

WBL Board Meeting

May 13, 2009

The meeting was held at Don Berman's home.

In attendance: Carole Banks, Don Berman, Ellen Cherniavsky, Richard Ferrin, Jim Geist, Fred King, Linda Marshall, Ron Zucker; non-voting members Chris Miller, Donna Rogall, and Ted Ying.

Don Berman called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM. Don opened by suggesting that we circulate proposed policy changes for general consumption before the Board votes on it. He noted that the Secretary keeps an official copy of the bylaws and policies, and it would help to have before and after versions.

Secretary's Report

The Board approved the minutes without objection.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Robinson, the former treasurer, was not in attendance. Fred King reported a balance of \$6,188 in the WBL's checking account, however there is a balance of about \$5,400 in accounts receivable. The investment account has a balance of \$38,634.53. The building fund currently has \$261.42. Written copies of the annual report were available at the Annual Meeting. Fred King requested approval to buy Quickbooks in order to draw up the quarterly report and budget. He estimated that the version he needs would cost less than \$100. His request was approved unanimously.

Bulletin

Donna Rogall said that the call for Machlin nominations will be going in the next Bulletin. A committee will be appointed to choose the winner.

Bridge at Schools

A party is to be held for Bridge at Schools and other deserving volunteers. Tentative date is June 7. Richard Ferrin offered to host. The Board approved \$15 per person for refreshments.

Unit Game

Chris Miller passed out a spreadsheet summarizing the data on attendance, which is up about two tables per session. There has been a slight mishap with the new cards that were ordered from a supplier that is going out of business: they didn't work with the billing machine. Other cards will have to be ordered.

Ted Ying asked Ellen Cherniavsky, Club Liaison, to poll Kier Porter and Roz Dixon about the Unit Championship they ran using our sanction. Ellen agreed to do this.

We need to find volunteers to monitor parking at the Unit Game. Ron Zucker volunteered to chair the Parking Committee.

Ted Ying noted that Mike Lawrence offers to give a free lecture to any club, his fee being donated to charity. He will pay his own travel expenses. This is in support of his new book. Ted will check with Nadine as to whether it would be appropriate to have him lecture at a sectional, as the Unit Game is probably not a good forum.

Sectional

Nadine Wood was not present. However, Fred noted that she is set on volunteers.

Membership Growth

Carole Banks reported that this is back on track. Alice Wegman and she will work on a club brochure, for which the ACBL will reimburse about 75% of the cost. Ellen Cherniavsky will send Carole her spreadsheet with club information, which includes the email addresses of most of the club managers.

Youth Tournament

Fred King stated that the tournament did not go well.

Mentoring Program

Linda Marshall reported that the program is getting a few new people every month. A mentor-mentee party is planned for May 29. It will be potluck. About 30 people are expected. A budget of \$100 was approved for utensils and soda.

Nationals

Fred noted that volunteers are needed. So is fund raising, as there are no corporate sponsors. Proceeds from a \$1 surcharge at the May sectional will be matched by the WBL. The hope is that \$3200 will be raised.

Barb Doran, Entertainment Committee Chair, announced that part of the entertainment will be a panel in Hollywood Squares format with experts such as Eric Rodwell. She solicited questions for the panel. These should be bridge questions, hopefully with potentially amusing answers.

Committee Assignments

Assignments were reviewed. Some committees were combined. The results are posted on the WBL website. Don Berman has written software to enable updating the data base that underlies the website. He demonstrated it and gave each board member a copy.

Next Meeting

The next WBL Board meeting will take place July 1, 2009 at Ron Zucker's house. The Board thanked Don Berman for his hospitality. Whereupon, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Cherniavsky,
Secretary