

Rhode Island Bridge Association, Inc.

Agenda

February 29, 2020

In attendance Bart Buffington , Lois DeBlois, Maureen Fahey, Julie Goulet, Meg Gousie, Cindy Mottle, Paula Najarian, Don Rankin, Marshall Williams, Stanley Williams

Excused: Linda Aherns, Joe Brouillard, Charleen Christy, Megan D'Orio, Chris Soares, David Prentiss

Call to Order: Call to order at 10:19.

President's Comments:

We are not at quorum so no voting. It is nice to be here and we have a wonderful new newsletter. Joe Brouillard's computer is down so the treasurer's report was not sent out but is available on the web site. We will print out some copies for the sectional and the report will go out as soon as Joe's computer is fixed.

During the discussion that followed the president's comments there was a question about the number of the people on the board.

Secretary's Report:

The secretary report had a couple of typos and the following corrections. Two names wrong and information about the NLM Regional Marlborough 2021 and Senior Regional in Springfield 2021 needs to be corrected and should be District not region in minutes.

Motion to was made and seconded to accept the Minutes were approved with the corrections listed above.

Treasurer's Report:

We had a nice profit of 2157 from the January tournament. We received \$1,333 from the ACBL in membership dues.

We had a profit of \$3141 for the period ending February 29. Our investment at Fidelity declined \$29 since the beginning of the year. We are in a good financial position with \$24,147 in our treasury.

It was mentioned that a few expenses from the January tournament were bundled and not detailed. There was a motion to accept the treasurer's report with the missing details.

Motion was seconded and approved.

Reports:

In/Out report

As of February 1st there were 462 members, 2 were reinstated and 1 transferred in. Reinstatement usually means paid dues. There were three deaths but not included in the total.

Executive Board update.

Bridge Bits has information about the Nashua tournament. At Mansfield and Cromwell there were Gold Rush Games under the open game on the first day. This meant that people in the open Swiss got extra points. The disadvantage was that the Gold Rush awards were a little lower. There will be a change in the Nashua schedule. There will be a Knock in/Knock out on the first day in Nashua and Mansfield as well as Gold Rush. The event will be called the kick off KIKO. Change is a schedule that is good for all levels.

This should be good for attendance and should support players with 0 - 3000 points. New players are loving Knockouts.

Old Business:

Gala

Bart Buffington said that the Squantum Club is available on Halloween. The time of the event should be good for people who like to be home for Halloween night. Club is beautiful and they have food available. The food is not particularly cheap but quite good. There is a separate room from the dining room for playing bridge. There are at least two buildings possible three. The address is listed as Riverside. For example chicken would cost \$40 and would include soup, salad, entree and dessert. BBQ dinner is \$38.00 but does not include soup. There was a question about whether the fixed price included serving fee, taxes and rental? Minimum of \$40.00 people. Luncheon buffet \$21.00 - \$28.00. Could be cool to have prizes for Halloween. Can we bring in breakfast and do they do morning coffee? Could we limit it to one session at 10 and then have lunch? There was a discussion on one session versus two sessions with an earlier start time. Would still do the meeting and awards. Could do 18 boards a session but consensus is 24 boards per session.

Could charge slightly less for 0 - 99 game or new comers. Do they have chairs and card tables?

Details should be finalized before the next meeting.

Would lose some snowbirds but could potentially gain some players from East Bay.

Can not have it at Johnson Senior Center in June. Looking for a place where people want to go. Would have been nice to tie the event to the Longest Day but having a nice location is key. Will need a slate of officers for the gala as will need a president and vice president.

March Tournament

For the March tournament:

Host Saturday Meg/Marshall

Host Sunday Paula Najarian with Meg helping

Set up Stan and Maureen

Bridge Mates set

Ordering Megan

Meg/Marsh fruit and veggies

Maureen/Stan dessert stuff

The general thinking was that if the weather is good there will be another big crowd.

Bart doing Long Suit Establishment at the tournament for his lesson.

Support for new players

Maureen needs to get Bridge in a Day Get ASAP as Joan O'Connell wants to start lessons in the spring.

New Business:

Open board positions Diane has left and we would like to replace her. Lois has a couple of ideas. Marshall will reach out to the two people that Lois mentioned. Meg mentioned that players don't think about the volunteers that put the tournaments together and would be great to have others volunteer.

Newsletter

Cindy said the newsletter is complete but she has no way to get to membership. Joe will take care of that. Another thing Cindy wants to do is support the directors.

Would like to have the board celebrate directors. Take pictures of things happening at clubs to support clubs. Next publishing date on Thursday May 21st.

Closing date for the newsletter is May 11th. She will send out a notice to remind folks about the newsletter. Cindy is out of town at the end of April to beginning in May but will send reminders.

It would be great if anyone on board takes pictures of special games or any other club activities. Possible picture of bard on May 9th.

The Longest Day fundraiser will not be at the gala so Marshall will contact clubs and see what the clubs want to do.

The Longest Day is June 21 but events can be held in support of the fundraiser any time during the week starting on June 21.

Schedule of Upcoming Board Meetings:

Future meetings will be held :

May 9 at 10:15

August 8th 10:15

September 12th 10:15

Meeting was adjourned 11:22