

**ACBL Unit 179 Board Meeting  
July 2019 Quarterly Meeting Minutes  
Embassy Suites Franklin (Regional Tournament)**

**Date:** July 6, 2019

**Board Members:**

*Present:* Harry Allen, Peggy Burkhalter, Chris Clark, Bob Dietrich, Charlynn Foust, Anne Hitt, Mike Reeslund, Pat Williams

*Absent:* Sherry Howell, Barbara Moomy, Linda Murdock, Jim Wynalek

*Others Present:*

Secretary: Alison Gembar

Treasurer: Sue Atwood

Tournament Coordinator: Coley McGinnis

Regional Tournament Chairs: Alison Gembar & Betsy Keeling

**Proceedings:**

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm

May 4, 2019 minutes were reviewed. We did have purple pass machines after all for the Regional. The purple pass was widely used. Minutes were approved.

**Sue Atwood - Treasurers Report**

Numbers for Regional are not available yet. Discussed account balances; checking and CDs Financials through June 30 were presented.

**Regional Report - Alison Gembar and Betsy Keeling**

We have a chairperson for October Sectional; Paula Kelling. We still need chairpersons for February Sectional (Feb 20-23, 2020) and July Non-Life Master Regional (July 9-12, 2020). Getting chairpersons continues to be a problem. We need to create incentives for people to chair. Unit responsibility is to put on tournaments. Board members need to be more responsible for reaching out and getting chairpersons. We need more people to step up.

Regarding this Regional. The tournament is running very smooth. Our table count is down and our room night guarantee with Embassy Suites is about 120 rooms short.

This will be our financial liability. This is in effect the cost of renting the ballroom. Our minimum food and beverage commitment is \$15,000 (+service charge + tax). We have exceeded that with cash concessions. I have negotiated with the hotel to apply the overage to our room shortage.

Patrick Williams: The attrition rate for this Regional contract was 10%. The rate should have been 20%. The normal rate is 20%. When you don't meet the room guarantee this is a \$15,000 "mistake". Suggested that future contracts should be reviewed by members who understand contracts.

Mike Reeslund: We as a board have oversight responsibility. When we send somebody off and say "go sign a contract and negotiate whatever you can" we are abdicating that responsibility. Every contract that gets signed on behalf of this board should be seen, voted on and approved. The board has the responsibility and authority to do this.

2021 contract is signed but needs to be reviewed by the BOD. Based on what happened with this tournament we may need to renegotiate our 2021 contract. We have signed 2021 contract but have only paid \$1000 to date.

### **Coley McGinnis – Tournament Coordinator**

Table count at this point is about 950. Charlie expects table count to be 1050. This is about 250 tables short of past average of 1300 tables each Regional. Hot Springs and Tunica have been averaging 1300 as well, but their attendance is going down. Attendance is going down everywhere. Week of July 4<sup>th</sup> impacts our attendance. 2 years from now our Regional starts on Monday, July 5<sup>th</sup>. This week has more regionals than the other 51 weeks of the year. We never have attracted a bunch of pros and we may never. We are committed to this hotel for 2021. 2023 we are scheduled for another Regional. July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 is early in the week. We need to think about this hotel. Many people won't go to tournaments that don't have a host hotel. However, people will stay where they can find the cheapest rate.

Pat Williams – suggested we do not contract with this hotel for 2023 until we see what the hotel market in Nashville/Franklin will do over the next few years. The trend over the next 20 years will be that people will not be playing face-to-face.

We need to be thinking about what we want to do for 2021 and 2023.

### **Mike Reeslund – By-Laws**

Ad hoc By-Laws committee: Mike is preparing a draft of new by-laws. Our by-laws do not resemble by-laws for a unit. Our by-laws are inappropriate. We need to have 2 readings of the new by-laws in order for them to be approved. Mike will plan to have a draft to read soon in order for Charlynn to call a board meeting on a Saturday. We plan to have the second reading at our October Sectional board meeting.

### **Mike Reeslund:**

Discussion of volunteers making boards for Regional. No one was forced to make boards. People have said that volunteers were upset they were not compensated for their time. This is not true. Mike has spoken with these people and they were willing to do whatever they are asked. According to Charlynn there were some people who wanted to be paid to make boards. We are not paying people to make boards. This is a volunteer organization.

### **Pat Williams – NAOP/GNT Coordinator**

Charlynn asked for information to send out in a blast to educate new players.

### **Bob Dietrich – Ad hoc Membership Committee**

Believes we need to develop a full committee and marketing plan. Knoxville has doubled their count from 3000 tables per year to 6000 tables per year by marketing. Learn Bridge in a Day costs money. We need to see how to budget and advertise a LBIAD event. Knoxville does it 2x per year.

Charlynn directed Bob to create a committee to create a unit-wide proposal to address growth to be presented at the October Sectional meeting.

### **QUIP Report – President**

We are still largest Unit in District 10. We have the largest growth of 4% in 36 months. Our average age is creeping up (70.6 to 70.74).

### **Old Business**

#### **Financial Audit**

Sue has moved. The box needed for Roslyn to perform audit is now in Sue's car. Roslyn has asked for a 2018 P&L and all bank reconciliations. Sue will get this together for Roslyn. Sue cannot give an estimate as to when they will get to this.

#### **Volunteers**

We are a volunteer organization. We struggle to get volunteers. All board members need to try get people to volunteer, especially to chair tournament.

## **Charity Committee**

Acbl distributes charity funds to various districts to disburse as they choose. When the option comes around to District 10, they typically pick their largest Unit to name the charity that will benefit from the funds available. Unit 179 has been given the privilege of choosing a charity this year. Anne Hitt reported the ad hoc charity committee chose the Alzheimer's Association to be the recipient of the acbl donation.

Motion presented. Motion approved.

## **Longest Day Donation**

Board did not vote previously on donating to this years' Longest Day Fundraiser. It was suggested that the board not vote on this until they know how this tournament faired and until they know how many tables participated in the week-long Longest Day event this June. Motion to postpone decision until this information is available.

Motion approved.

## **New Business:**

We did not have a representative at the last District meeting. Our District does not advertise in the bulletin. Charlynn plans to attend the Tunica meeting to further discuss on our behalf.

## **Nominating Committee:**

Harry Allen will chair the nominating committee. We encourage current board members to consider running again. Board members who have served their term are: Peggy Burkhalter, Anne Hitt, Linda Murdock and Barbara Moomy. By-laws state we need 2 nominees from outside of Davidson County. We need members that have accepted to run on the ballot presented to the board by September 1<sup>st</sup>. Ballots have to be sent out in order to be returned by December 1<sup>st</sup>. The nominating committee will meet to count the ballots.

## **Parking:**

Parking for tournaments that are held at VBC is a large problem. There is no end in sight to the parking issues. We need to be thinking about alternative locations.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned 7:35 pm.