

Northern Virginia Bridge Association
Board of Director Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2012

ATTENDEES: Mike Cappelletti, President
Alan Breed, Vice-President
Betty Bursey, Executive Director
Amanda Carter, Executive Director
Jim Dick, Executive Director
Ron Kral, Executive Director
Lucy McCoy, Newsletter Liaison
Sheryl McEwan, NVBA Member

Board members Lynda Flanger, Alan Dockterman and Leo Cardillo were absent.

CALL TO ORDER: The President called the February Meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 7:05 p.m. on Tuesday, February 28, 2012 at the Westwood Country Club in Vienna, VA.

Secretary's Report

The Board reviewed the minutes from the January Board of Directors' meeting. Alan Breed made a motion to rescind a vote taken at the January meeting concerning Sectional entry fees for some events. Ron Kral seconded the motion, and the motion to rescind the previous vote carried unanimously. Alan Breed made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Betty Bursey, which carried unanimously. In the absence of Alan Dockterman, Lucy McCoy took the minutes of the February meeting.

Treasurer's Report

There was no report as the Treasurer has been absent abroad for several months now and does not have access to current financial data.

Marketing

Ron Kral raised the subject of marketing again and the need to find ways to continue to attract Newcomer/Intermediate players to NVBA-sponsored events. He made a proposal to send out letters to all NVBA members with 5-299 masterpoints that would offer them a half-price entry to an NVBA Sectional event or a coupon to use at the food stand at the playing site. He recommended that there be a line item in the next NVBA budget for marketing, and then the Board could study some options as to how best to use the marketing funds to attract new players and keep up attendance.

Bridge at Schools

NVBA member Sheryl McEwan, who has been spearheading the establishment of bridge programs in schools at all levels in northern Virginia, made a presentation to the Board about future needs of these bridge programs. The goal of these volunteers is to add three schools a year to our “Bridge at Schools” program. For the current programs at Thomas Jefferson HS and Garfield Elementary, Sheryl asked the Board to find \$400 for sets of boards, bidding boxes, decks of cards, scoring supplies, etc. Ron Kral was going to contact the ACBL Education Foundation and “Bridge at Schools” coordinators at the district level to try to find the funds to keep these current programs going and start new ones. Ron just finished running another small bridge tournament at TJ that was enthusiastically received by the students there. Sheryl noted that Betty and Jerry Nolte have been active volunteers, and she is looking for bridge teachers and other volunteers to help expand the existing programs. Ron Kral advised her to check out the list of bridge teachers on the NVBA website as a resource. Sheryl expressed appreciation to Ron for making card holders for the students.

Unit Game

Looking ahead, volunteers need to be lined up to bring food and to do the I/N lectures. In addition to Ron Kral, Bob Boyd and Mike Cappelletti, the Board suggested Terry Jones or Mark Lavine could be asked to lecture when the regular lecturers aren't available. Amanda Carter is working on a schedule of lecturers for the next several months.

Unit Game Manager Leo Cardillo has been looking for a volunteer to coordinate who brings the food and drinks each week to the Unit Game. Janice Pumo is helping Leo out with that.

The Unit game's dealing machine needs repair/servicing. Ron Kral hoped to have that work completed by Thursday, March 1. Ron recommended the machine be given to him to do routine maintenance every 3 months.

In celebration of the ACBL's 75th anniversary, the Board voted to hold a Charity game on Thursday, March 29. Unit Game Director Gene Schuyler needs to get the sanction for this game.

There is still no contract with Moshe Teichman at Beth El for the Unit Game for 2012 or 2013, although Moshe has agreed in principle to NVBA playing there at 2011 prices, according to Leo Cardillo.

Old Business

Intercollegiate championship

President Mike Cappelletti described ongoing efforts to establish an intercollegiate championship event at the upcoming July Regional, where the winners would receive scholarship money and possibly a trophy sponsored by Bill Gates and Warren Buffet. Mike would also like to see this event broadcast on a local television channel or on the Internet.

Annual meeting preparations

In preparation for the Annual meeting/awards ceremonies/elections, Amanda Carter agreed to take responsibility for ordering the Mini-McKenney medals to be given out in May.

President Mike Cappelletti named a Nominating Committee to find candidates for the Board for the elections. Alan Breed, Betty Bursey and Lucy McCoy are on the committee.

NVBA Sectional Section top prizes

The Board discussed possibilities for Sectional Section top prizes. Many Board members liked the idea of continuing to give out pens. Other Board members noted the lasting memories provided by glassware. Amanda is going to look into the prices of glassware as I/N prizes for section tops at NVBA Sectionals. TC Margot Hennings believes glassware is too cumbersome to transport to and from the playing sites.

New Business

Ron Kral briefed Board members on an online partnership desk developed by a player named Jay Whipple for a Florida tournament. Jay has coded in some District 6 tournament information and is prepared to demonstrate it to tournament chairs and partnership chairs for possible eventual rollout on the District 6 website and/or MABC website. Ron is going to contact Margot Hennings, our ACBL Director for District 6 to see if this online format can be made available ACBL-wide, once all privacy issues and security protocols have been worked out.

NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT:

The next Board meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Westwood Country Club in Vienna, VA. NVBA members are invited to attend. Any members who plan to be present are asked to let Alan Breed know in advance and to tell him whether they also want to have dinner beforehand at 6 PM. Upon the motion of Alan Breed, seconded by Jim Dick, the President adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lucy McCoy

