

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Location:

Room 517 Building 5 Westin-Mission Hills Golf Resort & Spa located at 71333 Dina Shore Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270 (Phone 760-328-5955)

Date & Time:

6:30 PM, Friday December 18, 2015

Members Present:

Warren Cederborg (Area I), David Lodge (Area II), Andrew Loh and Bill Grant (Area III), Ron Lien & John Kissinger (Area IV), Ken Monzingo (National Board Representative and new ACBL President)

Members Absent:

Teri Atkinson, Mo Anvari

Guests:

Robert Hartman (ACBL CEO), Bonnie Bagley (Western Conference), Scott Magged (Palm Springs Co-Chair), Margo Hennings (ACBL District 6 Director), Suzi Subeck (ACBL Past President), Stan Subeck (Husband), Sharon Anderson (ACBL District 14 Director), Roger Anderson (Husband), Lamy Angelidis (President 539), Peter Rank (ACBL Legal Counsel), Bob Heller (ACBL District 7 Director), Kevin Lane (District 23 Director-Elect), Jim Parks (Director-Elect, Area I)

I. Call to Order

President Lodge called the meeting to order at 6:55 pm.

II. Introduction of Guests

III. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held Irvine on September 11, 2015 were approved.

IV. President's Remarks

The District 22 Units passed the District 22 three term limit proposal – 77.9% in favor versus 66.7% required to pass. David will change the wording in the Bylaws in the next two weeks.

V. Remarks by Guests

Peter Rank, ACBL Legal Counsel, provided a detailed description of the eight steps pairs accused of cheating have prior to conviction by ACBL. Five are within the ACBL, while the last three are in the U.S. courts. Israeli and Italian pairs are currently moving through the process. The Israeli pair was granted a delay until Reno while they defend themselves in Europe. A lively discussion ensued, and Peter cautioned that the process was long and laborious. If a pair is convicted details will be published.

Robert Hartman elaborated that one accused European pair mounted a 400 page defense, resulting in \$200K in legal expenses for the European Bridge Federation. ACBL is investing in the future for its 168,000 members. IT spending is up; Jay Whipple is actively involved. The goal is to stabilize the technology and use the Cloud for cost savings. ACBL Score is moving to an open architecture. Marketing and PR will continue to be a focus. The 2015 exposure in *Parents* and *AARP* magazines will be continued with publicity in *Vanity Fair* and *Rolling Stone* next year. Money is being spent to train new tournament directors and improve floodway protection at the Horn Lake facility. The ACBL has \$5.5 million in the bank. The league has operated with small operating losses that last few years due to pension and SCORE programming issues. The ACBL should be fine for a few decades as more baby boomers retire.

Gary Ziegler reported that through Friday, we have 3,180 tables (+45 compared to last year).

District 7 awards each GNT and NAP district winner \$900 to travel to the Nationals.

VI. Secretary's Report

David (in Mo's absence) welcomed Director -Elect Jim Parks from Area 1 and thanked Warren Cederborg for all his contributions to the district.

VII. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer stated that last year District 22 had net income of \$25,000 before a \$9,000 equipment depreciation deduction. For 2015 David expects

roughly \$5,000 net pending final expenses at this tournament. Four reasons for the decline are 1) accounting issues related to regional prizes, 2) increased prize spending, 3) higher Forum ad costs and 4) increased tournament director costs. Card fees may need to be increased in the future.

VIII. Old Business

None

IX. New Business

David suggested that the board authorize \$1,200 for six juniors (\$200 each) to travel to the NABC as we did last year. The proposal was unanimously approved for 2016.

X. Committee Reports

Ron reported on the club owner's breakfast in Palm Springs attended by David and Nance, Andy, Bill, Ron and three club owner's - Ross Hack, Vickie Pein (Duncan) and Scott Magged. Several suggestions were voiced. The Growth Committee will propose a budget for their first initiative and seek board approval.

Andy requested the area representatives send unit president pictures and biographies for posting on the district web site.

Bill reported that we have had five viable tournaments this year. He is updating the tournament guide to make it more user-friendly and will send the new version to all board members.

John reported that Dana Harbor will host the GNT district finals for Open and Flight B on April 23-24 and the Flight A and C finals on May 21-22.

Bonnie reported that because of increasing STAC fees and tournament director costs, the Western Conference raised the Forum ad rates for next year. David suggested that the board consider raising the D22 Forum ad rates.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.