

WBL Board Meeting

2 June 2010

The meeting was held at Don Berman's home.

In attendance: Carole Banks, Don Berman, Ellen Cherniavsky, Richard Ferrin, Jim Geist, Fred King, Clyde Kruskal, Linda Marshall, Hank Meyer, non-voting members Kitty Gottfried and Donna Rogall.

President Don Berman called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Secretary's Report

The Board approved the minutes without objection.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Fred King circulated a first quarter profit and loss statement by email. He noted that while the loss was apparently \$850, the true loss was more like \$3500 after taking into account the facts that we will only be getting two more checks from the ACBL in compensation for membership dues, and only one of the six Bulletins was paid for in the first quarter. This loss is on an income of \$48,000.

We are losing money on the sectionals. One large expense is food, which cost \$10,262; the second largest is director fees at \$9,664. Fred is going to compare expenses with the NVBA, which makes money on sectionals while breaking even on their Unit Game.

Carole Banks observed for the record that the improvements Fred has made to the financial report have rendered it much more helpful.

The Treasurer's report was approved without objection.

President's Report

Don Berman apologized to Fred King for not calling on him to give a Treasurer's report at the Annual Meeting.

May Sectional

Attendance amounted to about 370 tables, which includes 22 at Mark Lavine's game, down from 400. Concern was expressed about cigarette butts being left outside the playing area. It is imperative that we leave county facilities in orderly condition.

Unit Game

Chris Miller was not present but sent a report by email.

Bridge in Schools

Ajit Thyagarajan was not present, but Jim Geist reported in his place that Ajit has had no success in finding volunteers to take the lead on the program.

WBL Bulletin Printing

Quotes have been received as follows:

| | <u>Print</u> | <u>Mail</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Comment</u> |
|---------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--|
| Burgundy Press | \$1228.20 | \$370.80 | \$1659.00 | exact estimate |
| Lewis Creative Tech | \$810.00 | \$280.00 | \$1090.00 | |
| Spectrum | \$1235.60 | \$317.36 | \$1552.96 | too low. Covers bleeds but not spoilage. |
| ZanCan Press | | | | no quote received |

We receive the mailing rate for periodicals because we mail from the Gaithersburg office. We can submit a request for a periodical mailing rate out of the Richmond office; Fred will do the paperwork. We could also have Lewis ship the copies by UPS at a cost of \$40-\$50 to us and have someone take them to the Shady Grove Post Office (it might be necessary to pay someone to do that). Donna Rogall noted that if we use an out-of-town printer we may incur greater mailing costs. Fred volunteered to get an estimate of how much extra the cost would be. One concern with out of town mailing from Richmond is the added time it would take to receive the bulletin. Another concern is the printing turnaround time using George Lewis, the Richmond printer. So far, we've only printed one TableTALK issue with them and it arrived over one week later than usual. Donna brought up another option: to print the bulletin in Richmond, but have the mail processing done here, avoiding the necessity of a WBL member being involved in taking the magazines to the post office. Bulk mailing was also discussed and rejected as a good option due to cost and mailing time.

WBL Bulletin

In the next Bulletin, recipients will be given the choice of opting out of receiving a hard copy by mail. Instead they can receive an email notifying them when a link to the most recently published edition is available. Linda and Don both volunteered to handle the opting out mailing list issues.

Suggested Defenses to Mid-Chart Conventions

Ellen Cherniavsky proposed that a committee be formed to recommend how to eliminate pre-alerts for two Mid-Chart conventions: 1N-2D showing a one-suited major, and 1minor-P-2hearts showing a 2- or 3-way bid, including an invitational no trump hand. The committee would develop written defenses which would be available to the opponents. The motion was passed with five in favor, four against. The committee will consist of Hank Meyer, Chair; Ellen Cherniavsky; Clyde Kruskal; Donna Rogall.

Wounded Warriors

Don Berman volunteered to take charge of this item. We had received an email from Bob Boyd, president of the NVBA, suggesting that we could help wounded soldiers at Walter Reed by teaching them bridge and sponsoring regular games there.

New Locations for Sectionals

Don Berman, Millard Nachtwey and Nadine Wood will be negotiating with the Silver Spring Civic Center. They were authorized to spend up to \$6000 in rent. [We are expecting a quote from the Civic Center June 7. It will include Friday evening. However, depending on the price we may need to consider dropping the Friday evening game to fit within our budget.] It was noted that the NVBA spends \$4000 per sectional for rent including Thursday.

July Regional

Volunteers are needed. Adrienne Kuehnemann is the Volunteer Chair. Fred requested that if we get a room for under the published bridge rate, we notify him. This will assist in nullifying possible penalties for not filling our block of rooms.

August Sectional

This will be held at the Kensington Armory. Don Berman is checking into parking.

Arrangements for Temporary Unit Game Relocation for September

Don Berman is investigating whether the game can be held at Ohr Kodesh the first Thursday in September; the Kensington Armory has been rented for the other four Thursdays.

New non-NLM Sectional

Shawn Stringer submitted a proposal for holding a non-NLM sectional in this area. Fred King moved to approve the proposal, which was seconded and passed unanimously.

Next Meeting

The next WBL Board meeting will take place August 4, 2010 at Hank Meyer's house. On September 15th, Richard Ferrin will host the meeting, at which the candidates for District Six representative to the ACBL Board of Directors will make presentations. The candidates are Mike Cappelletti and Margot Hennings.

The board thanked Don for his hospitality. Whereupon the meeting was adjourned at 9:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Cherniavsky,
Secretary