

Asheville Bridge Room Board Meeting

May 21, 2026

Zoom meeting at 7:00 PM

Members present: Lisa Bryant, Karen Campbell, Melissa Himelein, Sarah Manow, Virginia Pett, Polly Ross; **Absent:** Nick Frost, John Underwood

Minutes

Karen Campbell (Sarah Manow) moved to approve the April minutes, approved.

Treasurer's Report

CD (First Citizen's Bank & Trust)	\$72,844.82
Checking Account (FCB&T)	\$ 6,146.94
Tournament Account (FCB&T)	\$ 1,967.01
Total assets	\$80,958.77

Polly Ross (Virginia Pett) moved to approve the Treasurer's report, approved.

Education

The Series I class has completed; Sarah Manow continues with supervised play, ½ to 2 tables each week. The Series II class will be offered on Zoom in July. Some younger players have joined the supervised play. Lisa Bryant and Sarah Manow are thinking about a different approach with newcomers. The Alzheimer's game will be on Sunday, June 14. There will be a pairs game, but there could also be a lesson and supervised play.

Congregation Beth Israel

There was a zoom conversation recently between Lisa Bryant, Sarah Manow, Holli Rovenger and Rebecca Snyder, Executive Director, CBI. They are working toward a written agreement between AVL Bridge Room and CBI.

Sectional Tournament

Karen Campbell suggested that we offer registration for the tournament; this would give us an indication of how many players to expect.

Polly Ross reported that the negotiation with RendezVous Restaurant for a dinner event in conjunction with the tournament had become complicated and the deposit required too much investment. She decided to offer them a sponsorship instead, but they declined.

The Honor Cards will be offered for purchase at the Annual Meeting. Donna Harvey is responsible for tracking the orders and payments. The funds will go toward Hospitality and the tournament.

The Hospitality Committee has \$1,000 budget plus the Honor Card income and the Friday snack donations. When the Hospitality Committee met on Zoom, they discussed lunch options for Thursday and Friday: taco bar and casserole day. The Board decided to charge \$10 for the lunch, with donations on the honor system. It was thought that providing a lunch in addition to breakfast and snacks would be too much work for the Hospitality Committee, and Polly Ross will explore catering options. The Committee will be responsible for breakfasts, desserts, snacks. A walk through at the venue for Hospitality Committee and Logistics Committee members is scheduled.

Virginia Pett reported that the tournament website is online, and thanked Melissa Himelein and Sarah for their work. It was suggested that the link from the Home page to the tournament page be made more obvious. The Unit 171 Board has decided to purchase coffee urns for our use during the tournament and for other Unit meetings and tournaments. Virginia is getting advice from the people who run the Flat Rock tournament on sizes. On the advice of the Unit Board, the Board decided to request dates for the 2027 AVL sectional tournament: September 30-October 2, 2027.

Virginia Pett and Polly Ross presented an estimated tournament budget. Depending upon how many people attend, we will lose between \$1000-2000.

Annual Meeting

The agenda was discussed and finalized.

New Business

Polly Ross described an opportunity for us to assist at the Hospitality Desk at the Flat Rock tournament. This will enable us to promote the AVL tournament and also sell Honor Cards. Karen Campbell and Lisa Bryant volunteered to take part.

In order to encourage purchase of Honor Cards, Virginia Pett (Melissa Himelein) moved that annual dues be zero this year, approved. All attendees at the Annual Meeting will be able to vote to approve the new Bylaws. Next year's Annual Meeting will be in June, with the new membership year beginning July 1.

Schedule

CBI is closed Friday, May 22

Annual Meeting, Friday, May 29

Mentor-Mentee game in June

Game to benefit Alzheimer's disease, Sunday, June 14

AVL Bridge Room will be closed during the Flat Rock tournament, June 17-20

Board meeting, Thursday, June 25, 7 PM

Action Items

- Ask Friday players whether to schedule future Mentor-Mentee games on Sundays
- Find an instructor for Sunday Zoom discussion of the Friday hands
- Explore ideas for Monday "pop-up" games in other locations
- Find a Wednesday snack coordinator
- Schedule a team game and Mentor-Mentee game in June
- Review ideas for tournament "boot camp" and reservations for tournament
- Make birthday celebrations special

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Pett, Secretary