

**Attendance.** Board members Linda Marshall, Herb Schulken, Eileen Inglesby-Houghton, Carole Banks, Alex Gretsinger, Clyde Kruskal, Lloyd Rawley, and Mary Tenenbaum attended. Chris Miller (Unit Game Club Manager) and approximately twenty other WBL members were also present.

**President's Report.** Linda expressed her appreciation of the many volunteers who are instrumental in making the WBL and the activities it sponsors function well. Among those she mentioned by name were Steve Robinson, Rose Berman, Ellen Cherniavsky, and retiring board member Eileen Inglesby-Houghton. Others thanked Linda and various Board members for their hard work.

**Club Manager's Report.** Chris reported that the Thursday evening online unit game, run by the WBL and the NVBA in alternate weeks, was thriving, with greater attendance than the face-to-face WBL Thursday night WBL games had had. He reported that the WBL's online Monday evening game generally attracted about 10-12 tables. He thanked Linda and Marty Bley of the NVBA for their cooperative efforts to support local online bridge.

**Treasurer's Report.** Herb reported that revenues for the year exceeded expenses by \$7300, an improvement over 2018. He noted that the online unit game has been drawing more players and making a profit. Herb reminded the members that the WBL has been contributing 10% of the revenue from the online unit game to the Capital Area Food Bank (a total of over \$700). The WBL has over \$58,000 in the bank. He noted that the WBL's profits enabled it to continue to pay its caddies. Linda pointed out that the full financial report will be posted on the web site and available to interested WBL members.

**Elections.** There were no contested elections. Linda Marshall (President), Hadi Abushakra (Vice President), Herb Schulken (Treasurer), Alex Gretsinger (Board Member), Lloyd Rawley (Board Member), and Mary Tenenbaum (Board Member) were all reelected. Bob Bell is the new Secretary.

**Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney Races.** The award winners in the various masterpoint categories were announced. Alex will post the lists on the web site.

**Member Suggestions and Discussion.** Peter Boyd asked whether the WBL could have an online sectional tournament, noting that this might help sustain social relations among local players. Chris Miller said that he liked this suggestion, but that this is not currently allowed. Other members also endorsed this idea. Barb Doran said she would raise this at the next Board of Governors meeting. She noted that the ACBL Board of Directors did not typically change policies based on Board of Governors recommendations, but they occasionally did; Steve Robinson offered an example (size of the ACBL Board of Directors) of a policy change based on such a recommendation.

The members discussed an ACBL Board of Directors proposal to discontinue extended team events. This would affect both the unit knockout and the round robin. This was scheduled to be voted on at the 2020 spring NABC, but nobody at the annual meeting knew whether any action had been taken on this. Linda explained that proponents of this idea hoped to save the expense of programming masterpoints for a type of event that was not popular nationally. Clyde asked if it would be possible to continue existing home team events, even if new ones were forbidden. Chris observed that we could still choose to run such events, albeit without awarding masterpoints. Barb said she would raise this issue with the Board of Governors as well.

Donna Rogall pointed out that minutes of WBL Board meetings have not been posted on the web site recently. Linda said that the Secretary should send the final version of minutes to the webmaster, who

should post them. She observed that the policy revisions to which the Board agreed at its last meeting should be posted soon, but that constitutional changes required a quorum (not available in the online annual meeting) to be approved. Donna also noted that the list of round robin rosters on the web site was incomplete.

There was a brief discussion of taking advantage of online bridge to recruit new ACBL members. Members familiar with activities in the Richmond unit agreed that it was doing good things to bring new people into bridge.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Bell