

NORTH JERSEY BRIDGE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
February 1, 2020
Christ Church, Ridgewood, NJ

President Pat Linnemeyer 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:

Pat Linnemeyer	President
Susan Koster	Vice President
Carole Gelfer	Administrative Secretary
Bruce Esposito	Recording Secretary
Lee Ohliger	Treasurer, Conduct and Ethics, Budget
Dave Bushman	Tournaments
Pam Mills	Hospitality
Sam Ghosh	Site Committee
Fred Shubert	Club Coordinator, Newsletter Editor
Joel Lipset	Pairings, Membership
Susan Heiferman	Caddies
Richard Podkowiak	Webpage, Player of the Year
Tod Thorgersen	Bob Johnke and Nelson Reitman Teams, Prizes
Mary Ann Shea	Bob Johnke and Nelson Reitman Teams
Ron Nelken	Pro Am
Doug Cestone	Aduitior, Distribution

Honorary Board Members and Guests in attendance include: John Hogan, Marilyn Wells

Absent and excused: Peri Namerow, Barbara LeVay, Kathy Lathrop

The minutes of the prior meeting were reviewed and approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Pat stated that our first winter Allendale Sectional of the year had been a great success. She welcomed Bruce Esposito to the Board, as its new Recording Secretary. She then called on Lee Ohliger for a report on our finances.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Lee Ohliger presented his report and stated that 2019 was a good year financially for Unit 106. The 2019 Budget had a surplus. He then presented the 2020 Budget. As Pat mentioned, our 2020 Winter Sectional did very well generating a larger profit than last year. John Hogan questioned why the amount budgeted for Novice promotion dropped from the previous year. Pat clarified that we no longer have the 0-99 game since we had

a poor response. The 0-20 Sectional games on Friday and Saturday, and the Sunday 299 game was targeted to address that. She also remarked that this amount could be increased again in the future, if we felt it was needed. It was noted that the Pro-Am, Reitman, Johnke and Annual Brunch events were budgeted to lose money, as a benefit to our members, and that our Annual Brunch was well attended this year. The 2020 budget was then voted upon and accepted by the Board.

TOURNAMENTS

Dave Bushman discussed the success of the January Winter Sectional. We had 247 tables in 2020, vs. 216 in 2019, accounting for some of its success. We did have some issues at the facility. A circuit breaker blew on Friday of the event, knocking out two coffee urns. Friday also experienced cold temperatures inside, particularly in the afternoon. Doors at the back of the auditorium were often left open, both on the outside, and the inside. An electrician was brought in on Saturday to check the HVAC system and all seemed to be working well. Several suggestions were made to help keep better temperatures at the event in the future. Marilyn Wells noted that the lights on the stage should never be kept on as the thermostat for the room is high on the wall next to those lights, and can cause a false. In addition, signs should be put on the exterior doors (inside and out) to "Keep These Doors Closed." Finally, Dave proposed the following dates for the 2023 Sectionals - 1/6-8, 4/14-16, 9/8-10, and 11/10-12 and was going to forward same to the District before we get sanctions..

HOSPITALITY

Pam Mills discussed the breaker outage at the winter sectional and its impact on the coffee service. A second set of breakers was identified in the back room, and will have to be checked in the future if a similar situation occurs. No other issues were raised about this topic at the sectionals.

SANCTIONS

Barbara LeVay was absent, but Pat said that Sanctions were up to date.

SITE COMMITTEE

Sam Ghosh presented his report. As mentioned in an earlier meeting, in response to parking in the fire lanes, the Tournament Chair should continue to announce at the beginning of each session, that parking by the red lined Fire Lane area will result in a ticket, and anyone parked there must move their cars. After mentioning that on Saturday several offending parkers moved their cars. Second, Sam noted that the plastic tote boxes that hold the bidding boxes in Allendale are in bad shape and need to be replaced. He suggested replacing them with smaller, sturdier 27-gallon boxes. The Board voted to approve this purchase. Ron Nelken, the Board Maker, was authorized to purchase a new hand cart since the one at the church is not in good shape.

PAIRINGS

Joel Lipset reported that 14 total pairs (28 entries) were put together in the Winter Sectional. He will track that number in the future and see how to improve it. As 10 of the 14 pairings were prearranged as a result of email, text and phone contact, he suggested increasing the email blasts. In addition, he plans to increase his physical presence during sectionals at the Pairings Desk.

CADDIES

Susan Heiferman noted that she was new to this activity and could use some help. Ron Nelken offered to get it off the ground. Tod mentioned that along with students, retirees should be considered for these roles.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Richard Podkowik mentioned that this activity had been automated for the future and is up to date.

ANNUAL BRUNCH

Pat Linnemeyer suggested that the 2020 Annual Brunch date be 12/20/20. She also suggested that we keep price per person the same as last year.

JOHNKE & REITMAN TEAMS

Tod Thorgersen reiterated that that the dates for the 2020 Johnke and Reitman are May 2 and October 3. He proposed that the 2021 Johnke be held on May 1, but did not have a Reitman date for 2021, as yet. He requested that Caddies be identified and their names sent to him in advance of the events.

PRIZES

Tod Thorgersen - Nothing to report.

PRO-AM

Ron Nelken stated that the dates for the Pro Am would either be Friday and Saturday June 19 and June 20, or Friday and Saturday June 26 and June 27. With the BridgeTable and Sparta clubs going through transitions, the choice of date will depend on how things turn out with them. Typically, Rockland and the BridgeTable run the ProAm on Friday, and Sparta and Glen Rock on Saturday. If three of the clubs were to hold the event on the same day, then Marilyn Wells said that they could get Overall Scores. Finally, Ron stated that we needed to get a handcart to carry heavy boxes in an out of locations like Guardian Angel. The group voted to fund this and Ron will make the purchase. In addition he saw the need for 6 boxes of 12 decks of cards. The Board voted to fund that, as well, and Susan Koster will make that purchase.

MEMBERSHIP

Joel Lipset said that the ACBL sends an In/Out report to the listed contact. He would welcome new members with a phone call and inform them about our Unit's activities.

The question of whether we need a Benevolent Function, sending cards if members are sick or die is to be discussed at the next meeting.

FLYERS

Kathleen Lathrop - Nothing to report since Kathy was not present.

DISTRIBUTION

Doug Cestone - Nothing to report.

CLUB COORDINATOR

Fred Shubert - Nothing to report.

NEWSLETTER

Fred Shubert - Nothing to report.

WEB PAGE

Richard Podkowiak mentioned that our Web Page setup was unusual. However, he is able to work with it and sees no need to change it at this time. He did ask those who didn't have photos up on the site, to work with him to get that done.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- First, Pat noted that the next Board meeting would be held on May 2nd, the morning of the Johnke.

-- Second, Susan Koster indicated that a process was needed to send out Pianola based email blasts. Who should send them out? How do they get approved in a timely manner? What is the mechanism?

Susan proposed that:

Each Committee Chair should have the ability to send out a blast.

Such a request should be sent to Pat to approve within 24-48 hours.

It should be sent to Richard Podkowiak to execute.

Suggestions were made which will be discussed at the next meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.