

**NORTH JERSEY BRIDGE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
February 20, 2016  
Christ Church, Ridgewood, NJ**

President John Hogan called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. Attendance was taken and it was confirmed that a quorum was present. Board members in attendance were:

John Hogan	President
Lee Ohliger	Treasurer, Conduct and Ethics, Budget
Carol McMackin	Administrative Secretary
Susan Koster	Recording Secretary, Newcomer/Intermediate Promotion
Marilyn Cavell	Tournaments
Doug Cestone	Auditor, Newsletter/Flyer Distribution, Site
Jack Forbes	Pairings
Kathy Lathrop	Flyers, Tournaments
Ron Nelken	Pro-Am, Newcomer/Intermediate Promotion
Tod Thorgersen	Bob Johnke and Nelson Reitman Teams, Prizes
Neale VanDelft	Newsletter

Also in attendance: Marilyn Wells, Andy Lohan.

Absent and excused: Dick Murray, Debi Fabian, Michael Jeshion, Michelle Lanigan, Barbara LeVay, Pat Linnemeyer, Pam Mills and Gale Mirro

Absent with no excuse: Stasha Cohen

The minutes of the prior meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Doug, seconded by Lee, to accept the minutes as submitted. The motion was passed unanimously.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

John summarized challenges of the January tournament with inclement weather. It was decided to maintain schedule and cancel, via website and email distribution, if weather did not permit holding the game(s). John requested that if any board member receives concerns that a person did not receive an email, that they can access the unit website and sign-up for email notices. Kathy suggested making an entry in the newsletter, outlining what to do when inclement weather suggests a possible change to a tournament schedule.

John announced that District 3 has recently adopted a Zero Tolerance Policy. Marilyn Cavell prepared a chart for use at tournaments that outlined good behavior practices. Marilyn Wells indicated that Directors automatically applied the "good behavior policy" at our tournaments, Johnke, Reitman and Annual Dinner. Lee made a motion, seconded by Carol, to adopt a Zero Tolerance Policy. The motion passed unanimously. John will interface with the WebMaster to document this policy.

There are still openings in two committees, i.e. Tournament Co-Chair and Site Committee. Marilyn reviewed responsibilities of the tournament co-chair and John reviewed responsibilities of site committee. John asked for volunteers to speak with him directly.

John would like to focus on "Preparedness" for our unit, which includes: 1) Current Description of officer responsibilities and committee chairs (co-chairs), 2) List of usable back-up sites in the event the Allendale Auditorium is unavailable, and 3) Succession plan for Unit President.

John asked all officers and committee chairs/co-chairs to document their responsibilities, checking with previous holder of the position, if the chair is a new position, before submitting it to John by March 30th.

The need for a back-up tournament site is self evident. John suggested we establish a site-preparation committee to review options. No further action was taken.

John identified the need to establish a process for succession of the president. The successor needs experience with tournaments and would preferably hold officer positions of Secretary and Vice President before becoming President. John asks members to think about this need and speak with him in consideration of becoming a future president.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Lee reported year-end results along with the recommended budget for 2016:

For 2015: budget -\$6099.33 versus actual -\$2,151.74.

For 2016: budget -\$6965.45

The 2016 budget took into account the actual expense for the Winter Sectional and additional expense for pens (gifts) for Ruby and Sapphire achievers in 2016. No retroactive gifts will be given for members who met the qualification for Ruby or Sapphire achievers prior to 2016.

A motion was made by Neale, seconded by Tod, to accept the 2016 budget. The motion passed unanimously.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **TOURNAMENTS**

Marilyn stated that we lost money on the Winter Tournament due to cancellation of the Saturday games. She asked for help to expand the number of committee members, requesting board members to solicit interest from unit members and advise her of possible candidates.

Marilyn asked the board to consider canceling the January tournament due to weather conditions. It was noted that we have been successful for many years with a January schedule and that this year was an anomaly. The current tournament schedule does not permit us to hold a tournament in June versus January since Directors are already committed for District 3, 4 and 25 tournaments. We also participate in a STAC week in June.

Discussion included adding a day to our tournaments, ex. Thurs - Sun. No decision was made at this time and will discuss again at the next Board Meeting.

The November Sectional has been moved to Nov. 18 -20, per church availability. 2017 dates are: 1/27-1/29, 4/21-4/23, 9/15 - 9/17 and 11/10-11/12. 2018 dates are: 1/26-1/28. Marilyn Cavell will send proposed dates to Marilyn Wells to see if dates don't conflict.

## ANNUAL DINNER

Per notification from Pat Linnemeyer, we need to schedule the Annual Dinner after the November Sectional and Nationals in Orlando. The exact date is still open. Pat needs to investigate Crowne Plaza availability in 2017, as well as evaluate a brunch versus dinner.

## PAIRINGS

There was significant activity in January due to inclement weather for team events on Sunday. All requests for partners were honored.

## JOHNKE/REITMAN

The Johnke is schedule for 4/16 and will be a Bracketed Swiss based on attendee master points. The Reitman is scheduled for 10/1. Kathy Lathrop will update the Johnke flyer on the website to reflect "Bracketed Swiss Teams". The budget reflects increases in flights and projected increase in turnout.

## PRO-AM

Ron identified possible dates for the Pro-Am, 6/24- 6/25 and 9/16- 9/17. He needs to confer with the four clubs who wish to participate to get agreement on the dates. The plan is to give coupons to the Am's to the Allendale Sectional and Reitman.

## 0-99 WORKSHOP & GAME

Susan confirmed that the 0-99 Workshop & Game is scheduled for 5/14 with Cheryl Porter-Garofalo presenting the workshop. The flyers are ready and already posted on the website.

## YOUTH BRIDGE

The unit held an Inter-School challenge, hosted by Thomas Jefferson Middle School in Teaneck. 48 students attended from Orange, RiverDell, Allendale and Teaneck schools. Reporters from the local paper were in attendance and published a favorable article about youth bridge. Hopefully, we will have an equally successful turnout for the unit's Youth Bridge Championship scheduled for Saturday, 4/2.

## FLYERS

Kathy noted that the ACBL blast works to market our tournaments.

## DISTRIBUTION

Doug is working now to distribute flyers for the Johnke, April Sectional and 0-99 Workshop & Game.

## AUDITS

Doug confirmed that the 2014 Audit Report was presented to the Executive Committee.

## NEWSLETTER

Neale stated that if there is a reasonable number of names for members who qualify for the newly identified Ruby and Sapphire Master Point categories, he will list them in the next Newsletter. If not, only new achievers in 2016 will be mentioned. He needs the final year-end results for the Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKinley winners by the end of March.

## WEBSITE

It was noted that anyone who has responsibility for input to the Website needs to review its content for accuracy.

## OLD BUSINESS

It was commented that Abby Brawer has been remarkable in helping with the tournaments.

## NEW BUSINESS

Carol suggested an increase in price to the Annual dinner. A motion was made by Jack, seconded by Marilyn, to increase the price by \$5. The motion passed unanimously.

Marilyn Wells noted that ACBL needs money, and future prices for non-ACBL members attending ACBL tournaments will be an additional \$3 per session. Starting 7/1, ACBL will charge the unit \$1 a table during STAC week. A motion was made by Lee, seconded by Carol, to bill clubs \$1 a table, bringing the total payment charged to clubs to \$6 table.

A motion was made at 11:50 by Tod, seconded by Lee, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.