

**NASSAU-SUFFOK BRIDGE ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF OCTOBER 2, 2017**

**Attending:**

Board Members: Mark Blanchard, Bella Chiusano, Lesley Decker, Elliot Diamond, Ray Elias, Rob Gordon, Alan Hyman, Mark Inhaber, Jon Kirschner, Alan Kudisch, Lee Launer, Mark Leibowitz, Al Levy, Carol Mathews, Dina Schechter, Susan Scholer, David Schwartz, Drew Tarhan, Debra Thaw and Susan Toporovsky

**Not Attending:**

Board Members: Peter Barboesch Jr., Bill Dinner, Allen Greenbaum, Lew Grossman, Mark Krinsky, Debra Lamountain, Laura Orticelle, Diana Schuld, and Silvana Zangri

**Guests:**

Phil Grella and Joe Byrnes

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. by President, Joe Byrnes.

Joe told us that our Life Master/Non Life Master event held September 6th at the Sagamore Bridge Club went well and thanked Lesley Decker for all her work in organizing this.

The vote for the acceptance of the minutes of the August 8, 2017 meeting was postponed.

Alan Kudisch advised that we are not required to file By-Laws changes with the Secretary of State.

The Board of Directors approved the slate of officers presented by the nominating committee as follows:

President:	Joe Byrnes
Vice-President:	Ray Elias
Treasurer:	David Schwartz
Secretary:	Anita Goldman
Tournament Chair:	Lee Launer

## **The Islander**

It was brought to the group's attention that some members were experiencing difficulty accessing the Islander on line and would want to return to the printed and mailed system of delivering the newsletter. After discussion, it was decided that printing and mailing the Islander was too expensive, and that emailing and having the Islander on line was the only practicable approach.

## **Player of the Year Computations**

Mark Blanchard advised that there will not be as many events to determine the Players of the Year for 2017 because of the lack of a Fall Regional. It will be based on the Spring Regional, STaC events, the Knockout tournament, and the North American Pairs competition.

## **Financial Report: David Schwartz, Treasurer:**

At September 30, 2017 total assets were higher than the prior September 30th by \$17,000. Cash position is currently \$49,493. Income has been flat year to year and it was agreed that we need to do something to improve our cash flow.

## **Tournament Report: Lee Launer, Tournament Chair:**

The Spring Regional will be May 7-10, 2018 - Monday through Thursday. Each day sessions will begin at 10:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. The detailed schedule has not yet been completed, but we are planning to have Open Pairs, Gold Rush Pairs, Swiss Team Games, and Novice Pairs. We are also planning to present a lesson prior to the Novice games, and a post mortem review of the Novice Pair hands each day.

Bagel breakfast will be provided daily and coffee will be served all day.

We discussed having incentives for the tournament such as free plays in the form of drawings or raffles. We are also discussing the possibility of having a special breakfast or cocktail party.

Joe and Lee will be going to the Chateau Briand to inspect the premises and designate specific playing areas.

It was unanimously voted to name the tournament the "**Long Island Gold Coast Regional.**"

Mark Liebowitz volunteered for the partnership desk.

### **Life Master/Non Life Master Event:**

It was voted that this event will be held on Sunday, May 6th, at 4:00 p.m. at the Sagamore Bridge Club. Swiss teams will be the format for this event.

There was a discussion concerning the venue and scheduling of the Life Master/Non-Life Master event. It was unanimously agreed that holding the event at a site at which no "no rent" would be charged (previously at a hotel or planned next year at the Chateau Briand) is very important. There was also a unanimous agreement that the event should take place the afternoon or evening before the first day of tournament play. The Sagamore Bridge Club, being centrally located and being available at the appropriate time, was considered a logical choice.

A point was raised concerning the fairness and advisability of offering all Club Owners/Directors the opportunity to host this event, perhaps on a rotating basis. It was noted that, to date, no Club Owner/Director has come before the Board to make such a request. We are all reminded that this event is held solely for the benefit of newer players, and that the choice of venue is most important to create the opportunity for these players to attend the event, and that satisfying Club owners' interest in hosting is of secondary importance. The satisfaction of location, time, and day of the event criteria must supersede all other considerations.

In addition, the point was made that the Board considers it the duty of all Club Owners/Directors to promote attendance at the Regional Tournament, even if such participation might interfere with local Club attendance on any particular day or days.

### **Alan Kudisch, Marketing:**

Alan advised that we will update our proposed flyer for corrections resulting from tonight's meeting, and will distribute them at upcoming tournaments in Danbury and Lancaster.

Alan will be working with local hotels, especially the Holiday Inn next to The Chateau Briand, and Bella will be arranging for discounts at local restaurants. Additionally, Alan will be pursuing some ideas with respect to sponsorships for the event.

### **Education Report: Carol Mathews, Chair**

The fall schedule includes five schools in Great Neck, two in Huntington and one in Roslyn. Carol will send the school schedule by e-mail to the Board and will follow up with Dr. Khaib to see about his desire to participate in our project. Carol stressed that we need more volunteers.

**District Report: Al Levy:**

Al discussed having online tournaments for youths in Long Island, New York City, Westchester and Connecticut.

**Ray Elias** is putting the tournament flyer on the website and e-mailing to everyone.

**Phil Grella** advised that the knock-outs are running smoothly

**Joe** is trying to resurrect the Grand Nationals Teams competition for all flights.

Our next board meeting will be on Tuesday, January 30, 2018 in Smithtown. Food will be served at 6:30.

A motion was made by Lee Launer to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by David Schwartz. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.