

LBA Board of Directors Minutes
February 14, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Larry Federico, President, at 4:00 p.m. Present were Larry, Jackie Madden, Mary LeBlanc, Jim Thornton, Lowen, Sherrie Goodman, Diana Powell, Newt Jackson, Carolyn Dubois, Wayne Weisler, and Suzanne Cliffe.

Larry called on Diana to make a report on our options for the new building insurance. She has been talking with Steve Romig who has contacted insurance agents. It appears that of the two companies who seem to have the best policies for the building, Citizens and Johnson & Johnson, that the Citizens would be the least costly when having to make a claim. This was approved by the Board and Diana will report at the next meeting.

Sherrie next presented ideas and for increasing attendance for the face to face games.

- She passed around a list of people that were regular players before Covid that had not been to the club since for the Board members to call. She would like contact to be made with them, inquiring as to their reasons for not attending in person and encouraging them to come when possible.
- She would like to have special Saturday games when we have STaC weeks so that players can have more opportunities to get those extra colored points. The next STaC week is March 28, which will be a Royal STaC awarding gold, red, and silver points. This was approved by the Board and the first one is on Saturday, February 19th. Wayne agreed to direct and Sherrie will send out an email blast.
- Sherrie would like for the club to do a promotion in the month of March encouraging players to bring new players or players that haven't played since Covid and both players will play for free. This was approved by the Board for the month of March. Sherrie will send out emails to encourage players to come and bring new or returning players and they both can play for free.
- Sherrie will look into what would be involved in bringing Patty Tucker down from Atlanta to teach her class, "Learn Bridge in a Day".

There was a discussion regarding the game scheduled for Tuesday, March 1, Mardi Gras Day. It was voted by the Board to hold the game but to move the time from 1:00 p.m. to 10:30 a.m. There will be no food served but there will be a lunch break for players to bring a brown bag lunch. There will be no eating at the playing tables. Carolyn suggested that players would like to be able to bring food to the club again. After discussion of the cost of maintenance of the dealing machines, the Board voted to continue with the no food policy.

Larry gave a report on the repairs of the building which are continuing satisfactorily. There were some electrical problems on the roof which happened during the roof replacement which has been addressed. The standing water on the roof will be fixed,

the air conditioning compressor on the roof is being installed, the sheetrock work will be finished next week, cabinets will be in next week. We are currently waiting on reimbursement from insurance company for bridge supplies. Some insurance payments will be made when the work is completed. The signs in the parking lot that were damaged by Ida will be replaced.

Minutes: The minutes of the January meeting were approved as distributed.

Financial Report: Mary

It was approved by the Board to increase the flood insurance coverage by \$15,000 for \$190/year.

There was a correction in the income for the January tournament as all expenses were not in. Instead of a profit, we had a loss of \$944.

We are currently paying for the alarm and monitoring and it is unknown if it is working, also, whether the panic button is working. Wayne will check on that.

We paid \$215 for January for the credit card machine and we were closed for most of the month. Jim will check on those charges.

Mary will check on the cost of the coffee service for January since we were only open for the first week.

We are paying for two zoom accounts and now that we are meeting in person, we will drop the payment for the account that is held by Lowen. Sherrie will continue to have a zoom account as she needs that for the virtual club.

Income from the virtual club is down as more people are playing at their face to face clubs.

The Claire Meyer Award for the woman players that earn the most masterpoints in a year in our club games was awarded to Sherrie for First place and Joan Van Geffen for second place.

Because of rising interest rates, it was approved that the investment committee would move \$80,000 to \$100,00 into a CD.

Maintenance: Wayne

The big items are being taken care of by the contractors doing the work on the building from the Ida repairs. Larry had Mike of Mike's Maintenance do a roof inspection after some work was done to look at the roof and electrical repairs. He confirmed what the electrician had found. There followed a discussion about the work Mike has done in the past at the club. The Board members want to make sure that the work required at the club is done by people licensed in the specific fields needed, plumbing, electrical, and air conditioning specifically. This is important to meet the Jefferson Parish code requirements as well as to have warranties on the work done. If Mike is to do any work at the club he should give a detailed estimate in advance and present a detailed invoice after the work is done. He also needs to provide proof of insurance as well as a current contractor's license.

NABC Report: Larry

The current budget allotment from our club for the Spring, 2023 NABC to be held in New Orleans is \$46,000 depending on how much we get from District 10. We will need

to set up an additional bank account to handle income and expense for the NABC. Larry, Jackie, and Sid LeBlanc will be the signers on the account. Suzanne will notify the bank and make the arrangements.

Larry and Jackie have a meeting later this week with the district and the ACBL. He will meet with his committee chairs also. Sometime either at the end of March or in April the ACBL will send representatives to inspect the hotel and make decisions as to where the actual set up in the hotel will be for all of the playing areas, registrations, prizes, partnership desk, novice/intermediate areas. We will host a reception for the novices and also two breakfasts for novices. One of the big items of negotiation will be parking prices for our members. One area for fund raising will be selling naming rights for events. Larry will report at the next meeting progress in these areas.

Jackie asked if we want to continue with the fogging of the club after games. The Board voted to continue at least until the next meeting. It can be cancelled at any time with no additional costs.

Old Business:

Carolyn has a petition asking to change the game times for the face to face games back to the noon times rather than 1:00 p.m. It was pointed out that if we do that we will lose people that are playing in the morning games online as the games would overlap. Since we are currently dependent on the virtual games to cover the operating deficit of the face to face games, we will keep the current schedule for now.

Larry brought up the number of days for future tournaments. He has told the ACBL that the May tournament this year will be a 3 day tournament, beginning on Thursday and ending on Saturday.

Carolyn presented a letter to Larry concerning the activities and accomplishments of the past 2 ½ years since she became president in June, 2019. She wanted to thank all of the Board members during that time as well as all of the various committee members that kept the club operating during difficult times. A copy of the letter will be posted with the February minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m. The next meeting will be on Monday, March 14, at 4:00 p.m.

Suzanne Cliffe
Recording Secretary

