

WBL Board Meeting

21 September 2011

The meeting was held at Fred King's home.

In attendance: Don Berman, Ellen Cherniavsky, Jim Geist, Fred King, Clyde Kruskal, Hank Meyer, Lois Geer, Linda Marshall, Ron Zucker; non-voting members Donna Rogall, Kitty Gottfried.

President Don Berman called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

Secretary's Report

The Board approved the minutes without objection.

Treasurer's Report

Fred King distributed a spreadsheet summarizing income and expenditures for the first six months of 2011. The net minus of \$6400 for administration is due in large part to \$7600 for the Bridgemates. An alternative accounting approach would involve amortizing this expense over four years.

Regular (not non LM) sectionals are breaking about even.

Rent has increased from \$300 to \$325 for the weekly game at Ohr Kodesh. Rent for sectionals at Kensington will increase from \$3400 to \$4000. This should be offset by the increase in entry fees.

The Treasurer's report was approved without objection.

President's Report

Don Berman's message in the upcoming WBL Bulletin will call for volunteers. Ron Zucker, the new sectional chairman, has emphasized the need for help.

Shawn Stringer is the new regional chair.

Don has volunteered to put a cone in the rabbi's parking spot to help prevent unauthorized people parking there. There was a discussion of the problems with players parking illegally close to intersections. This is a problem with Montgomery County rather than with the synagogue. There was also a discussion of whether to adjust the starting time at sectionals at Kensington to accommodate parking in the lot by churchgoers. Since the church allows us to use their spots on non-Sundays, it was decided just to continue with current schedules.

Sectionals

It was agreed that we should reserve Kensington for 2013 sectionals (this has already been done for January 2013 and all of 2012). We are negotiating for improved

lighting: groups that normally use this facility need lighting for the stage, but our needs are different: we need good lighting away from the stage.

Ron Zucker inquired if we should have a later start times. This can't be done for either October or January as the [Sunday] times are already advertised. On Friday evening the start time has already been moved to 7:15 for the January sectional. It was noted that the 11pm curfew at Kensington constrains the evening start times.

Kitty Gottfried asked about the budget for hospitality for sectionals. The answer was that the Treasurer and Tournament Chairman negotiate. Kitty, having long experience with hospitality, said she has a number of ideas on how to do things less expensively. Ron and Kitty will meet to discuss this.

One problem is how to stage food and supplies. David Solomon can be compensated for doing the shopping, and Rich Colker and Kitty also volunteer. Kitty has been doing the inventory of goods.

Lois Geer has a refrigerator which could be used; one of the refrigerators at Nadine's house belongs to the WBL. Don Berman will talk to Roland about it.

Ron Zucker wants the Board's permission to look into having three sessions on Saturday at the October sectional. The times would be 10am, 2pm, 7pm. This was approved unanimously. [Subsequently Ron reported by email that he had consulted Millard about his idea of running, effectively, a side game series of three one session events with overalls determined by best two sessions, which would have allowed us to run three sessions on Saturday. He noted that, "According to Millard and Doug, while we could run it, there are two problems. First, it would only pay 65% of the masterpoints of a two session event. Second, we could not run a stratiflighted event, but would have to run a stratified event. I don't think either of those two things would entail extra interest from the players, so I've tabled the idea. Thanks to the board for letting me explore."]

Mark Lavine's game runs against our sectionals on Friday morning. He has cancelled his Saturday game on sectional weekends. There was some discussion of whether to ask him to cancel the Friday morning game, but no conclusion was reached. It was noted that the ACBL rule is that clubs can't run a special game against a sectional.

Unit Game

Chris Miller sent a spreadsheet before the meeting.

There will be a problem with holding the holiday party at Kensington, as the theatre group will be storing supplies in the room. Alternatives are Christ the King, or renting the kitchen at Ohr Kodesh for \$425 and cooking kosher, or renting St James for \$100/hr. No conclusion was reached.

Replacement of the squeaky ice chest was approved.

The annual scheduling meeting will be held October 9.

Ron Zucker asked if for the next October sectional we'd like to hold a game on Monday, Columbus Day, which is a holiday for some. The Board was not in favor of this.

The boards need new labels, and cards need to be swapped out. Hank Meyer reported on the costs involved, and was authorized to buy new label sets. Hank was also authorized to instruct David Solomon on how to rotate the decks of cards.

The position of Ombudsman is filled by Ann Lindley, who is now a member of the NVBA. Adrienne Kuehnemann has volunteered to replace her. However, as it is anticipated that Ann will rejoin the WBL, no action was taken.

Fred King suggested that the Board institute a Nadine Wood Service Award to be given at the Holiday Party. President Don Berman responded by appointing a committee, consisting of Linda Marshall, Fred King, Hank Meyer, to determine how often the award should be given and what criteria should be used.

Bridge Brochures

The brochures have been printed, now need to be distributed. Board members have been called upon to volunteer to do so. Don Berman handed out brochures to Board members and requested that a record be kept of which facilities were willing to accept them.

Bridge Bulletin

Bridge and Bowling will be held again next year. Don will arrange for the alley and Linda Marshall will submit an ad.

The deadline is 10/6 for the next Nov/Dec 2011 issue. The ad for the April 2012 sectional will be run only once in the following Bulletin to allow the October 2011 sectional to finish before making decisions about April sectional, however the ad will need to be ready by the November 30 TableTALK deadline to run twice in that publication.

Regional Schedule

Fred King suggested that the defining event of our July 4 Regional was the Machlin Pairs, a barometer event, but that the question had arisen of whether we wanted to keep it or run additional team games instead or at the same time. He noted that regional tournament attendance peaks on Wednesdays and Thursdays, and that this year the 4th of July falls on the worst possible day for us: Wednesday. Discussion ensued. Ellen Cherniavsky said that this schedule, where no new KO is scheduled on the day of the Machlin Pairs, is very disruptive to players with five or six person teams. Ron Zucker felt that it was a good idea to have a day when everybody played the same boards. Ellen later added that with additional team events, more pros would be attracted. Jim Geist observed that if a KO is started opposite the Machlin Pairs, it would effectively kill that

event. Fred took a straw poll, with the results: 4 to keep Machlin; 0 to keep Machlin and start a KO opposite it; 4 to do away with the Machlin and start a KO.

Next Meeting

The Board thanked Fred for his hospitality.

The next WBL Board meeting will take place October 19 at Lois Geer's home. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Cherniavsky, Secretary