Asheville Bridge Room Board Meeting

November 12, 2026

Zoom meeting at 7:00 PM

Members present: Patrick Barnes, Lisa Bryant, Melissa Himelein, Sarah Manow, Virginia Pett, Polly Ross, John Underwood

Absent: Nick Frost

Minutes

Polly Ross (John Underwood) moved to approve the October 15 minutes, approved.

Treasurer's Report

CD (First Citizens Bank & Trust, 4%)	$70,000.00
Checking Acct (First Citizens Bank & Trust)	$ 8,849.58
Tournament Account (FCB&T)	$ 4,920.18
Total assets	$83,769.76

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

2027 Sectional

ACBL has sanctioned (2710343) the AVL Sectional Tournament application, to be held Wednesday, September 29 – Friday, October 1, at the Mission Health / A-B Tech Conference Center. Virginia Pett (Melissa Himelein) moved that we hold the tournament, approved. Initial payment for the venue will be made, insurance coverage will be obtained, and a Save the Date Card will be circulated. A $2500 CD account will be opened from the 2026 tournament proceeds. Consideration of Honor Card sales was tabled.

Forty surveys from the 2026 tournament were received. Carol Bond, the Tournament Director, recommended bracketed team game instead of Swiss team game. The game schedule will be as follows:

0-299; NLM 0-750; Open Pairs on Wednesday and Thursday

Bracketed teams; Open Pairs on Friday

Holiday Party

The Holiday Party will be held on Friday, December 18th at CBI at 11 AM. Pizza will be served and players will be asked to bring a dessert to share. Beginning at 11:15 AM there will be a discussion of our plans for a new venue. There will be two sections of bridge at 12 PM.

Search for a New Venue

The Country Club of Asheville is available on Fridays, February through April 16. Polly Ross (Melissa Himelein) moved that we negotiate for play at CBI for the month of December; Friday, January 15th and 22nd; Mondays and Wednesdays in January. We will investigate whether the card room on the lower level of the Country Club would be available for Monday and Wednesday games. Motion approved.

Melissa Himelein, Polly Ross, and Stan Manow visited Abiding Savior Lutheran Church building in Fairview. The church closed in June and is vacant. It has a kitchen, parking, and storage, but no internet. A rental form will be filled out. We will invite all ABR members for a site visit on Friday, December 4 before the game.

Old Business

Discussion of membership fee and possible increase in game fees was tabled.

We will keep the ACBL Sunday game sanction for the next year ($20).

Schedule

No game Wednesday 11/25, Friday, 12/25 and 1/1/27

Site visit Abiding Savior Lutheran Church 12/4

Holiday Party 12/18 at 11 AM at CBI

Board Meeting, Thursday, December 10

Friday games January 8 and 29, February through April 16, at The Country Club of Asheville

Action Items

Negotiate with CBI for January dates

Investigate whether Country Club is available for Monday/Wednesday games

Publicize the 12/4 site visit to Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

Begin work on the 2027 Sectional Tournament

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Pett, Secretary