

Northern Virginia Bridge Association
Minutes of the Board of Directors
February 12, 2007

The February 12, 2007 NVBA Board meeting was held at Ron and Mary Ann Kral's home in Reston. Officers and Directors attending were: Leo Cardillo, Margot Hennings, Dale Dallaire, Marge Gazzola, Ron Kral, Kathryn Kiley, Carole Grob, John Mason, Paul Krueger, Newsletter Liaison Lucy McCoy and Education Chair Joanne Pretti. After dinner, President Cardillo called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

Old Business

Minutes: Dale made a motion that we accept the January 2007 minutes, John seconded and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Dale Dallaire presented the following reports:

NVBA Profit & Loss February 2006 through January 2007
NVBA Profit & Loss May 2006 through January 2007
NVBA Profit & Loss January 2007
NVBA YTD Unit Game, May 2006 through January 2007
NVBA Balance Sheet as of January 31, 2007

Dale reported that she and Ed Heberg will meet on Wednesday, February 14, to perform the annual NVBA audit. She pointed out that about \$8,000 is still owed in deposits to the Elks for upcoming Sectionals.

President's Report

Parking at KOCH: President Leo Cardillo reported that parking at KOCH is still a problem, and that we need a plan for the April Sectional parking, including putting up signs. For future Sectionals at our new location, the Elks, we must plan for 300 cars, which may include the use of a nearby parking garage on weekends.

Backup for Elks: Leo would like us to have a backup agreement with a second venue for all Sectionals. Possibilities that have been suggested are the Masonic Lodge on Route 50 and Fairfax County facilities. Dale will send Board members Doug Grove's Sectional report that includes table stats and costs.

2007 Annual Meeting: This year the NVBA Annual Meeting will be held on May 17 at Beth El instead of KOCH. It will be catered and members will not be asked to bring food. An announcement will be included in the next Newsletter.

Board Elections: Nominations Chair Carole Grob reported the names of three NVBA members and possibly a fourth who have expressed interest in running for the Board this year. Five Board positions must be filled: President, Secretary and 3 Directors. We need a Youth Advisor, and it was suggested that we also have an I/N Advisor. Bios and photos of candidates are needed by March 1 for the next issue of the Newsletter.

Future Board Meetings: Carole reported that the First Presbyterian Church at Ballston would charge \$30/hour to rent a room, so that is not a meeting place option. Dale will host the April 9 meeting, Margot or Ron will host the March meeting, and John will provide food.

Member Directory: Dale and Lucy are working on an NVBA member address and telephone directory, which will be derived from current ACBL data and posted on the NVBA website. Email addresses will not be included. We will print copies and distribute them at the Annual Meeting in May. WBL is also due to reprint directories this year.

Duplicating Machine: WBL is using a loaned duplicating machine from an organization in Florida while their machine is being repaired in Australia. The NVBA might consider buying this Florida machine but we need to know who owns it, how much it would cost, and what condition it is in. Paul will look into this and report back to the Board. Bill Gurley is still collecting duplicating machine donations from NVBA members. In the meantime, perhaps players in the Unit open game can perform board duplication for the novice game.

Directors in Training: We need a policy for compensation to those directors-in-training or novice directors who assist at the Unit Game. We do have a policy for caddies-in-training, and our current policy states that certified assistant directors can be paid up to \$80 per session. In the past we have paid \$25 for directors-in-training and computer scorers.

Free Plays: The Board discussed several free play issues. It was agreed that there is a need to simplify methods of recording free plays, and that the "ticket" or coupon is better than a chart since it is easier to go back and check using individual coupons. It was agreed that free plays would have no expiration date, and that name, date-issued, face value and reason-issued would be recorded on each coupon. Two different colors are needed at the Unit Game to differentiate the open and novice games. NVBA policy is that Board officers play free at the Unit Game, and that all Board members receive eight Sectional free plays per year. Margot distributed the Sectional free plays to Board members. All G/P's will play for free and will take home a free play to be used at a later date. It was mentioned that Sam Coleman should receive some free plays for his work on the Bridge Information Line(BIL).

Random Hand Records: In response to a member's question, all hand records at the Unit Game are generated randomly.

Vice-President's Report

Sectional at KOCH: Vice President and Tournament CoChair Margot Hennings reported that there were a record 453 tables at the NVBA February KOCH Sectional. Even with our rent increase this Sectional should be profitable. There were a few complaints about discontinuing prizes in open events and we will see the full impact of this policy later. About \$400 in previously-earned prize free plays was turned in plus other free plays for about \$600 overall. The early Saturday session was well-attended. There were thirty 0-5 free players.

Sectionals at Elks: We must pay a \$1840 deposit to Elks for each of the two Sectionals to be held there in 2007 and \$1000 deposit for each of the four 2008 Sectionals. The contract with Elks has been signed for Sectionals on September 7-9 and October 19-21, 2007, and February 22-24, April 11-13, September 5-7 and October 24-26 in 2008. Margot will work out the details of catering with the Elks later.

Annual Meeting: Margot will speak with Prize Chairs Mary Mudd and Barry Sparks about preparing letters and handling trophies for the Annual Meeting.

I/N Publicity Chair's Report

199er Birthday Party: Intermediate Novice Program/Publicity Chair Ron Kral reported that he is planning a "Birthday Party" to celebrate the three-year anniversary of the 199er game at the Unit game on February 22, and is hoping for at least a 20 table turnout. Ron showed the Board the flyer he mailed to all 199er players. In addition to the Birthday Party, the flyer included information about 299er and 0-5 games at upcoming Sectionals, the May Annual Meeting, LM/NLM game and the weekly Thursday night Unit Game. For the Birthday Party, boards will be made ahead of time and booklets will be distributed. Ron will provide cakes and will distribute free plays as gifts. Joanne and John offered to assist at the game.

Life Master/Non Life Master Game: Ron reported that efforts to date have been successful in bringing in new players, and that he would like to see a free Unit Game once a year, perhaps the LM/NLM game. This expense could be considered part of the marketing budget. The Board discussed making the LM/NLM game a free event. Paul made a motion that the LM/NLM game on May 31 this year be free for everyone, John seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

New Business

NVBA Newsletter: Newsletter Liaison Lucy McCoy reminded Board members that all information about the Annual Meeting and bios of Board candidates must be available by March 1 to be included in the April-June 2007 NVBA Newsletter. It was agreed that this game would be a charity game, and that the charge would be \$8. She also reminded everyone that the Dave Murray Award winner must be chosen. John said that he would send letters to club managers asking them to nominate individuals for the Dave Murray Award.

Handouts for next Sectional: Tournament CoChair Kathryn Kiley asked if any Board members could distribute packets of flyers to club managers for the April Sectional. She will mail the remainder.

March Board Meeting: The next NVBA Board meeting will be held on Monday, March 12 at either Ron's or Margot's home. After thanking Ron for his hospitality tonight, President Cardillo adjourned the Board meeting at 10 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Gazzola, Secretary