

Asheville Bridge Room Board Meeting

Friday, May 17, 2024

Members present: Lisa Bryant, Myra Schoen, Michele Heller, Elaine Colokathis, Sarah Manow, Beth Scarloss, Sylvia Cassel

Absent: Nick Frost

President Lisa Bryant called the meeting to order at 10:30.

Secretary's Report - Beth Scarloss made a motion to accept the Minutes of the April 12, 2024 meeting and Elaine Colokathis seconded it. The Minutes were approved.

Beth Scarloss made a motion to accept the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of April 26. Michele Heller seconded the motion. The Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Elaine presented the financial statement for the end of the fiscal year 2023-2024. Beth Scarloss made a motion to accept the Report. Michele seconded it. The Report was approved.

Lisa and Sarah moved \$70,000 of the Club's funds to a 5-mnth CD at First Citizen's Bank at an interest rate of 4.76% annually. This will earn the Club approximately \$1300 in 5 months.

Lisa Bryant requested approval to spend \$1000 to upgrade equipment, including bidding boxes, cards, and an additional set of boards. Sylvia Cassel made the motion to approve this request. Myra Schoen seconded it. The request was approved unanimously.

Regarding liability and bonding, the members of the Board are covered by Liability Insurance. Beth Israel Congregation requires that the Club also be covered by Liability Insurance, which it is. Board members are not bonded.

Membership Committee Report – A system must be set up to verify the payment of the \$10.00 Membership dues for fiscal 2024-2025 since only members can vote at the annual meeting. Lisa provided a list of the current member status with anomalies, and Michele will verify payment.

It was requested that an inventory be made of paper products and food items used for the M, W, F games. Elaine will be away for the summer, so her purchasing must be replaced. Michele will enlist others to help.

Michele will print instruction for making coffee and for cleanup of the small storage room after games so that helpers are clear on those duties.

Old Business

Bylaws – Lisa proposed changes to the Bylaws and circulated the document to the Board members who were asked to review them and suggest changes so that the document can be reviewed and possibly voted on at the next meeting.

Elaine noted that changes must be approved by the membership. The bylawws state: "The concurrence of two-thirds (2/3) of the active and voting members present shall be required to pass any amendment."

New Business

Education/Supervised Play - A 0-50 section will be established at the Friday game starting June 7 to encourage newer players. Wayne Dow, Sarah Manow and others will be assisting the 0-50 supervised play.

Participants in the OLLI bridge classes, formerly taught by Kris Boswinkel, will be welcomed at the classes at the Bridge Room by Lisa Bryant and Sarah Manow.

Promotion - Myra Schoen will provide a press release to local media regarding game information in order to encourage more awareness among new players and former members.

Special games – The next Mentor/Mentee game will be Wednesday, July 17 at 12:30. (The Bridge Room will be closed from July 10-13 for the Flat Rock Tournament.)

Focus Group – Lisa, Wayne and Sarah will be moderating a discussion and focus group for 0-1500 point-holding members on Friday, May 24 from 10:30 –11:30. Brunch will be served starting at 10:00.. The purpose is to elicit helpful suggestions to improve the experience of playing at the Bridge Room and to further educational efforts.

The next Board meeting will be held on June 14 at 10:00

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Cassel, Secretary

