

Northern Virginia Bridge Association
Minutes of the Board of Directors
August, 2008

The August 2008 NVBA Board meeting was held on Monday, August 25, at Jim Dick's office in Springfield. Those attending were: President Leo Cardillo, Vice President Alan Breed, Secretary Marge Gazzola, Board members Ron Kral, Jennifer Nisenoff and Jim Dick, Chief Unit Game Director Marshall Kushner, Newsletter Liaison Lucy McCoy and Education Chair Joanne Pretti. Treasurer Dale Dallaire and Board members Herb Fallin and Bruce Houston were absent, but Dale participated in the meeting via a telephone conference call from Detroit. President Cardillo called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Old Business

Minutes: Alan made a motion to accept the June 2008 minutes, Jim seconded and the motion carried. There was no Board meeting in July.

Treasurer's Report

Financial Reports: Since Dale was not present, the Board did not review financial reports this month

Budget: Dale had emailed the Board an NVBA projected budget for 2008-2009 which showed a loss of about \$2,000. She explained that estimates were based on last year's numbers. Alan stated that he didn't think the Board should approve another deficit budget and pointed out that the NVBA's \$2000 donation to the July 2009 NABC was not included in this budget (It will be included in the 2009-2010 budget). Alan also said that he doesn't see how we can increase income, and that there are five possible areas for reduction: free plays, food, special events, Board expenses and the Newsletter. Herb had sent in comments about the table estimates used for the Unit Game and the Board discussed these estimates, which may be optimistic. The Board also discussed the increased Sectional rent at the Elks (there should be an additional \$1280 in the budget for Sectional rent), plus directors' and caddies' fees. It was agreed that there will probably be a \$4,000 deficit next year, possibly \$4,500. The Board discussed whether NLM's should pay at the LM/NLM game or if we should continue to absorb the lost income by keeping it as a free game for all. Leo asked whether the 60/40 accounting was included in the budget. Three Board members, Herb, Jennifer and Alan, will form a budget committee and will meet to review the proposed budget and report back to the Board.

Free Plays: The Board discussed where to cut free plays and agreed on the following cuts: (1) All Board member free plays, both for the Unit Game and for Sectionals, are eliminated (2) New Diamond, Emerald, Platinum and Grand Life Masters will get 4 instead of 8 free plays. The Board discussed whether the Man and Woman of the Year, Rush Buckley and Rookie of the Year winners should get 1 or 4 free plays instead of 8 but did not resolve this issue.

Audit: According to Dale, the 2007/2008 NVBA audit will take place in September or October.

Financial Software: The unit has purchased new financial software.

President's Report

Partnership Website: Dale will contact the WBL to see if they are interested in continuing the NVBA-WBL Partnership Website.

September Meeting: Monday, September 22 or Tuesday, September 23 were proposed as dates for the next NVBA Board meeting. Alan will look into the possibility of meeting at Westwood Country Club in Vienna and Marge will explore using meeting rooms in some Fairfax County libraries.

Fundraising Proposal: Leo reported on a product sales fundraising effort that was proposed by NVBA member Chuck Yapple. The Board agreed that they did not want to pursue this effort.

Cabinet: Carole Grob is picking up a new cabinet for the closet at Beth El. Carole, Leo and others will meet at 5 pm on Thursday to install the cabinet. We now have 2 locking and 2 non-locking cabinets at Beth El.

C&E: Conduct and Ethics(C&E) Committees have had 3 members in recent years, although our Policies & Procedures Manual states that there should be 5. We will amend the P&P to show 3 members. Leo has set up a standing group of individuals who have volunteered to serve on C&E committees. This group consists of Board members Herb Fallin, Bruce Houston and Jim Dick, and NVBA members Bobby Gookin, Ken Davis, Rusty Krauss, Sumner Steinfeldt, Carole Grob and Bob Hartmann.

Multi: The Board discussed the issue of the Multi convention. The ACBL has recently issued a policy stating that mid-chart conventions(including Multi) are not allowed except in 6-Board events and flighted A/X events. The flier for the September Sectional which states that mid-chart conventions are permitted had already been distributed, so an announcement will be made at the Sectional stating that mid-chart conventions will be allowed only in the A/X events(There will be no 6-board events). The policy is the same

for the NVBA Unit Game. There are no restrictions on mid-chart conventions at club games. Ron will contact Doug Grove about our Sectional multi plans.

Round Robin: Jim will contact Mike Zane to review plans for an NVBA Round Robin.

September Sectional: Tournament Chair Margot Hennings reported via email that plans for the September 4-7 NVBA Sectional are well in hand. Leo delivered 23 sets of boards to Gene to duplicate for the Sectional.

Scheduling Meeting: The joint annual WBL/NVBA Unit Game/Sectional scheduling meeting, which is usually held in August, has not taken place yet due to personnel scheduling difficulties but will probably be held during September.

NABC: Margot reported via email that the 2009 NABC Committee met at the Washington, D. C. Marriott Wardman Park Hotel on August 19. The meeting was hosted by the ACBL NABC tournament coordinator, Jeff Johnston, and his assistant, Wendy Sullivan, and the purpose was to provide an opportunity for the local committee to explain their committee' functions and to ask questions of the ACBL regarding responsibilities and ACBL-provided support. An issue to be resolved is the cost of parking. Margot has written an article about the ways in which units and individuals can contribute to funding the NABC and it will appear in the next issue of TableTALK.

Regional Co-Chair Report

Regional co-chair Dale Dallaire reported that the July Reston MABC Regional was highly successful and profitable, and that MABC will send the NVBA a \$1,250 rebate. Negotiations are underway with the Hyatt for 2011 and possibly 2013.

Technology Report

Ron reported that he has bought a gadget that will make our printer work and will put it into production this week. He gave it to Candy and Marshall to test. It is possible to use the DOS version of ACBLScore for scoring, then use the WINDOWS version for printing. This is an ongoing effort, and there has been limited success so far.

Secretary's Report

Marge reported that she has completed an updated version of the NVBA "Positions" document and has sent it to Board members and others for review but has received little response. It has been suggested that we post this document on the NVBA website, and Marge will email it again before the next Board meeting so it can be approved. Also, Marge will try to locate some copies of the 2008 NVBA "Policies and Procedures

Manual” for Board members who don’t have the latest version(which may be viewed on the website).

Newsletter Liaison’s Report

Lucy reminded everyone that articles, including the President’s letter, for the October-December 2008 NVBA Newsletter are due in one week. Marshall is writing an article for this edition.

Education Chair’s Report

Joanne reported on her efforts to start a Tuesday evening novice game at the Presbyterian Church.

Leo adjourned the regular meeting at 9:15 and it was followed by an executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Gazzola, Secretary