Asheville Bridge Room Board Meeting

October 15, 2026

Zoom meeting at 7:00 PM

Members present: Patrick Barnes, Lisa Bryant, Nick Frost, Melissa Himelein, Sarah Manow, Virginia Pett

Absent: Polly Ross, John Underwood

Minutes

Sarah Manow (Pat Barnes) moved to approve the September 15 minutes, approved.

Treasurer's Report

CD (First Citizens Bank & Trust, 4%)	$70,000.00
Checking Acct (First Citizens Bank & Trust)	$ 9,617.23
Tournament Account (FCB&T)	$ 5,320.97
Total assets	$84,938.20

A total of $4,632.09 interest was accrued from the previous CD.

Here is a breakdown of the tournament income and expenses.

<u>Expenses</u>

Venue	$ 3,825.00
Transportation & Caddies	$ 600.00
Publicity	$ 590.42
Hospitality	$ 3,666.21
Stickers	$ 447.00
Unit 171 (because we made a profit)	$ 250.00
Honor Card supplies	$ 81.76
Total Expenses	$ 9,460.39

<u>Income</u>

Cash donations (Friday refreshments)	$ 402.50
Unit 171 publicity assistance	$ 33.51
Sponsorships	$ 2,250.00
Honor Cards	$ 2,361.00

Lunches	$ 3,312.00
ACBL (Entry income – TD & table fees)	$ 6,021.56
Total Income	$14,380.57
Profit	**$ 4,920.18**

Virginia Pett (Melissa Himelein) moved to approve the Treasurer's report, approved.

Tournament report

There was a total of 234 tables during the three days, with 239 individuals playing. A post-tournament survey to 180 people will be sent. We have about 75% of the email addresses of the attendees due to pre-registration and registration at the welcome table. So many people worked hard to make the tournament the success that it was.

Application has been made to ACBL for next year's tournament, Wednesday – Friday, September 29 – October 1, 2027. The Mission Conference Center has been reserved.

Search for a New Venue

Melissa Himelein has contacted 25 churches. There are no promising possibilities in Asheville; there are other possibilities further away. Next week Polly Ross and Melissa Himelein will visit Abiding Savior Lutheran Church in Fairview, which is currently empty. There are many details to be worked out.

Currently Congregation Beth Israel would allow us to play Monday and Wednesday afternoons but not Fridays. We could move our Friday game to Thursday there. The charge would be $150/day.

The Country Club of Asheville is available most Fridays at a charge of $107. Maybe the Friday game could begin at 12:30 PM there. A Wednesday game there is a possibility we could investigate.

Another possibility is coordinating with the Hendersonville bridge club, which meets M, T, W, F. If we move our limited Friday game to Thursday, we wouldn't compete with them. Hendersonville has a <120-point game on Tuesday. We might move one of our open games to Tuesday and attract more players.

Deerfield may be available in two years, after construction is completed..

Schedule

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

Mentor/Mentee game 11/11

Board Meeting, Thursday, November 12

Action Items

Get information on all possible venues by 11/11 so that the Board can make recommendation(s) to the ABR membership

Make a survey for the ABR membership with venue choices

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Pett, Secretary