

NASSAU-SUFFOLK BRIDGE ASSOCIATION, INC.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF DECEMBER 3, 2018

Board Members in Attendance:

Mark Blanchard, Joseph Byrnes, Bella Chiusano, Lesley Decker-Lucas, Elliot Diamond, Ray Elias, Lou Grossman, Mark Inhaber, Mark Krinsky, Debra LaMountain, Lee Launer (via telephone), Mark Leibowitz, Al Levy, Carol Mathews, Dina Schechter, Susan Scholer, David Schwartz, Debra Thaw, and Drew Tarhan

Board Members Absent:

Bill Dinner, Allen Greenbaum, Alan Kudisch, Silvana Morici, Diana Schuld, Les Toporovsky, and Susan Toporovsky

Guests:

Lyn Weiss, Jon Kirshner, Cathy Kirshner, and Karen Ewald

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Opening Remarks:

Ray thanked Cathy Kirshner for hosting this Board meeting for the first time at the Lake Success Jewish Center.

Three Board members have resigned: Alan Hyman, Lisa Hadar, and Phil Grella.

Ray Elias and David Schwartz confirmed that the Nassau-Suffolk Bridge Association Inc. is ineligible for sales tax exemption on its purchases from vendors.

Ray reported that an email was received from a member seeking bridge lessons, and Carol Mathews was helpful in assisting this member. Recognizing that this process needs to be more structured, the Board agreed to send an email to all members asking for any information about current public bridge lessons. The Board will post the compiled list of public bridge classes on our website.

Acceptance of the Minutes:

Minutes of the meeting of October 2, 2018 were accepted.

Financial Report:

Dave Schwartz summarized the following:

- 1) The unit currently has \$59,000 in cash. The three sources of recurring revenue (ACBL reimbursements, StaC activities, and NAP hosting) yield approximately \$15,000 per year. The Unit incurs approximately \$5,000 annually in regular recurring expenses, leaving \$10,000 to subsidize our two Regional tournaments and the Awards Dinner.
- 2) Chateau Briand has raised their rates for 2019: it is projected that each of the Regional Tournaments will cost an additional \$4,000-\$5,000.
- 3) Karen Ewald noted that several banks have advertised increased interest rates available for short-term investments.

Chart of Clubs' Schedules and Contact Information: The new format presented by Elliot and Debra was generally well received; some minor tweaks will be made.

Calendar for 2019:

Bella will look to change the scheduled May STaC weekend to Thursday through Saturday, 5/9 - 5/11, from the current schedule which includes Sunday, Mother's Day. We were assigned the original dates by the ACBL. Our annual Awards Dinner will be on Sunday, June 2, pending confirmation of the availability of Sagamore Bridge Club.

POTY Criteria:

It was agreed that the criteria for awarding Player of the Year points will remain unchanged.

Regionals:

There was considerable discussion regarding the cost, the venue, the bagels, and the decline in attendance at the Regionals Tournaments. It was decided we should continue our holding our Regionals. Bella will look for alternate venues for 2020, and the tournament committee will investigate a breakfast alternative to bagels and cream cheese.

Events:

Bella and Lee will decide on the type team events as soon as possible so the detailed information can be presented on the flyer.

The Life Master/Non-life Master game will continue as a team game.

Marketing:

Flyers, posters, and an email blast are needed for the upcoming Spring Regional. Bella will coordinate with Alan Kudisch, head of the marketing committee, to insure this will be accomplished timely. Lou Grossman will complete work on the flyer send it to Bella and other Committee members for comment and approval.

Al Levy suggested the possibility of raising the card fee for the Regionals.

Phil's Replacement:

For now, Ray and Joe will administer the Allison Knockouts. The Board will look for a replacement to handle the scheduling of future STaC events.

North American Pairs and Grand National Teams:

Mark Inhaber will be the NAP/GNT coordinator.

Al Levy reported that if we can field eight teams (in Flight B and Flight C) in the GNT event, two teams will qualify for national finals.

New Member Welcoming:

A welcoming letter will be sent to all new members offering a free play.

Old Business:

Jon Kirshner reported that the Long Island Community Foundation, the organization we chose to administer the disbursement of our \$15,000 allocation from the ACBL, has completed its work. The funds were disbursed in accordance with our Committee's instructions.

At the request of Board members, Ray described the ACBL procedures to be followed in cases of ethics and other complaints by a player.

The date for the next meeting has not been scheduled.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm.