

THE VILLAGES DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB  
MINUTES, FEBRUARY 19, 2019

Call to Order: Bob Matthews called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. at Lake Miona Recreation Center.

Members Present: Charlie Showalter, Carol Ketterer, Harry Freedman, Vikie Adams, Bob Matthews, Alex Booke, Sally Gauthier, Beverly Parrish, Gordon Pfeiffer and Mike Kwiatkowski.

Guests: Rick Gauthier, Mike Lotti, Patricia DeArmand and Frances Rolph.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Accepted without further discussion.

Considerations for "Local Charities: The current policy is that there be no announcements other than bridge-related announcements at our bridge games. We currently give \$3000 to \$5000 in donations to Wildwood Soup Kitchen. Some of that money could be diverted to a different charity. Bev Parrish suggested that an application be developed for charities to apply for funds and that the Board then review the applications and decide which one(s) to contribute to. She will develop this with the help of Gordon Pfeiffer. The awards would be \$1000 to the awardees. One of the criteria for selection would be to consider what percentage of the money actually would go to the cause versus the administrative cost deducted by the charity. Carol Ketterer expressed a concern that this process could be a burden on future boards. It was made clear to all that paperwork could be displayed for charities at the games but no announcements or solicitations. We will take up this topic again at the April Board meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Mike Lotti reports that the club lost \$1755 for the month of January 2019. A large part of that was due to \$1159 for new bidding boxes and a heavy amount of special games which is an extra cost to the club. The member reserves stands at \$26352. We should strive to keep our balance at least at that level. The annual tax form 990 will be linked to the website.

Head Director's Report: Rick Gauthier asked that the news be placed first in the email blasts as we want to emphasize that information. The reservation

system is being worked on between Rick, Janet Matthews and the developer. Some of the bugs have been worked out and it is continuing to be tweaked. All in all the reservation system is working out and people have gotten used to it. The developer has now requested \$50/month be paid for our use of the system. It was agreed that we will pay \$600 per year and will pay retroactively to January 2019. The decision was made to acquire an invoice from the developer before payment of the bill. Some bidding boxes have disappeared from Seabreeze and Bob Matthews has put out a request that they be returned. Bob has been working on getting us new storage cabinets. We will be getting one for Seabreeze to start and, if that works out, may put them in all venues. With regard to opening up some bridge at Fenney, The Villages has pledged that they will pay for all start up costs, such as computers, bid boxes, storage cabinets, etc. Jim Strazzere has mentioned that he would like to direct in Fenney.

Replacement for Data Base Manager's Position: Bob Matthew's opinion is that this position should be split into two positions so one person does not get overwhelmed. Paul Mattheson, the current DBM, thinks it should stay as one position. Carol Ketterer brought up that the work Paul does with regard to the game series champions is no longer necessary and involves a lot of work. A motion to discontinue the game series when the current series is done was passed. This is item J on Paul's job description sheet. A committee of Rick Gauthier, Vikie Adams and Mike Kwiatkowski will meet with Paul to look more closely at his duties and make the decision whether to split up this job or keep it as one. The job(s) will be advertised in the email blast and the applicants will contact the Secretary with their indications of interest and qualifications for the job.

Potential assignments of responsibility to Board Members:

Gordon Pfeiffer will handle email blasts

Alex Booke will continue with name tags

Gordon Pfeiffer will handle free play administration

Carol Ketterer will continue with Rank Change notifications

We need a volunteer to handle the storage unit and game venue issues.

Gordon, Harry Freedman and Vikie Adams will get together with Mike Lotti and determine who will be the back up treasurer. Mike uses Quicken and currently the back up file is on Mike's computer and also in the cloud.

Bonuses for 2018: These have not been paid out yet. The following bonuses remain the same as previously and should be paid now:

Joan Colbert \$200, BJ Chiota \$200, Marvin Wells \$200, Pat Pointinger \$100, Rich Seidman \$100.

Alex Booke was being paid \$300 but this will be reduced to \$250 for 2018 and discontinued after that. Tom Bush was being paid \$100 previously but that should be discontinued as of 2018. Some free plays are now limited also. Bob Matthews pointed out that we should get these bonuses out closer to the end of the year that they are for.

Report on Educational Visit by Robert Todd for 3/16/19: Only 40 to 50 tickets have been sold so far. Board members must announce this event at every game which they attend to encourage more sales.

Planning for Member's Party 3/23/19: This should be announced at every game between now and 3/17 which is the cutoff to buy tickets. This event includes dinner of lasagna, chicken piccata and eggplant rollatini as well as rolls, salad and dessert. Carol Ketterer distributed tickets to the board members to sell and it was noted that 204 people attended this party last year.

Requirements for Partnership Convention Cards: A discussion ensued regarding whether this should be a policy in our club, and if so, whether for all or just open players. We agreed that this should be mentioned in the blast emails with a possible ¼ board penalty for the second infraction. No formal vote was taken on this matter.

Other Business: Palmer Davies has 16 boards and 8 bidding boxes in very good condition which she is willing to donate to us. Bob Matthews will look at the boards and may give a \$50 gift card to her to thank her for the gift. Carol Ketterer said she thought that the Colony Cottage venue could use some. The Annual Meeting is this coming Sunday at the Canal Street Rec

Center from 1:30 until approximately 2:30. Alex Booke will cover the financial topics in Mike Lotti's absence. This meeting should be announced at all games this week.

The Board went into executive session to discuss sensitive matters.

Date of Next Meeting: March 19, 2019 at Lake Miona Rec Center. Bev Parrish will run the meeting in Bob Matthew's absence. The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sally Gauthier