

NW Tucson Bridge Club Board Meeting Minutes for April 10, 2024

Present: VP Bob H presiding, Jim W, Jim V, Ron G, JoAnn A, Kay A, George H, Steve D, Gayle C.

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am

Minutes for Feb 7 were accepted with modifications: [The board meeting scheduled for Mar 6 was cancelled due to absence of any urgent agenda. The meeting was postponed until April 10.](#)

Minutes for Mar 4 Annual Membership meeting were accepted. (vote to accept by-laws changes)

Minutes for Mar 7 special board meeting were accepted (appointing Steven DeVico Treasurer, identifying check signing authority and debit card holders).

Committee Reports:

Financial Report (George/Steve):

1. Table count report was reviewed and discussed. Chart shows that table counts have exceeded 2019 opening day high. As expected, table counts are seasonal and trend down in the spring and summer months. Summarizing: table counts are solid and growing, the club is healthy and growing.
2. Steven presented a new report – 1stQ 2023 vs 1stQ 2024 -- showing the following: table count increase of 127 tables (22.4%); Open game growth of 51% and Limited of 14%; Play & Learn, Teams, Mentor/Mentee all down; Monday growth of 107%; Tuesday game drop; other days stable or growing.
3. Balance sheet shows \$47.6k surplus of which \$34.7k is in cash which is healthy.
4. Budget was discussed and BOD agrees it should be something the board should review and approve. This will be set for the May meeting agenda.
5. Regarding cash, \$10.4k is in a 4.2% CD which matures in April. The board approved an increase to \$15k and renewal upon expiration with BMO bank as the most prudent option.

Education (Bob/Gayle/Kay):

1. Beginning Bridge II class continues on Tuesday mornings with 8-12 students.
2. Bob will teach a Beginning Bridge I class starting on Thursday April 11 and will run 10 weeks at \$10 per session.
3. The Ed committee published Marvelous Monday (aka MM) lessons through June 3 and is posted publicly on the website and bulletin board. The Ed committee recommended a suspension of MM lectures during the summer. The board approved this action.
4. A "Bridge Land Cruise" for Sat Nov 2 was suggested by the Ed committee with more detail. This will be an all-day event starting at 9:45 am with lectures and lunch and MP awards. The board enthusiastically approved this event and agreed to a \$25/player fee.

Games (BOD):

1. Participation in Tuesday Strat Pairs game and Saturday Team games have diminished. These notes reflect the board approval on the following:

2. "Terrific Tuesdays" to start in May will be promoted. If you play on Monday (Open or 499), you play for \$4 on the next day, Tuesday.
3. Only one team game per month will be offered during the next four months -- May 11, Jun 8, Jul 13, and Aug 10.
4. The board notes that Pamela's pre-game promotion talks are a positive part of our club's personality and a way to promote attendance at games. The TV slide show also helps and receives positive feedback.

The board asked the following volunteers to fill in on days that Pamela is absent:
Mondays – Gayle C; Tuesdays – Greg W; Wednesdays – Bob H; Fridays – Ron G.

New Business:

1. Ron G heard from some players expressing the desire to move the start time of afternoon games to 12:30 so games finish in time for players to get a good seat at dinner. The board thought a survey of players would help solidify this question and others. Jim W, Joyce H and Bob H will meet to decide on the appropriate survey questions, audience, and process.
2. A player asked if there is any way to incentivize newer/younger players to play in our stratified (open) pairs games. The half-price Tuesday game may be the solution.
3. Gayle presented a suggestion that we display an attractive plaque with past club president's names. The cost would be less than \$100. The board approved.

Next Board Meeting:

The next Board meeting is planned for **Wednesday May 8 at 10 am.**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Wolf

Board Secretary