

FTLBC Board of Governors' Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date – November 15, 2022

3:58 p.m. – Meeting called to order by President David Doretsky

Board members present: President David Doretsky, V.P. Bella Ionis-Sorren, John Albright, John Darling, Mark Yaeger, Secretary Daniel Tordella and Treasurer Deborah Branch.

Club Manager Emilio Lopez was present. Four FTLBC members at large, Barbara Tate, Knyvett Lee, Allen Bozek and Michael Schneider were also present for some or all of the meeting.

1. Minutes: Minutes of 10/14/22 FTLBC Board meeting ratified.
2. Treasurer's report: Treasurer Deborah Branch reported (numbers are approximate):
 - a. October net operating gain – \$452.
 - b. YTD net operating gain/loss – Loss of \$10,983.
 - c. Checking account balance - \$18,494.
 - d. Schwab account balance - \$29,000.
 - e. Schwab account to be closed and combined with checking account when two CD's mature at 2022 year end.
 - f. The Treasurer explained that the difference between total cash on hand in January 2022 (\$73,000) and November 2022 \$47,494) was due to net operating loss and FTLBC's change from a cash to accrual accounting system, and specifically the large insurance bill for 2023 recently paid.
 - g. The treasurer was asked to prepare a report summarizing the effect of using a cash (previous) versus accrual (current) system
3. Club Manager Emilio Lopez's report:
 - a. October table count – 384 (includes Sectional and STAC games).
 - b. FTLBC had 402 paid members in 2022. About 70 have paid for 2023.
 - c. Annual FTLBC membership meeting scheduled for December 5th. There will be lunch served by Nancy Paris and her helpers (Thank you very much to Nancy and her helpers!) at no formal charge but with a donation jar to defray costs.

- Knyvett Lee, John Darling, Mark Yeager and Daniel Tordella agreed to help Nancy with the event.
- d. Regular FTLBC Board meeting scheduled for December 12th.
 - e. Because of declining revenues, the Board voted to withdraw from the BBO alliance with Quick Tricks and Pompano Bridge Clubs. The Board also voted to continue the weekly Wednesday evening BBO mentor game, not affiliated with the alliance but to invite the Quick Tricks and Pompano Bridge Club members to continue to participate in the mentor game.
 - f. New vacuum had to be returned and new vacuum purchased. Thanks to Allen Bozek for help on this matter. No additional cost to FTLBC.
 - g. President Doretsky met with club member Zibby Palowski regarding Mr. Palowski performing some routine AC and other maintenance for FTLBC to save money on the present high cost of AC routine maintenance. Mr. Palowski recently changed out some burned out light bulbs. Daniel Tordella volunteering to change out the light bulbs in the future. A new case of bulbs was purchased for \$384. President Doretsky will continue to investigate Mr. Palowski's participation / retention.
 - h. The Scrabble club will be conducting a tournament on 1/28/23 & 1/29/23 in the small room.
4. President's report: President David Doretsky reported:
- a. Mahjong Alzheimer's Benefit: A local mahjong group wants to hold a mahjong tournament at FTLBC to benefit Alzheimer's. The board voted to permit the tournament on Sunday 1/15/22 in the large room and to charge \$5.00 per participant to the mahjong group. The open game will be played on the small room on 1/15/22.
 - b. FTLBC Annual Board Elections:
 - (1) John Darling, David Doretsky, Knyvett Lee and Rick Shapiro are on the ballot.
 - (2) The primary method of voting will be on-line.
 - (3) The club manager will keep paper ballots and envelopes on hand sufficient to accommodate those that want to use a paper ballot.

- c. FTLBC Annual Meeting: Per Bylaws, to be held on 12/5/22 at 12:00 noon.
- (1) Sign-in sheet to verify quorum to be handled by FTLBC Membership Chair Mark Yeager.
 - (2) Annual reports to be given at the 12/5/22 meeting by the President, Treasurer and Club Manager.
 - (3) Candidates for FTLBC Board election to give short introduction of themselves.
- d. Seeding Issue: President Doretsky reported a complaint by a member that seeding for some of the games was not fair. After a spirited discussion by the Board, it was decided that, with deference to ADA required guidelines, the game director(s) shall make a reasonable effort to seed the field fairly when feasible and possible.
- e. Front door repair: The Board formally approved the (already performed) cost of the front door expense of \$1,262.
- f. White Boards: The Board decided to continue posting of daily game results on the big white board and to use the right side of the big white board and the small white board for special recognition and announcements.
- g. Pro / Am game: The Board decided to forgo the Pro / Am tournament in 2022.
- h. Bylaws change: The Board approved a bylaws change to Article IV,3.A as follows:
- From: “In elections with more than the above stated number of vacancies, the candidates with the next number of votes shall serve for either two (2) years or for one (1) year depending on the number of seats up for election.”
- To: “In elections with more than the above stated number of vacancies, the candidates with the next number of votes in descending order shall serve for the remaining two or one year term(s) of the seats filled by the Board during the preceding year.”
- Thanks to President Doretsky and Club Member David Kupperman for their work on this change.

- i. October Sectional Tournament: The tournament was a success and earned approximately \$1,100 for FTLBC. Many thanks to Club Members Barbara Tate and Allen Bozek for coordinating the event and to Board Members Bella Ionis-Sorren, Daniel Tordella and John Darling for their help.
 - j. Ambassador Program: President Doretsky clarified that if an ambassador is present at the Club but the paying player needing a partner is not suitable because of a difference in skill level, that other conditions permitting, the ambassador will be given a free play for a future game and the paying player will play with the game director.
5. Education: Chair Robin Kupperman reported no changes to the *status quo*. Club Member Allen Bozek reported that he heard from an out of town player that her club had achieved some success using a “first lesson free” and “second lesson 1/2 price” marketing tool. Board member Tordella will follow up with Education Chair Kupperman to discuss feasibility.
 6. Grievance and Ethics: G&E chair Tordella reported that Club Member Resa Becher responded well to her face to face meeting with the G&E Committee.
 7. Special Events: Chair Bell Ionis-Sorren reported:
 - a. Another “meet and greet” with refreshments is planned for Friday 11/18/22 following the face-to-face mentor game to facilitate the newer players getting to know the more experienced players.
 - b. We are planning a New Year’s Eve game / party open to both Quick Tricks and FTLBC.
 8. Membership: Membership chair Mark Yeager will coordinate immediate placement of a membership “desk” with volunteers sitting at the desk daily to encourage FTLBC members to renew for 2023.

5:34 p.m. – Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by – Daniel F. Tordella – FTLBC Secretary