

NASSAU-SUFFOLK BRIDGE ASSOCIATION, INC.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF MAY 14, 2019

Board Members in Attendance:

Bella Chiusano, Lesley Decker-Lucas, Elliot Diamond, Bill Dinner, Ray Elias, Mark Krinsky, Alan Kudisch, Debra LaMountain, Lee Launer, Carol Mathews, Silvana Morici, David Schwartz, Susan Scholar, Diana Schuld, and Debra Thaw.

Board Members Absent:

Mark Blanchard, Joe Byrnes, Allen Greenbaum, Lou Grossman, Mark Inhaber, Mark Leibowitz, Al Levy, Dina Schechter, Drew Tarhan, Les Toporovsky, and Susan Toporovsky.

Guests:

Karen Ewald and John Kirshner.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

Acceptance of the Minutes:

Minutes of the meeting of March 7, 2019 were accepted.

Financial Report:

David Schwartz reported that the net cost of the Spring Regional to the Unit was in excess of \$9,000. This resulted from a combination of the fewest number of tables played in many years and the increased venue expenses. Table count has been steadily declining over the past 17 years. The lowest table count was on Thursday, which was the day before the beginning of Passover and Good Friday. Ray Elias reviewed our financial structure, noting that each year we have revenues approximating \$15,000 and recurring expenses approximating \$5,000, leaving \$10,000 to subsidize our awards dinner (around \$2,000) and our two regionals.

Survey Results:

Bill Dinner reported that the number of responses to the survey was very disappointing. Most responses expressed complaints about the quality of the cards, the boards, and the bidding boxes. We plan to review these comments with the ACBL and with the Directors-in-Charge.

The Future of Regionals:

After a brief discussion, the Board unanimously decided to proceed with the Fall Regional as scheduled. In order to make the playing schedule more attractive, Bella will research the rules and regulations regarding the running of horizontal and side series games.

The tournament committee will continue to look for a less expensive venue for 2020. Alan Kudisch presented the idea of combining our Regional with the Westchester district, and he will discuss the idea with District 3.

The Life Master/Non-Life Master Charity event will continue as a Swiss Team Event. Lesley will try to make the teams more balanced.

Al Levy's decision not to seek reelection (after 24 years) to the ACBL Board of Directors:

David Moss and Adam Parish of Unit 155 are currently the only announced candidates for the position. Ray will contact Al for a description of the job, and the Board will email our Unit members to see if there is any interest.

The Board will honor and thank Al Levy at the Awards Dinner, June 2nd.

Election of Nominating Committee:

Lesley Decker-Lucas, Joe Byrnes, Diana Schuld, Allen Greenbaum, and Susan Toporovsky were elected to the Nominating Committee. Mark Krinsky and Mark Inhaber are the two alternates.

Awards Dinner:

Debra Thaw reported that only 28 players have signed up to date. Ray will send out an email reminder to encourage attendance.

StaC Week:

Susan Scholer reported that the June 3rd through June 9th StaC Week has been rescheduled to August 12th through August 18th to allow Clubs and players to participate in the Worldwide Bridge Contest qualifying games on June 7th and 8th.

Allison Knockouts:

The 2018 knockout tournament has still not been completed.

Ray Elias will discuss with Joe Byrnes a schedule for the 2019 tournament, which would include drop-dead play-by dates, and a completion date for all matches of November 27th. Failure to play a match by the scheduled dates would result in disqualification.

The next board meeting will be at the Smithtown Bridge Club on Monday July 29th at 7pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55