need to 1) pick up entry forms and 2) move boards in team games. We think we need 2 caddies for Friday, 1 for Saturday, and 3 for Sunday. Discussed having a Tip Jar – no decision made.

Partnerships – **Tom will get Vard Nelson's info and contact him regarding the partnership board he used.** Rob can help move it if necessary.

Hospitality – We will not provide lunch options for Friday and Saturday. **Carol will change the time of the afternoon game to 3:00 on flyer, Rob will do so on website.** Subway lunch will work for Sunday. We will be able to have people serve their own coffee from carafes, and will have sweetener and cream packets on separate table. Also, will provide hand sanitizer wipes individual packets. Need 1 kitchen staff person for coffee and to pour drinks.

Payments – discussed ‘contactless’ payment via Square, Venmo, or other credit card/bank payments. **Ed and Jennifer will look into it, but probably will not do it in November.**

Bronco games: November Sunday is away game, January Sunday is home vs. Kansas City! May affect attendance.

**Regional:** Jennifer and Julie prepared a preliminary budget. It did not have costs yet for ‘give away’ day. Developing a ‘break even’ budget is in process. Decided to postpone further discussion until next meeting.

**Mentor program:** Donna reviewed main points of the program. Concern is that there is not much publication and usage of the program. **Donna and Carol will develop emails to be sent (via Pianola) to potential mentees (under 200 pts) and potential mentors (1500+ pts). Also will design a flyer to be posted at clubs.**

**299er I/N tourney:** Oct 9 and 10. Will discuss details at August board meeting.

**Directories:** Box found of old ones will be destroyed. Nobody has had any feedback regarding the ‘share’ of data. **Carol will do a pull from ACBL after Aug. 1 and prepare the directories with help from Rob and Margaret.**

**Rick** reiterated policy of respect for all Board Members since we are all volunteers and we are all trying to help promote bridge to our community.

11:40 Adjourned. **Next meeting will be August 17 at 10:00. (Meetings will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month).**