

Minutes for Board Meeting, December 13, 2017
Bellerive Country Club
ACBL Unit 143 Board of Directors

Attendees: Becky Hubert, President; Mark Boswell, Vice President; Dianne Glick, Secretary; Jeff Kopolow, Treasurer; Debbie Romero; Dennis Abeln; Lee Hastings; Linda Seibert; John Antognoli; Mark Ziegelman; Jay Shah and Mike Carmen
Absentees: Mary Dolan

President Hubert called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Mark B moved to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2017, meeting for posting, seconded by John Antognoli. Minutes were approved.

President's Report: Becky Hubert We have had a request from the St Louis Bridge Center to co-sponsor the Canfield Bridge Builder Award. We discussed our policy to support all clubs equally, not support one over the other. For lack of a motion, the subject was tabled. President Hubert has nominated Bill Canfield for National Good Will Award for his contributions. A second request was tendered from the Bridge Center that we hire a marketing director to market bridge. We are currently focusing on our tournaments. We don't think a new program is a necessity since the ACBL is doing studies. Goals and objectives will be suggested and discussed at our next meeting. Inquiries have been made regarding moving the Sectionals to the Bridge Center. Several reasons were brought forward against this request, including the number of available restrooms, no separate area for lunches and the design of the registration area, Also Blanchette provides year-round storage for us as well as providing labor during setup and take down.

Treasurer's Report: Jeff Kopolow Report was given by Jeff Kopolow. Dianne Glick moved that it be accepted for posting, John Antognoli seconded. All approved.

January Sectional: Mike Carmen It is difficult to guesstimate the number of tables in January with the new trial of Pairs for IN on Sunday. We have scheduled the same vendor for Sunday meal as last Sectional. Best guesstimate for Section attendance is 385. President Hubert will do new Presidential message regarding new IN information.

Regional: Mike Carmen After discussion, the Board approved execution of the addenda to the already executed contracts for 2018, 2019 and 2020 with the Renaissance Hotel for upcoming St Louis Regionals. These addenda provide a more favorable lower room commitment for Unit 143 with no disadvantages. Also, the room rates remain favorable compared to other regional room rates, The proposed contracts with the Renaissance for 2021 and 2022 were discussed as well. The Board asked Mike Carmen to continue negotiating with the hotel for these later years, but only to execute the contracts if more favorable terms for the Unit could be reached with respect to levels of coffee service and room commitment issues/cancellation terms.
With respect to the regional schedule for 2018, the Board decided to add a Gold Rush Pairs game and associated A/X pairs game on Tuesday due to its higher popularity and benefit for Intermediate/Novice players and advanced level players, as well, if the game garners greater attendance.

Old Business: Lee Hastings reported that \$25 per table was quoted from Amazon to replace old tables, not counting shipping and taxes. We will not hire Diann to repair old ones until we complete research on purchasing new tables.

Awards: Mark B Mark B led a discussion regarding appropriate awards. According to Mark Z, INs approve of our present store of awards.

Bidding Boxes: John A Bidding boxes and signage are together and ready for the Winter Sectional.

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Datebook: Dennis A Met with Karen and has inventory of current book. He will start working on 2019 book soon. Each club liaison makes information on its club available to Dennis.

Education: Lee H No report

Membership: Jay S We have 8 members fewer - probably due to snowbirds who have moved south for the winter.

Partnership: Linda S Mark Z will take Partnership during May Sectional while Linda is out of town.

Publicity: Debbie R Debbie will submit expense report for January Sectional. Email blast from ACBL will go out soon. Deadline for Regional publicity is end of February. There are concerns about attendance at game before tournament begins.

January Sectional Caddies: Debbie R All is in order for caddies.

District Report: Debbie R Debbie brought us up to date on activities of our District.

Website: John A The Board member information will be updated.

Unit Games: Mark B No report

The Board Members, as one, thanked President Hubert and her husband for their gracious hosting of food and beverage at Bellerive Country Club. We much appreciated their generosity.

Announcements: Our next meeting will be January 10, 2018, 7:00 PM at Creve Coeur Police Station.

Adjournment: Lee H moved to adjourn and John A seconded. All approved. The meeting was adjourned.
