

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Washington Bridge League on May 20, 2020

The meeting was held online via Zoom.

In attendance were Board members Linda Marshall, Hadi Abushakra, Herb Schulken, Carole Banks, Clyde Kruskal, Lloyd Rawley, Mary Tenenbaum, Alex Gretsinger, Chuck Dearolf, and Eileen Inglesby-Houghton. Also present were Tournament Chair Brad Theurer and Unit Game Manager Chris Miller.

President Linda Marshall called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

The minutes of the meeting of April 22, 2020 were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Herb reported that last month we thought we would take in about \$15 a table but it is about \$.50 less because there are credit card fees and the ACBL charges \$1.00 a table. Herb did a break-even analysis for our individual events as well as for our monthly situation. We need about 7 tables to break even. Our costs for each individual event are the fixed cost of \$100 for the Director and the variable costs for BBO and ACBL fees. Our monthly costs are a little different. Currently, we need about 110 tables to break even for a month. We have fixed costs of about \$1,100 a month, *i.e.*, table storage; caddies; boards; storage closet; and club manager fees. This assumes that our commission from ACBL for the "support your clubs games" remains about \$700 a month. If the commission goes up, our break-even amount goes down.

Herb advised that all of the remittances that we receive from ACBL from now on are coming to us electronically and are going directly into our bank account. We used to receive checks from ACBL for quarterly memberships and new member recruitment, but now these payments are being sent to us electronically. In addition, we are getting remittances for our virtual games and commissions for our "support your clubs games" within two weeks of the end of the month, which is a remarkably fast turn-around for ACBL.

Finally, Herb has sent each Board member a copy of the IRS 990 that he has prepared to submit for this year. He has heard back from most of us and unless someone has a problem with it, he will be filing it in the next day or so.

UNIT GAME

Chris said that our Thursday game is doing very well, and our Monday game is doing okay. Our Wednesday game, unless something radically changes by next week, is probably dead. Next week all of our games will award silver points. ACBL is charging a \$6 a table sanction fee and NVBA is going to be charging \$7 for the entry fees on Thursday night. Linda said that we can just charge \$6 for the Monday night entry fee. Chris said that we will be starting a 0-20 game this Thursday. Linda said that we have received a lot of feedback about the amount of time allowed for boards in our games, and that we need to decide how many minutes we want to

allow per board -- 6 or 7 minutes. It was decided Chris will adjust the Monday game to allow 7 minutes a board, and he will communicate with Marty Bley to let her know that the WBL would prefer to have 7 minutes a board in all of the events on Thursday night – the Open game, the 0 to 499 game, and the 0 to 2500 game.

Chris said that he has gotten some requests from players in the Severna Park and Columbia games to play in our games and Ron Conlon has granted permission but there is a question whether we'd want to pool our membership with theirs. The sense of the Board was that we should do that. Chris said he will raise this with Ron. Chris said that while we are happy to have players from other clubs play in our games, we don't want their clubs to lose revenue because people would rather play in our games. He also said that any time any player from any club in the country requests to play in our games, we will give them permission.

The Board decided to make a donation of \$75 to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital in memory of Marian Carrigan, the mother of Shawn Stringer, District Six Past President.

#### ROUND ROBIN

Linda said that this year's Round Robin will be played on line. All of the A teams that signed up will be playing and Stevie is going to add a team which will make two leagues with 5 teams in each.

Chuck said that so far only two of the B teams have said they are willing to play online and he said that we really need to have at least 4 teams to have a Round Robin. He will continue to look for some additional players though.

Linda thanked Chuck for putting together a list of the WBL clubs that are now online. Alex will be putting up a list of these clubs on our website. Chuck suggested that instead of putting up a list that includes all NVBA and MBA clubs, we could include a link to the NVBA and MBA websites where these clubs are listed.

Linda said that we should all think about having our annual meeting and how we should have it.

Our next meeting will be on June 24, 2020 and will be online.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Inglesby-Houghton

