

District Twenty-Two Organization of Bridge Units, Inc.

Ventura Minutes

District Twenty Two Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, November 2, 2012

Marriott Hotel

Ventura, CA

Presiding: 2012 President, Warren Cederborg

Representatives:

Area I: Teri Atkinson, Warren Cederborg

Area II: Patrick Page, David Lodge

Area III: Andrew Loh, Bill Grant

Area IV: Fran Schwartz, John Kissinger

National Representative: Ken Monzingo

Guests: Sharon Anderson, President, ACBL, 2012

Roger Anderson

Joe Conti, Ventura Regional Co-manager

I. CALL TO ORDER

Approval of Orange County minutes. Minutes were approved as corrected.

II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. President Cederborg opened a discussion of our financial duties and reporting methods. A letter authored by three of the past presidents of District 22 was presented by Representative Loh. In that letter, suggestions were made about the frequency and the timeliness of reporting on the financial position of the District. The Board discussed the recommendations contained in the letter and agreed to establish an ad-hoc committee composed of Loh, Grant and Page to investigate costs related to outside accountants services both for an initial review and for subsequent periodic reporting.

B. The District has current cash reserves of approximately \$150,000, of which approximately 1/3 is earmarked to subsidize the hospitality at the

Fall San Diego National being held in 2017. The Board discussed the future needs of the District. It was suggested that the prudent level of reserves required to protect against future economic downturns is equal to approximately 50% of our annual cost structure, which is currently approximately \$250,000. The Board agreed that if we reach this reserve level, we will begin to funnel future profits back to the members, through a variety of methods including reduced tournament fees.

- C. The Board agreed to donate \$1,000 to the victims of super storm “Sandy”. The recipient(s) of the donation was left to the discretion of the president.

III. **TREASURER’S REPORT**

Treasurer Page presented final results from the San Diego Regional and preliminary results from the Orange County Regional. It was noted that the income and related costs for certain special activities, such as the Directors Course held at Orange County, are **not** consolidated into the profit and loss statement for the regional at which the event was held. The Board directed the treasurer to begin providing a separate profit and loss statement for all such events.

IV. **SECRETARY’S REPORT**

Secretary Lodge reported on the elections.

Ballots were mailed in mid-October. They are due back by the end of November. As of the meeting date, Lodge has received the response from one of the units in Area I.

The individual that was competing against John Kissinger for the area IV position was determined to be ineligible in that he is not a member of one of the units in that district. Consequently, Kissinger has been reelected.

V. **NATIONAL DIRECTOR’S REPORT (including comments by Sharon Anderson)**

- A. Ken Monzingo reported that three national positions will be filled via an election process which will take place at the NABC in San Francisco: ACBL President and Goodwill Committee Chairman for one year terms and Chairman of the Board of Governors for a two year term. The ACBL President will be elected from the group of 25 District Directors. The Chairman of the Board of Governors will be elected by the Board. There are currently 3 candidates. The two unsuccessful candidates can then join the existing slate for the office of Vice Chairman. The Goodwill Committee Chairman is elected by the Board of Directors.
- B. Anderson and Monzingo led a general discussion about the ACBL. The organization has adopted a five point plan to further its growth and health. The five points with a general outline of the comments that pertained were

as follows:

1. Recruit new members
 - a. Youth programs were reviewed.
 - b. CEO Hartman has background in marketing and is using his experience to help identify and work the logical areas.
 - c. Tap into on-line players (80% are not ACBL members).
 2. Retain existing members
 - a. Review strata at tournaments, now that requirements for Life Master has change.
 - b. Improve directors (see item 4 below).
 - c. Create ACBL-wide ranking system based on some annual or rolling basis so that directors can seed players properly at tournaments (ACBL does not currently have infrastructure where technology platforms talk to each other).
 - d. Continue to work on issues with GNT and NAP.
 - e. Innovate new tournament events (e.g. 4 session Saturday/Sunday Swiss to be held at Palm Springs).
 3. Improve our technology

ACBL is in the process of retooling its technology details were not discussed.
 4. Provide excellent tournament directors
 - a. Tournament directors need significant training both in terms of technical issues (laws and how tournaments are run) and on personal interaction.
 - b. A draft of an Director Incident Reporting Form was introduced. If adopted by the Board, its existence will be advertised in the Forum. If adopted, Board members who become aware of incidents should encourage the offended party to use the form.
 5. Expand grass roots
 - a. Continue work on GNT and NAP. Resolve differences in stratum; eliminate some of the differences of stipends paid to winners, 2nd and 3rd place finishers in the two events; increase advertising of the events; provide better methods to show evidence of eligibility.
 - b. Study best practices of youth movements, school programs, etc.
- C. Anderson and Monzingo led a general discussion of the various ways, including some of the financial ramifications, of the ways that Districts run their regional tournaments. Examples:
- a. District 17 hires a person to act as a full time tournament manager for all of their regionals. This model has proven successful for this district.
 - b. District 21 assigns its regionals to its units.
 - c. District 10 also assigns its regionals to its units. In this district, the unit holding the regional splits whatever profits there are with the district and the district subsequently turns back ½ of its share to its units.

VI. VENTURA TOURNAMENT-Director in Charge, Nancy Boyd

As of 5pm on Friday, November 2, the number of tables was up 15 tables over last year. The attendance for the Gold Rush Pairs has gone down day each day from 20 to 18 to 15.

Grant asked who on the director staff might be responsible for gathering electronic results at games to upload in order to get real time on-line results. Nancy indicated that the responsibility would be that of the Director in Charge or a designee thereof.

VII. AREA REPRESENTATIVES ISSUES

A. John Kissinger-North American Pairs (NAP) and Grand National Teams (GNT) Coordinator

The NAP, held in Palm Springs in recent years, was moved to Orange County for 2012. It was held on Sunday, September 9, 2012. The attendance was up in excess of 30% with 18 of the 27 pairs winning masterpoints. Flight C increased from 3 to 8 tables.

B. Bill Grant-Tournament Committee Chairman

1. The Board has learned that the construction at the Riverside Convention Center will be delayed beyond the dates in 2014 on which the Riverside Regional is normally held. Grant and Monzingo were able to secure the site and the related hotels on June 9 through June 14, 2014. The tournament will return to its original dates in 2015.
2. Overall count for the District 22 regionals held so far this year are down 130 tables for the comparable 3 tournaments last year. However, these numbers are still dramatically up over 2010. The Westin Hotel in Rancho Mirage has reported they already have 1351 room nights booked for the upcoming Palm Springs Regional tournament.
3. Philippe Lamoise is the creator of a software product that allows the results of pairs events to be viewed online within hours of the end of the day on which the event was held. At the meeting in Orange County in September, he briefly described the capability of the program. Grant and Loh have continued their discussion with Lamoise. The Board agreed that the District will pay for Lamoise's services for the Palm Springs Regional. If the results are successful, and if the cost structure is warranted, the Board will discuss future services.
4. At a recent District 23 Regional tournament, it was determined that the individual with whom both District 23 and our district contract to provide the materials needed to conduct the tournaments imposed a seemingly unauthorized charge of approximately \$400. Appropriate Board members will discuss with the individual the need to have all charges pre-approved and that the submittals, unless previously

approved and reasonable foreseen, will not be paid.

5. Fran Schwartz-Orange County Regional manager reported that the table count for the tournament was down 28 tables. This number approximates the number of tables in the NAP. She reported no negative issues with the tournament.

IX. Adjournment

Next meeting December 14th, Westin Hotel, Rancho Mirage