LBA Board of Directors Meeting

February 13, 2023

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

The Minutes from the January, 2023 meeting were approved.

Finance Report: Sid Leblanc, Treasurer, presented the P & L statements from December 2022 and January 2023. The insurance was renewed for 2023 and the cost for that is $25,000. That includes, property, casualty, surety, flood, liability and an addition of workers’ compensation. Sid will inquire as to the necessity of the contractors and workers that work on the premises of their providing their workmen’s compensation certificates.

The loss for 2023 is estimated to be $23,000 but that includes one-time income of S$20,000 from District 10 for the NABC being held in March. This is the money that was raised by the naming of events in honor of friends and members. Without this $20,000, the loss for 2023 would be $43,000. Sid discussed ways that we might consider reducing our expenses and increasing our revenue, which include possibly reducing cleaning fees and increasing the table fees. Another option would be to sell the building. At this time, we are not inclined to do any of these things. The Face to Face games have seen an increase in players. We need to encourage the players to return to the face to face games at the club as well as try and bring new players in.

There was also a discussion of our coffee and vending contract which expires in July, 2023. Suzanne Cliffe volunteered to look into our options regarding renewal. Newt Jackson made a motion that we hold off making decisions on these until after the NABC in March and see what the participation level is after that. We will table this discussion until the next Board meeting.

Club Manager’s Report: Sherrie Goodman reported that the chat game held today, Feb. 13, had a good turnout of 28 people. The next one will be held on April 10.

There was discussion of whether we will cancel the October I/N tournament. We would like to have it but need to see what kind of participation there is by the I/N players in the next two tournaments before making a decision.

Sherrie would like to have a Tournament Cooridinator appointed who can recruit tournament chairs and partnership chairs as well as meet with them to go over their duties including food suggestions, vendors, and budget. Suzanne Cliffe will discuss this with Susan Beobay who has been helping with our tournaments in 2022.

Sherrie said that we will be having extra point games online, including Education Fund games, “Silver Linings” games.

NABC Report: Jackie Madden reported that our fundraising committee headed by Jennie Sauviac had raised $20,000 from donors for naming rights to games. These were to be recognized not only by banners at the games, but also by a biography of the honored person that was to be printed in the Daily bulletins on “their” days. In January, the ACBL decided that there would no longer be a paper copy of the daily bulletin printed at the tournaments. It would be online. Jackie has asked that that be changed for this tournament so that our unit can honor the commitment made to the donors. They have offered to put up a screen that will rotate through the day with the names of the honorees. There will also be banners and easels with the honorees in the playing areas. At this time, we are waiting for their decision.

On March 8, we need help to stuff bags for the registration packet. This will be done at the Marriott on the 2nd floor at 12:30 p.m. We will pay the parking for the volunteers.

Maintenance: Jackie is still trying to reduce our cleaning costs. We will no longer schedule cleaning service after a special Saturday game as they frequently don’t make. It was voted to keep the STaC scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 18, but to not have the club cleaned after.

There will be a general membership meeting scheduled for the July tournament, July 6-8. The purpose of the meeting will be to vote on proposed by-law changes. The meeting will be contingent upon Board approval of the proposed by-law changes. In the by-laws, the membership meeting day is discussed as Sunday. As our tournaments are currently not scheduled through Sunday, the day will be changed. It is thought that since Friday games are larger than the team games on Saturday, the membership meeting should be changed to Friday. Another topic for discussion by the committee will be the possibility of allowing for absentee voting for our Board members elected each year. Larry will confirm the previous committee members as well as ask some new ones. Larry confirmed that Lowen has agreed to continue to chair this committee. There will be more information at the April meeting.

Jennifer Holmes has printed out all of the ACBL Rules, Regulations, handbooks as well as our local club information which will be kept in a binder in the cabinet behind the game directors’ desk.

There has been a request from the Intermediate/Novice side to change the Friday afternoon game from 1:00 p.m. to 12:30 p.m. This was approved by the Board, effective February 24. There was also discussion of changing the Open game to 12:30. That will be discussed at a later time when we have had more input from the Open players.

The March meeting of the Board of Directors has been cancelled as that is in the middle of the NABC. The next meeting will be the regularly scheduled April meeting.

We obtained an appraisal on the building/lot as Larry had been approached as to the possibility of our selling it. This was for informational purposes only. At this time we will not pursue this.

The signs in the parking lot have been replaced. There was a discussion as to the safety of the building. There were opinions from two different engineers that the building is structurally sound. There are lights out in the parking lot as well as timers that need to be set. Wayne will oversee this.

In the copies that Jennifer obtained of our contracts for our records she was not able to find information on A to Z Contracting. Larry has a copy of the license and provided her with a copy.

The next meeting will be on Monday, April 10, 2023.

Suzanne Cliffe

Recording Secretary