

CHARLOTTE BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

BOARD MEETING MARCH 2, 2023

MINUTES

In Attendance via Zoom: Greg LeBlanc, Debbie Enna, Rich Welc, Chris O'Connor, Gainor Eisenlohr, Cathy Miller, Dave Heymann, Janet Case, Veronica Barnes

Greg's opening remarks concerned his vision of the Board's role: It does not function as a traditional oversight-only organization; rather, Board members are responsible for hands-on participatory involvement in the day-to-day management of the club. This is an important function if the club is to survive and thrive going forward.

Financials: Chris reported. Last month's revenue was the highest yet since Covid. However, expenses, especially utilities, have been increasing for months. The new cleaning contract with Jan-Pro will reduce expenses substantially. Vanguard will be replaced by Jan-Pro effective March 24. Jan-Pro contract is for \$295/month. Vanguard wanted \$450-\$500/month for the same service. Rich added that consortium revenue is moving in the right direction. Debbie questioned why the AT&T bill is variable. Rich suggested talking to Jack since he set it up. Bottom line-we're still operating at a loss when rent is factored into the numbers.

Spring Sectional: Rich reported. Plans are shaping up-everything is on track. Rich is hoping for a 60% increase in participation over the August Sectional. He needs a caddy, a blank check for the ACBL Director, a copy of the current vaccination list, and volunteers for lunch service (pizza and salad from Brixx) and Sunday cleanup. Colleen will help with set-up; Debbie and Gainor volunteered to help with Sunday cleanup. Yellow bands from prior Sectionals will be accepted again if members retained them from earlier tournaments. Other topics discussed included an offer to rent our space for poker games which was rejected as not in keeping with our mission and a discussion re. how to use \$200 donation in honor of Judy Brown. A new microphone was proposed which Janet opposed. She suggested a bookcase instead. Greg wants a decision on this soon as it's been in limbo for over a year.

New Player Development: Dave reported. Upcoming events include a March 5 Over/Under game with 32 pairs registered thus far. Another Over/Under game is planned for April 16. There will be a 1:30 pm class on March 6 for social bridge players, a 0-750 Tuesday game starting March 7 at noon, and a 6:30-8:30 pm Monday evening "Learn to Play Bridge" class taught by Colleen McMahon and Lauren Campbell for 5 weeks beginning March 13.

Building Maintenance: The club needs help in this area. Rich has been doing most of it up to now. Responsibilities include interface with security and alarm systems, Fire Department, City of Charlotte, pest control etc. Non-bridge supplies need to be ordered. Bathrooms, supply room and kitchen need supervision. The manual needs to be updated. Dave offered to help. Note: Bulletin boards have been updated. Coke machines have been removed. We may want to consider purchasing a mini fridge.

Longest Day: Cathy reported. June 21 is confirmed. There will be four games of 12 boards each. Cathy needs someone to take over the raffle. Prizes will be donated with no club contribution. Club money will be used for lunch subsidy. There will be no pre-game in May and no silent auction.

Partnerships/Website: Colleen has assumed responsibility for partnership requests. The CBA website gives her contact information. Greg mentioned that Paula Brewer has been doing an outstanding job with the website as has Susan Wade with email communication.

Game Status: Gainor sent out an email promoting the Wednesday game and received no response. We can't keep the game going with just 5 tables. Rich suggested that the 10:30 start time might be a problem. Janet agreed. Debbie mentioned that there has been a request for an evening game which might be worth consideration.

Fall Sectional: Date is set but Chair is needed. Dave is "penciled in".

Club Vaccination Requirement. Gainor suggested a "soft exit." Greg feels strongly that we need to keep the list updated and the signs up. If we drop the vax requirement, we will lose members. Bridge players are generally elderly and at greatest risk for Covid complications.

Next Board meeting will be at the Club on Thursday, April 6, at 4:30 pm.

ADJOURN