

Nassau – Suffolk Bridge Association

Minutes for the meeting of

October 6, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by President Steve Lucas.

Attending:

John Abrenica, Peter Barbeosch, Joe Byrnes, Susan Calabro, Dori Cohen, Howie Cohen, Susan Denenholz, Ray Elias, Rob Gordon, Phil Grella, Allen Greenbaum, Jon Kirshner, Mark Krinsky, Lee Launer, Mark Leibowitz, Steve Lucas, Carol Mathews, Laura O'Reilly, Susan Scholer, Diana Schuld, David Schwartz, Mike Stanley, Debra Thaw, Susan Toporovsky

Absent:

Shelley Fishman, Alan Kudisch, Carole Kugler, Al Levy, Rich Morici, Silvana Zangri

Guests:

Lesley Decker-Lucas

Opening Remarks / Minutes:

Steve welcomed Allen Greenbaum as a new board member, and thanked those rotating off the board for their service. The minutes for the August 25, 2015 board meeting were approved. The board also voted to approve the minutes of the Sept. 30, 2015 membership meeting (although a membership vote, to be taken next year, will also be needed for formal approval).

Election of Officers:

A motion to accept the Nominating Committee's proposed slate of officers was made and seconded, and the motion passed by a show of hands. Joe Byrnes thereupon became president, and assumed leadership of the meeting. (Other officer positions were unchanged.)

Tournament Report:

Tournament Chair Lee Launer reported that the just-completed Fall Regional was a partial success, in that there was no financial loss, and overall attendance was good, with each day other than Sunday being up from the prior regional. While bridge-related matters went well, there were extensive reports of problems with hotel services – e.g., an extremely cold ballroom, dirty hotel rooms, poorly functioning bathrooms, fire alarms going off for no reason, poor and inadequate buffet food, lack of bagels – and as a result some people said they would not return. The Tournament Committee will be working very hard to assure that each of these problems is addressed and remedied.

Also, \$3600 worth of bridge supplies (eight sets of boards and their cases) was apparently stolen from the Upsky ballroom after hours at the Fall Regional, and a police report was filed. The ownership of these supplies, and the extent to which NSBA must bear responsibility for their loss, was discussed at length, but was not resolved.

Financial Report:

Treasurer Dave Schwartz circulated a preliminary financial report for the nine months ended 9/30/15 (not including the Fall Regional), which showed a loss of only \$818, compared to a prior-period loss of \$11,309.

Education Report:

Carol Mathews reported that the bridge teacher recruitment meeting at the Fall Regional yielded about 30 new people, including several retired teachers. We will promptly put them to work in various school bridge programs. We are waiting to hear from Oceanside and Great Neck schools about new programs.

Islander Report:

Ideas for additional content in the Islander will be solicited via email from our membership.

New Business:

The Website Committee (consisting of Ray Elias as Chairperson, Susan Calabro, Allen Greenbaum, and Jon Kirshner) will investigate re-designing our website.

At Jon Kirshner's suggestion, it was agreed that ACBL numbers would be taken off the NSBA board contact list.

A tentative date of Sunday, May 1 was set for the 2016 Unit Party.

The date of the next board meeting was set for Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2016.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Denenholz