

**NASSAU/SUFFOLK BRIDGE ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF APRIL 16, 2018**

**Board Members Attending:** Bella Chiusano, Lesley Decker-Lucas, Elliot Diamond, Bill Dinner, Rob Gordon, Ray Elias, Lewis Grossman, Mark Krinsky, Debra Lamountain, Lee Launer, Mark Leibowitz, Silvana Morici, Laura Orticelle, Dina Schechter, Susan Scholer, David Schwartz, Drew Tarhan, Debra Thaw, Alan Hyman, and Susan Toporovsky

**Board Members Absent:** Peter Barboesch, Jr., Mark Blanchard, Anita Goldman, Allen Greenbaum, Mark Inhaber, Alan Kudisch, Al Levy, and Carol Mathews.

**Guests Attending:** Phil Grella and Joe Byrnes

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by President Joe Byrnes

**Opening Remarks:**

Joe had previously expressed concern that our Fall Regional, scheduled for September 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, would coincide with the World Championships in Orlando. He decided not to change our plans, and run our tournament as scheduled.

In other tournament comments, Joe suggested a raffle to play with a Pro for the winners of the 0-750 bracket, and observed that the type of survey distributed by other units at the conclusion of their tournaments might be valuable to us. Bill Dinner volunteered to look into the construction, distribution, and collecting responses of such a survey.

**Nominating Committee:**

Joe called for vote for the 2018 Nominating Committee. Results of the ballot are: Chairperson Lesley Decker-Lucas, members Dina Schechter, Susan Toporovsky, Diana Schuld, and Bill Dinner. Mark Leibowitz and Allen Greenbaum will serve as alternates.

**Acceptance of Minutes:**

Minutes of the meeting of January 30, 2018 were accepted pending two revisions.

**Financial Report: David Schwarz, Treasurer:**

Dave reports cash and deposits as at March 31, 2018 totaling \$57,000, compared to \$39,000 as at March 31, 2017. The Unit received a financial boost as a result of the cancelation of the Fall 2017 Regional and settlements with the previous Regional hotel host. The future financial ability of the Unit to continue depends upon a return to a stable result of our Regionals.

**The Islander:**

Lesley suggested it might be necessary to print flyers advising players on how to go to our website to obtain a copy of the Islander. After a brief discussion, we determined that word of mouth instruction to those unaware of the process would suffice.

**North American Pairs:**

We must pick a date for this event.

### **Website and Emails:**

Ray will be sending out emails to remind all players of the dates of the Regional.

### **Life Master/Non-Life Master Event: Lesley Decker Lucas:**

Lesley is planning a bracketed Swiss teams event for May 6<sup>th</sup>. She expects to have five brackets of approximately eight teams each, providing three winners in each. Non-life masters with fewer than 400 points are eligible.

### **Awards Dinner:**

The awards dinner is scheduled for May 20, 2018. Chairperson Debra Thaw advised she has already received responses from those planning to attend.

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

Daily sessions will begin at 10:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Events include Open Pairs, Gold Rush Pairs, Swiss Teams, and Novice Pairs. There will be a lecture before each novice game.

Lee, Joe, and Susan went to the Chateau Briand to inspect the playing spaces. Because we will not be allowed to post anything on the walls, and it will be a little confusing for first-time visitors to navigate the premises, Lee is planning to have a greeter directing traffic. There is no available storage for tables, and Silvana suggested the tables be delivered on the morning play begins. There was general uneasiness with this plan, and an alternative will be worked out.

The Unit will provide bagels and coffee all day. Lunch will be available for purchase on the premises; the menu and pricing are still under discussion.

Bella went to several restaurants in the vicinity of the Chateau Briand to obtain discounts for the players. She will provide a list of the restaurants and the discount they will give.

The director of the tournament will be David Metcalf.

### **Memorial Event**

Lou Grossman suggested naming one of the events in memory of Irma Korenstein; Lesley said she will do it at the Life Master/Non-Life Master event and will speak to David so that he can suggest a charity for us to contribute in Irma's name.

### **STaCs**

Phil Grella advised that the February 9-11 StaC netted \$228, with four clubs participating and a total of 104 tables. The March 20-26 StaC (no 21<sup>st</sup> because of snow) had 13 clubs participating, with a total of 395 tables, and netting \$1,118.

### **Frank Allison Knockouts**

To date, five teams have registered.

### **New Business:**

The ACBL would like all units to sponsor a team for a college event. Laura and Phil have volunteered to look into this. If we do proceed, we should decide what we will be giving the teams that we sponsor.

District 24 (Units 242 and 155) has been allocated \$30,000 by the ACBL to make charitable contributions. The maximum is seven charities and we have until December 17, 2018 to decide which charities we will donate to. Diana, Silvana, Jon, and Allen will be the committee to decide the charities.

Our next board meeting will be on Tuesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Sagamore Bridge Club. Food (deli) will be served at 6:30.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Ray Elias to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Alan Hyman. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

**Submitted by: Bella Chiusano**