

Asheville Bridge Room Board Meeting

June 5, 2021

Zoom conference call

**Members present:** Rob Rich, Elaine Colokathis, Paul Westervelt, Max Shaw, Doug Hibshman, Sylvia Cassel

**Invitees:** Jonathan Friedel

**Members Absent:** Julie Wilcox, Ed Euler, Nick Frost

**President Rob Rich** called the meeting to order at 10:00.

**Secretary's Report** - Paul Westervelt made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 8, 2021 meeting and Elaine Colokathis seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report** - financial reports were circulated to the Board members before the meeting. The May 2021 Profit and Loss Statement showed a net income of \$1,150.51 primarily from game income, the rummage sale, refund from Horizon Heating and membership dues.

Rob Rich said he would follow up with the River Ridge landlord regarding a refund of the security deposit.

**New Business**

**Re-opening the Club for face-to-face play** - The Board has negotiated with the Beth Israel Synagogue at 229 Murdock Avenue in Asheville to rent their space on Mondays - Fridays from 12:00 to 4:30 through the end of July. Further negotiations will be held to extend the Club's occupancy beyond July.

On Tuesday, June 8, the stored bridge furniture and materials will be moved to the Beth Israel facility in preparation for the re-opening of the Club. Paul Westervelt, Jonathan Freidel, Max Shaw and Rob Rich will handle the move.

Elaine Colokathis will shop for basic supplies needed for the re-opening.

An email announcing the opening will be drafted by Sylvia Cassel and circulated to Board members for approval before being sent by Rob Rich.

Yet to be determined: the actual date of opening (likely to be July 6); changing the membership fees (and the subsequent handling of fees already paid); the per-game fees (members vs non-members); and welcoming (or not) at this time of non-vaccinated members, a decision which will be re-visited periodically. Other opening protocols will be stated as well as an encouragement to return to face-to-face club play at the ABR.

### **Vaccination policy**

Having already been decided that only players who have received complete COVID vaccinations will be allowed to play at the ABR games at Beth Israel at this time, Paul has volunteered to compile a list of those members who are fully vaccinated if they will send him a picture of their vaccination card. For some time to come, a volunteer will be needed for each day of play to take information from those players who are not on the list in order to keep the list current.

### **Suggested change in membership fee structure**

Since the current bylaws state that paid membership is required to vote in the Annual Meeting and that the Board of Directors decides on the amount of membership fees, a motion was made by Max Shaw to reduce the membership fee for this year (starting May 1, 2021) from \$25.00 to \$1.00 and to charge both members and non-members the same fee for each game played, suggested to be \$8.00. Paul Westervelt seconded the motion. Voting members present at this Board meeting voted and missing members will be asked to vote by email by sending a message to Rob Rich. Depending on the outcome of this vote, a procedure will be established, if necessary, to credit those members who have already paid their membership fees for this year.

Motion: Membership fees will be changed effective immediately for the year starting May 1, 2021 to \$1.00 from \$25.00. Members and non-members will be charged \$8.00 for each game played.

The purpose of this suggested change is to encourage members and non-members to return to face-to-face play at ABR while fulfilling the purpose of the ABR as stated in the Bylaws.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40. The date of the next Board Meeting will be Saturday, June 26 at 10:00 on Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sylvia Cassel, Secretary