

THE VILLAGE CARD CLUB, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2015

Teri LaBove, President, called the meeting to order at 4:20 P.M.

Present: Teri LaBove, Tony Hoffman, Ned Irving, Mickey Bearden, Phil Michaelson, Suzanne Stofer, Donna Herter, Alan Trippel and Johnnie Niemann. Also present were Greg Frank, Club Manager and Pat Bernolli, Parliamentarian. A number of VCC Members were present in the Gallery.

Minutes of the July 20, 2015 were approved as corrected.

Correspondence-Letter to the board from the entire C&E Committee dated July 28, 2015 has been received regarding Zero Tolerance Complaints handled by that committee this year.

Resignation of the Business Manager was added to the Agenda. Motion made by Donna Herter to accept the Agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Officer and Director Reports

Treasurer-Ned Irving-Reviewed the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement dated July 31, 2015 as well as the updated Cash Flow Summary for 2015. Grand total estimate is a shortfall of \$11,495, which includes income or cash flow savings of \$5212, expense increases or shortfalls of \$15,450 and shortfalls due to accounting changes are \$1257. Copy of this report is on file with the Secretary. Income from the Hot Springs Regional Tournament is \$2255. Full report will be sent to the board via e-mail. Hospitality Expense is expected to exceed budget.

Vice President-Tony Hoffman-No report.

Secretary-Mickey Bearden-Has sent approved changes of Standing Rules to the Web Site Committee for updates. The Organizational Chart was been updated by Russ Choyce, Web Master.

Alan Trippel-Program Committee-Table Count for January-July is down 8.7%, adjusted for loss to winter weather, power outage and Regional Tournament is 3.8 %. The VCC table count is continuing its downward trend. He would welcome ideas about table growth.

Marketing Director-Donna Herter-Is to revisit budget for marketing and will have that report for the next board meeting. The Point and Shoot Digital Camera that belongs to VCC cannot be found. Teri LaBove will bring her camera for use at the Silver Lode Sectional. Arrangements have been made to have pictures taken each day of the Silver Lode Tournament. Information regarding VCC Events has been sent to Arkansas Tourism and Development to be included in their 2016 calendar. We have had good publicity about our club, members and events.

Player Development and Education-Suzanne Stofer-Jane Dickey has offered to come to our club and teach "Learn Bridge In A Day" which will replace some of the Easy Bridge! sessions. The 0-20 game was not well received and dropped and then two games restarted on Tuesday and Friday afternoons at the request of the 0-20 players. The fall Mentor classes will start in September as well as the associated classes covering topics from the Mentor Sessions. Wednesday evening Play & Learn games are stable with 3 or 4 tables per night. Educational reimbursement from Unit & District will be forthcoming.

Logistics-Phil Michaelson-Has completed new Logistics Job Description. Will present for approval at next board meeting.

Membership-Johnnie Niemann-Memberships now total 576.

Club Manager-Greg Frank-Boards and hand records are being done for the Silver Lode Tournament. Problems have occurred on our copy machine and it needs to be replaced. Phil will research.

Old Business

C&E Standing Rules Changes-Ned Irving

Item # 1-Formerly #2 from the July Meeting-

Motion by Ned Irving to adopt the following C&E Rules Change: "When a complaint is received and further investigation is deemed necessary, the accused VCC member(s) is (are) to be contacted by the C&E Chairperson or their designee. The accused will be notified as to the nature of the complaint, will receive a copy of the complaint report, and will be informed of the date/time of the C&E hearing. In addition, the accused will be requested to submit in writing an account of the occurrence at least one week prior to the hearing date, and will be offered the opportunity to attend the meeting to present a verbal account in support of his/her written account. The accused should make a reasonable effort to attend the meeting as scheduled; examples of a reasonable excuse to not attend are out of town for any reason, illness or personal need of a close family member, and non-discretionary appointments of an important nature such as an important doctor's appointment. There may be other examples of a reasonable excuse. If the accused will be out of town for 2 weeks or more, then possibly a conference call in lieu of a personal meeting appearance should be considered. If the accused does not make a reasonable effort to attend, C&E should use their judgment as to whether or not to reschedule the meeting at another mutually agreed upon time. Other than that circumstance, C&E may not reach a conclusion regarding a member's guilt or innocence without giving them the chance to defend themselves in person; if the accused declines the opportunity to attend any date, they must confirm this in writing to C&E." **Motion carried, 5 for and 3 against.**

Item #2-Formerly #7 from the July Meeting-

Motion by Ned Irving to make the following C&E Rules Change: "There are times two players may privately exchange comments with each other, out of the earshot from others. A private and confidential conversation between two players is not within the VCC jurisdiction even if it takes place at the club. (Wording from ACBL Code of Disciplinary regulations 3.7.2)". **Motion carried 5 for, 2 against, 1 not voting.**

ACBL Rationale: Consistent with tort law, when 2 people have a conversation, not heard by others, the law does not consider this to be potentially slanderous. Said another way, this is a "Freedom of Speech" issue. The VCC should not attempt an interpretation of "Freedom of Speech".

The Secretary was authorized to use her discretion on the exact location to add into the Conduct & Ethics Committee document.

Item #3-From the July meeting items formerly #3, #5 and #6 are still under consideration.

Standing Rules #7 and #8.-Mickey Bearden-Changes to Standing Rules passed at the July board meeting have been updated on the web site and the incorrect links on C&E documents have been corrected.

Bookcase for Historical Files-Mickey Bearden-Mickey is the liaison to the Historical Committee chaired by Rita Martick. There are 10 scrapbooks covering year to year history of the VCC card club. These should be displayed for the use and pleasure of the members. Teri and Phil will research availability of donated cases vs purchase.

Large Screen TV for Club monitor-Tony Hoffman-Tony asked if there was interest in purchase of a TV or monitor for projection of game results and other uses. Interest was shown and he will meet with Russ Choyce and ask him to research what is available, the interface options and the difficulty for the directors for its use at the games. The possibility of covering the cost with donations will also be researched.

Award Fee Schedule for Rubber Bridge-Teri LaBove-There has been some confusion regarding the award fees occurring because of the duplication of the document and it being linked to the incorrect document. Motion made by Tony Hoffman regarding Prize Schedule for Rubber Bridge and Better Bridgers was: 4-5 Tables-1st place \$5.00 per pair, 2nd place \$2.00 per pair, total prize \$7.00. The correct document will be linked on the web site. **Motion carried.**

Letter from Better Bridgers & solutions-Teri LaBove. Teri reported that she has visited with the Better Bridgers and they are satisfied with the solution offered to their requests in their letter.

Board Directors/Officers Job Descriptions-Several have been received and all are due by the September meeting.

General discussion was held on ideas & initiatives to grow membership.

Resignation of Business Manager-Teri LaBove-Letter of resignation has been received from Sheila Cosby, Business Manager effective as of 12/31/15. Candidates will be solicited via postings on the Web Site and Bulletin Board.

Ned gave a report highlighting items of interest from the CEO and President's report to the ACBL Board of Governors.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 P.M. Next meeting will be September 21, 2015 at 4:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mickey Bearden

2015 Secretary

Subject to board approval