

Northern Virginia Bridge Association  
Board of Director Meeting Minutes  
October 18, 2011

ATTENDEES: Mike Cappelletti, President  
Lynda Flanger, Treasurer  
Alan Dockterman, Secretary  
Betty Bursey, Board Member  
Ron Kral, Board Member  
Jim Dick, Board Member  
Leo Cardillo, Board Member  
Amanda Carter, Board Member  
Lucy McCoy, Newsletter Liaison  
Jennifer Nisenoff, NVBA Member  
David Loken, NVBA Member

CALL TO ORDER: The President called the October Meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 7:18 P.M on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 at the Westwood Country Club in Vienna, VA.

**Treasurer's Report**

Lynda distributed the following charts: The Profit & Loss Statement for the period of January thru September of 2011, the Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2011, the Table Count for Sectionals since September of 2008, the Table Count at Unit Games since the beginning of 2007, and the Free Play Tally. She observed that there was a net income of \$5345 for the first nine months of 2011, which excluded figures from the Fall Sectional.

Lynda further noted that there were only 417 tables at the latest Sectional, the lowest figure since September of 2009. Jim stated that this may have occurred because of the scheduling of three sectionals (including the WBL sectional) within a two month period, causing lower participation due to fatigue and financial considerations. Should attendance continue to decline, Lynda suggested that the Board may wish to adjust the entry fee accordingly. Jim suggested that more variety in the types of games be introduced to increase player interest. Jim agreed to discuss that idea with the Tournament Chair. Lynda also reported that there had been an average of 6.84 free plays per Unit Game for section tops. After discussion, the Board decided against changing the policy on free plays.

The Treasurer will be absent from the area for much of the winter. The Board decided to grant Leo authority to write checks in her absence; Dick's motion doing so, seconded by

Mike, passed unanimously. Leo also agreed to assist with budgeting during her absence. Upon the motion of Leo, seconded by Ron, the report was unanimously approved.

### **Secretary's Report**

The Board reviewed the minutes from the September Board of Directors' meeting. Mike made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Ron, which carried unanimously.

### **Other Items of Business**

1. The Board continued its discussion of the ongoing problem of decreasing attendance at the 199er game. Jennifer will pursue a number of initiatives, which include establishment of a "Wall of Fame" to recognize achievements of 199ers, continual posting of rankings, a special display on the website for 199er news, and advertising financially supported by ACBL. Ron discussed the letter he sent to those who had participated in 199er Unit games or novice Sectional events. For seven Units games during the period of November 3, 2011 to the end of this year, the entry fee will be reduced from \$7.00 to \$1.00 per game. Those with 0-5 masterpoints will continue to play without charge.
2. Ron reported that in response to various efforts to teach bridge in Northern Virginia and Washington D.C. schools, he has scheduled a meeting during the fall Sectional to exchange ideas, discuss programs, and provide suggestions on how NVBA can assist in their efforts.
3. The Board discussed again whether the entry fee for sectionals should be raised from \$9 to \$10 per game. Some members noted that WBL had already increased its fees. Leo made a motion that the fees be increased beginning in January 1, 2012 to \$10 per game, seconded by Jim. It passed unanimously.
4. Dave provided information to the Board regarding the caterer's prices for Mexican food at the annual holiday party. Betty agreed to work with him and a final food and budget determination would be made at the next board meeting.
5. The Board discussed problems with coordination in the delivery of the bridgemates from club manager to club manager during the week. The view that NVBA purchase additional bridgemates was rejected. It was noted that the Unit could not expect similar cost savings as had occurred with the initial purchase.
6. With regard to dates for Unit games during 2012, the Board unanimously approved the date of May 10, 2012 for the annual meeting. It also approved the scheduling of a game on the Thursday during the Hunt Valley Regional next summer since it was believed that many players would be unaware of the Regional and would likely show up at the Unit game regardless. Leo agreed to find out if the Unit could qualify to hold an upgraded club championship game.

7. Ron informed the Board that players in the B/C game objected to playing only 24 boards while those in the A/X game play 27 boards. Leo agreed to discuss the matter with the Director.

**NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT:**

The next Board meeting was scheduled for November 15, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Westwood Country Club in Vienna NVBA members are invited to attend. Any members who plan to be present are asked to let Alan B. know in advance and to tell him whether dinner will be ordered. Upon the successful motion of Leo, seconded by Ron, the President adjourned the meeting at 9:20 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alan Dockterman, Secretary

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