

Minutes of the Board Meeting on March 15, 2006

The minutes from the February 1, 2006 meeting were accepted. Don Berman made a motion that they be accepted. Barbara Summers seconded it.

Treasurer's Report: \$25,377.45.

March Sectional:

There were 384 tables, one less than the January Sectional. In addition, there were 74 people in the IBP program. Ron Starr and Steve Forsythe ran the IBP (Initial Bridge Program). It was very successful.

At the August Sectional, the Friday morning game will be a stratified because there were only 5 tables in the A/X game at the March Sectional.

The Brackets for trophy winners at Sectionals are 500, 1500 and unlimited. However, the A players are not awarded trophy's. Winston Edwards did an excellent job selecting the trophies and getting them engraved. The winners from the January tournament were awarded their trophies at the March Sectional.

A microphone will be provided at the tournaments. Stevie Robinson brought it to the March Sectional. There is one at Christ the King Church that belongs to WBL. It will be provided at all of the Sectionals.

Calendar of Obligations:

Fred King talked with Barbara Shaw and Donna Rogall talked with Barbara Doran to discuss what needed to be included.

The original idea was to create a calendar for the types of awards such as Goodwill appointments, the Mini McKenney, and Ace of Clubs awards, Agenda for these types of awards. More discussion will ensue to determine who will create the calendar.

Partnerships for Unit Game

Barbara Doran has replaced Charlene Brand as the partnership chairman for the unit game. It was decided that it would be better to have one person handling this rather than one for flight A and one for the other flights to avoid confusion as to who to contact.

Bridge at Schools

A discussion was held regarding whether we will participate in the regional being held in Omaha in August for a group to play with Bill Gates. The decision was made to hold a tournament for Bridge at Schools participants at the NVBA Regional in June/July 2006.

From this group, a select number will be sent to the Regional. It needs to be advertised heavily to encourage participation. Fred King will talk to Margot Hennings regarding the tournament. The model school is Thomas Jefferson in Northern Virginia.

A discussion was held regarding hiring a person, preferably a retired teacher, to approach schools to encourage them to include bridge in their curriculum. If it can be determined who approached Thomas Jefferson originally, it would be helpful to discuss their method of getting them involved. They have set aside a class time for bridge and there are currently 14 tables. The students have gotten very good. Leo Cardillo is very active in this program.

Currently in Maryland there are several schools who are participating in the program. Ron Starr is overseeing the 3 Montgomery County Highschools. They are BCC, Richard Montgomery, and Walter Johnson. These are taught at lunch time that lasts only 45 minutes. During this time the students have to eat lunch in addition to the bridge class. They haven't had enough time to become adept at the game. Ron doesn't think they are ready for Omaha.

There is a class at St. Andrews, and Mark Rosen is teaching Junior High Students at Tilden Woods School. They are doing pretty well according to Mark.

Jim Allen agreed to have a class at Thomas Jefferson School. Ralph Turner is teaching it. Last week they had 12 students, and he thinks it will grow. These are 5th graders.

Another aspect of the Bill Gates program is providing funding for paying teachers, providing funds for supplies or any costs incurred from the program. It is important to get this information to individuals involved in the program.

Smithsonian Program

The Smithsonian Program ended 2 weeks ago. Ron Kral did an excellent job. There were originally 108 people participating and it dropped to approximately 85 by the last class. This is a good retention rate. The coupon books were distributed to each of them.

There were 400 coupon books printed. The WBL will pay for half of them and the NVBA will pay for the other half if necessary. The printing cost was \$750. Funding has been requested from the ACBL.

Steve Forsythe is emailing all of the individuals on the IBP about the Coupon Books. They will be given one if requested. An effort is being made to begin a Novice class on Saturday from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Steve Forsythe will run it, giving a class for one hour from 11:00 – 12:00 each Saturday. He will direct one class on Saturday. Other directors are needed.

Ron Kral and Leo Cardillo will run 2 IBP programs at the NVBA Regional in July 2006.

Upcoming Election:

The members who will run for the Board need to be selected immediately in order to get their biographies and pictures in the next bulletin. The deadline for the bulletin is March 20, 2006. Dick Wegman's term as President is expiring, therefore, he will be a member as Past President. Winston Edwards and Jane Sturgis are not running this year. There are 3 known vacancies and possibly a 4th.

The list of members is provided by Frances Burke. It includes everyone in Unit 147. Is a nonpaying member eligible to vote? Doug Grove should check the list to ensure that the dues are current for all members paying.

Play Bridge in Washington, D.C.

Alice Wegman has put together a brochure for distribution to encourage new players to become interested in bridge. Barbara Summers is distributing them to libraries throughout the area. Fred King will take 50 to the World Bank for distribution. They are being distributed in Leisure World and real estate offices. A target area is Human Resources offices in Government Agencies.

Machlin Trophy

The Machlin Trophy will be awarded at the October tournament. Publicize at the annual meeting in May 2006 and in the Bulletin. Trudy Machlin was delighted with the idea and will give out the Trophy.

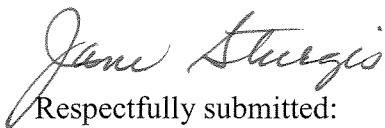
Eligibility for Awards – Definition of a Member in Good Standing.

Steve Robinson made a motion to include the following language in the WBL policies. Barbara Summers and Winston Edwards 2nd it.

The definition of a Member in Good Standing will be added to the WBL policies.

“A member in good standing” is defined as a member who is not currently on suspension, or serving probation in excess of 90 days that resulted from a suspension, the initial term of which was in excess of 90 days, and whose dues are current.

Barbara Summers and Winston Edwards seconded it.



Respectfully submitted:
Jane Sturgis (Acting Secretary)