

**Unit 110 Virtual Board of Directors Meeting
February 5, 2021**

President Karen Crowley called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM utilizing Zoom for the Virtual Board Meeting. The following board members participated: Gary Coe, Karen Crowley, George Grant, Bonnie Hoopengardner, Pete Hardin, Kay Hughes, Sally James, Cindy Martin, Pat Meeker, Dianne Morton, and Carolyn Wood.

Guests: Directors Cathy Hildebrand, Ron Alldaffer, Members: Paul DeMarsh, Jane Farthing, Jeanne Herrmann, Mike Jenks

President Karen Crowley welcomed all to the virtual board meeting.

Secretary's Report: Secretary Kay Hughes advised there were no corrections to the minutes for the December 4, 2020 board meeting. Cindy Martin moved the minutes be approved and the motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Bonnie Hoopengardner advised that as of 1/31/21, there was a balance of \$10,122.47 in the Checking Account and \$20,083.08 in a Money Market Account. There had been very few transactions and a detailed financial report with the December and January fiscal activity was sent to the BOD in advance of the meeting. End of the year December 2020 showed a small loss. Bonnie presented a proposed budget for 2021 and reviewed it line by line. Cindy Martin moved the 2021 Budget approved as presented, Pete Hardin seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

Budget:

President's Report:

Sunshine Services/Fund: Karen Crowley advised that from Dec. 1, 2020 – February 2, 2021, Joan Brockenbrough sent seven cards to members – five "Care for you", one Get Well and two Sympathy. She read a thank you from Ann Marie Rogers, widow of Buck Rogers, an avid bridge player in Unit 110.

Implications of the Coronavirus on ACBL/District 6/Unit 110 Functions:

Members: Karen Crowley advised that the Unit membership is at 367 members, no change from December.

Zoom Account: Karen reminded the board members that the Zoom account was available to use for bridge related activities or business. Currently Mike Jenks and Paul DeMarsh are using it for their mentoring sessions.

Website: The website is working well, and Karen thanked Paul DeMarsh for keeping it updated. Paul requested that directors send a specific email to him requesting any changes to the game listing on the website. They can request a single game change/addition but needs to be an email directed to Paul. He noted that there had been 459 page views to date in 2021.

Annual Meeting: The annual meeting is still on hold.

Directory: It was agreed that a directory did not need to be published until face-to-face games started again. Both Cathy and Dianne have some extra copies if Karen needs to send to new members.

Online Games, Comments by Directors: Cathy Hildebrand advised that BBO can now manage Swiss Team games at the local level and she will be looking into that for Unit 110 virtual games. Discussion ranged from offering one game a month to weekly and/or in lieu of one of the pair games. Cathy, Dianne and Ron will discuss this further.

Dianne Morton and Ron Alldaffer said their online games continue to do well. Karen noted that she had received complaints from 6-unit members about the number of A players in our games. Cathy advised that ACBL is currently stratifying 1/3 of the players in each stratification and there is discussion to revise that. Dianne and Carolyn commented that many C players had shown great improvement during this time and have benefited by competing against players in higher stratifications. Ron and Cathy had tried to add games with lower masterpoint ranges and had not been successful.

Jane Farthing advised that District 6 is holding GNT games and registration is due by Feb. 16th.

Karen will ask in a Pianola communication if there is interest in the 0-500 game.

Upcoming Regionals/Sectional Tournament: Karen noted that all Regionals are currently canceled for 2021. The NABC tournament scheduled in the DC area for 2022 has been canceled due to hotel issues. The NABC in Providence and Austin are both very doubtful (since our meeting, Providence, RI has been moved to 2022 and Austin, TX is scheduled for late Fall, 2021).

Jane Farthing is working with the Doubletree Hotel in Williamsburg on the Regional Tournament scheduled there for February 2022. The deadline for a final decision has been extended to the end of May. Part of the negotiations include a reduced room block commitment and no food and beverage commitment.

It was noted that Unit 110 could consider a Sectional later in this year. Dianne Morton noted that online games will not go away. Jane Farthing advised that ACBL does have a task force looking at the future of bridge - 80% of the pre-pandemic players are now playing online.

Karen recapped some issues from the recent D6 Board Meeting. Virginia residents do not have to pay tax for BBO participation as Virginia does not tax on services. Thanks to a D6 member that petitioned BBO to make this correction. D6 is looking for people interested in serving on the Board of Governors. Contact Karen Crowley if interested.

The Longest Day is on the schedule for June and stressed the importance of including outsiders in our requests for donations. GNT's are being scheduled and working well. D6 is looking for webmaster. Cathy Hildebrand noted that there will be a certification available in the near future for directing online at a minimal fee.

Mentoring: Mike Jenks and Paul DeMarsh recapped their current mentoring activities which are being done on BBO with the help of Zoom. After discussion, it was agreed that an email should be sent to the members and Karen will include it in a Pianola communication.

ACBL Charitable Donation: Karen Crowley advised the ACBL Charity Foundation had given District 6 \$30,000 to be distributed to charitable institutions not related to bridge. The Virginia Peninsula Foodbank received \$3500.00. A photo was in the Virginia Gazette with Karen Crowley, Kay Hughes and Foodbank representative, Donna Tighe.

Welcome Letter: Karen Crowley recently sent welcome letters to new Unit 110 members, Lisa Divender and Ross Haines. She also sent Congratulation Letters to twelve members achieving masterpoint milestones.

New Business:

Alert Procedure: Gary Coe commented on the substantial changes recently announced for Alert Procedures. Karen suggested a Zoom meeting could be held for the membership. It was decided to hold on this until more finalized. Cathy Hildebrand is attending some Zoom meetings on this issue.

During the following discussion, it was mentioned that the convention card could be put on your screen during play and using Chat Manager or word documents to aid in “cutting and pasting” alerts. It was suggested a “how to” could be put on the website.

Nominations to the Board of Directors: Kay Hughes advised that at the last meeting, the current board members up for re-election in 2021 had agreed to stay on for an additional year, but felt it was unclear for the board members with terms expiring in 2022. After polling those members, and with their agreement to also stay on an extra year, Dianne Morton moved to approve that all board members would add an extra year to their term (normally two years). Kay Hughes seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Board members elected in Spring, 2019 with terms expiring in 2021 – terms will now expire in 2022: Gary Coe, Karen Crowley, Pete Hardin, Pat Meeker, Dianne Morton.

Board members elected in Spring, 2020 with terms expiring in 2022 – terms will now expire in 2023: George Grant, Kay Hughes, Bonnie Hoopengardner, Sally James, Cindy Martin, Carolyn Wood.

Karen Crowley thanked all again for their contributions and attendance. The next meeting will be Friday, April 2, 2021 at 3:00 PM. The meeting adjourned at 4:50 PM

Submitted by Kay Hughes, Secretary
March 2, 2021