

Louisiana Bridge Association
Board of Directors Meeting
October 9, 2023

The meeting was called to order by the president, Larry Federico, at 4:00 p.m. Present were Larry, Sid LeBlanc, Kathy Logue, Newt Jackson, Sherrie Goodman, Quin Bates, Jennifer Holmes, Wayne Weisler, and Suzanne Cliffe. Absent were Jackie Madden and Lowen.

District 10 Report: The first order of business was a report from Vicki Willis, our District 10 Representative. Her report is attached. Vicki told us that she will be running for District 10 president at the next election. She said that there were no District 10 Regionals in 2024 scheduled. Sherrie had wanted us to have a Regional in the Fall of 2024 at the club, but Sherrie said that Nashville is interested in having a split Regional with us in March, 2025.. Sherrie said that if we can agree on a date that she will pursue it. She said that the recent Nashville Regional had 769 tables. The advantage of a split-regional is that with more tables, there will be higher masterpoint awards to the players.

Minutes: The minutes for the September meeting were approved. Quin will distribute the finalized copy to the Board members, post them in the club, and provide them to Sherrie for posting online.

Finance: Sid LeBlanc distributed the Profit and Loss statement. He brought up the ongoing discussion of whether to continue to carry insurance on the building. Do we self insure and put the money that we would pay towards insurance, \$18,000 annually currently with increases likely, in an escrow fund to pay for any future minor damage? In the event of a hurricane with major damage to the property, do we sell the building and move or do we repair? Jennifer would like us to get additional quotes on insurance. She will pursue that. Jennifer would also like to consider what our current options are as to renting or buying if we were to sell after a major disaster. Newt pointed out that if there were an event that closed down our current location, there is no way to know what would be available elsewhere. Time spent researching that now would be moot at that time. No decision was made. Jennifer will look into other quotes and options. This will be revisited at the next meeting. Sid then made a motion to have the LBA file as a 501 C (3) corporation rather than a 501 C (7) which is what we are currently. After researching the requirements, he says that there is a reasonable argument for our main purpose to be considered education. After discussion, the question was called and the Board voted by a 5-4 vote to file as a 501 C (3). Newt made a motion to have someone change the Articles of Incorporation. Jennifer would like a licensed tax attorney to look into this. The motion to change the Articles was not voted on. This will be revisited next month.

Maintenance Report: Wayne reported that the gate in the fence at the back of the lot has been repaired. There are no cameras but Sherrie will get them. He asked about new striping in the parking lot but Board voted to hold off on that.

Club Manager's Report: Sherrie reported that we need someone to be in charge of paper supplies in the kitchen. Kathy Logue said that she will do that. Sherrie announced several upcoming special games in October: Unit Championship, John Onstott Intermediate/Novice Tournament, Senior Pairs, NAP finals, ACBL IMP Gold Point game, "8 is enough" team game. We will have our Dottie Toledano Sectional tournament November 2-4. There will be a sectional tournament in Baton Rouge November 16-18. Our Holiday Party is scheduled for December 8. Suzanne Cliffe volunteered to chair it.

Publicity: Jennifer reported that for the "8 is Enough" team game that they need some "1" players. Also, they will find partners for anyone that needs them. They are budgeting for 20 tables, Jackie is in charge of the food.

New Business: Larry reported that the club had been left \$100,000 from the estate of John Onstott.

Suggestion box: Post players' pictures. That is being done. There was a suggestion that the Monday open game be moved from 10:30 back to 9:30. The turn out for the Monday open game has increased with the later starting time, so it will continue at 10:30 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 12, at 4:00 p.m.

Submitted by
Suzanne Cliffe, Recording Secretary