

ACBL UNIT 112 BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

VIRTUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

AUGUST 15, 2020

Present: Pat Stadelmaier, Bruce Toder, Mark McDermott, Betty Youmans, Mary Miller, Sandy Stockton, Doug Bradley, Lois Sanders, Richard Hurd, Eileen Schuchman, Kathy Landon, Mike Mihevc, Jim Carroll, Bob Simard, Jim Patton, Ornit Grossman, Mary Kay Quiggle, Kristen Sullivan, Diana Laurent, and Sharon Steinberg. Absent: Dan Boye, Jerry Manioci and Joseph King.

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 by President Pat Stadelmaier.

Minutes of November 16, 2019 were approved (Jim & Mary Kay).

Treasurer's Report:

Audit: Kathy said she compared the bank statements with the check register and the ledger. The balances agreed to the year end balance sheet numbers as reported by the treasurer. There were a couple of minor discrepancies in the ledger and corrections to be made were noted. The audit report was submitted to the secretary for her records. **A motion was made to accept the audit (Mary and Mary Kay). Motion Approved.**

Mark submitted the Treasurer's Report dated August 1, 2020. The report showed the unit had around \$4,400 income and \$1,300 in expenses so our net worth is now \$29,271.63. Our biggest income was from the ACBL. We have two mutual funds (tax free and treasury fund) which did well for a couple of months but now are not doing very well. He said the future looks less pleasant; however, we have a large bank account so we can handle lower volume. Regionals will be affected as the numbers go down. **A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report (Betty, Lois). Motion Approved.**

Betty raised a question about the Unit Clubs financial needs and that the Unit may need to be called upon to help them financially. However, everyone contacted felt they were going to be all right this year. ACBL virtual games have helped some clubs survive.

District 4 Meeting Report: Players who qualified for the North American pairs and were scheduled to play this year will be invited to play in St. Louis next year.

Regional Tournament – August 2-8, 2021:

Mary said even though contracts had been signed for 2020 and 2021 we lost no money because we had to cancel the Regional this year.

Pat thanked Mary for chairing the Regionals for the last 6 years and asked if anyone would like to volunteer to chair the next 3 Regional Tournaments. Mary said she would be willing to work with anyone who was interested in chairing this event. The Chairman does not have to be a member of the Board. Jim, Mark and Pat will form a committee to work on the Regional.

Sectional Tournament Schedule:

Pat said there is a new tournament fee schedule which was effective April 2020 and she would have Sandy send it out. Also, that the District is very pessimistic about tournaments in 2021. Below is the proposed schedule for 2021:

Feb. 8-14, 2021	STaC D4; U135 (D6)	Sectional	STaC
Mar. 27-28, 2021	Webster (Rochester)	Sectional	Open
Apr. 9-10, 2021	Rochester	Sectional	I/N
May 3-9, 2021	STaC D4	Sectional	STaC
May 15-16, 2021	Elmira/Ithaca	Sectional	Open
July 26-Aug. 1, 2021	STaC D4; U135 (D6)	Sectional	Open
August 2-8, 2021	(Rochester -Henrietta)	Regional	Open
Sept. 25-26, 2021	Utica	Sectional	Open
Oct. 2-3, 2021	Webster (Rochester)	Sectional	Open
Nov. 6-7, 2021	Waterloo	Sectional	Open
Nov. 15-21, 2021	STaC D4; U135 (D6)	Sectional	STaC

Note: Bob Simard informed us that the Sectional scheduled in Cicero for June 12-13, 2021 was cancelled.

Free Plays: Discussion was held on the subject of free plays and whether to continue with them. Mary Kay said the original idea was to encourage people to continue playing bridge. **Mary made a motion that we continue sending free plays but stop dating them and instead put on an issue date. Jim seconded it. Motion approved.**

Trophy Races: The Unit agreed that there would be no trophy races this year.

Website: Doug will remove the password protect from the website so that all players can access information on it; such as the minutes. It was felt that many players aren't even aware there is a website and so we need to reach out to players about using the website. Doug said we do not have access to mass mailing any more. However, Jim and Doug have been working together and feel Constant Contact might benefit the Unit. The cost is about \$500 a year Mohawk Valley and Ithaca stated they have their own websites. Mary said RABA has more traffic because players are checking scores there. Pat asked Doug if the smaller clubs without websites would be able to post information on the Unit site. Doug said he would be happy to put information on the website. You can contact him at tallyh0@rochester.rr.com.

Betty asked if the By-laws are posted on the website. Pat said they are and she will work with Sandy to have the updated version posted.

Education Committee Report: Mary said there has been a lot of discussion at the District level. She personally believes we are moving into one of the more critical years of the ACBL. The question is if club bridge does start up again, how many players will come back. She believes the future of duplicate bridge will rest in education. She has started teaching

on Shark Bridge which is similar to BBO and this allows her to teach more students. Virtual teaching gives more playing experience.

Rick said they have lessons every Friday. However, he does not feel it is bringing new people in. They will have to figure out how to open it up to new players.

Mike said Mohawk Valley is considering lessons but do not have any at the present time.

Diane representing Oswego said that in February she had two brand new classes of 8 people.

Mary is having discussions with the ACBL to supply material to teachers. Power point presentations are needed to accompany the Audrey Grant programs. Her suggestion is for the future we need to train people to teach bridge. Pat said if you know of any players who would be interested in teaching to notify Mary. Mary will be scheduling a unit teachers meeting via Zoom.

Motion to purchase Constant Contact (Mary, Jim). Motion approved. Jim would be willing to tackle it and Pat volunteered to work with him.

Nominating Committee Report: Mary Kay and Mike submitted a slate of officers: Lois -President; Betty – Vice President; Mark – Treasurer, Sandy – Secretary, and Rick – Member at Large. Mary said the year ahead will be the most challenging in history and we need leadership from the entire Board.

Unit Championships – BBO: Jim asked if Unit championships could be set up on BBO with ACBL approval. Jim said he thought only Unit 112 players would be eligible. Rick suggested Bruce have the freedom to set one up so we can try it. It would only be advertised to Unit players. Anyone outside would have to ask Bruce if they could join. Money would go to Bruce and then he would dispense it. **A motion was made to have Bruce find out about running a Unit Championship. (Rick, Mark) Amendment was made that we have Bruce look into championships and fees be split 80/20. (Jim, Mary).** A vote was taken in regard to 80/20 split. Amendment did not pass. Bruce will look into doing Unit championships and get back to us.

The next meeting will be November 14 at 9:00 AM. Meeting adjourned at 10:36 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Stockton, Secretary, Unit 112