

Rhode Island Bridge Association, Inc.

Minutes of Unit 145 Meeting

February 27, 2016

Present: Linda Ahrens Joe Brouillard, Bart Buffington, Lois DeBlois, Maureen Fahey, Meg Gousie, Julie Goulet, Diane Lambert, Paula Najarian, Chris Soares and Marshall Williams

Excused: Liz Brian, Charleen Christy, Beatrice Martini, David Prentiss

Call to Order:

President, Maureen Fahey, called the meeting to order at 10:33.

President's Comments:

- Will Everett and Fredda Sharfstein have resigned.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the January meeting were distributed via email prior to the meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

- Treasurer's Reports were reviewed and approved unanimously.

Tournament Information:

Sectionals:

- Joe Brouillard as treasurer presented the results of the January Sectional. He distributed the tournament report. We made \$702 dollars.
- At the January Sectional, the tables were dirty. Randy is not responsible for cleaning after other events but it will be mentioned.
- The dates of the June Sectional were changed back to the original June 4 and 5 dates that conflict with the World Wide Game. The Senior Center was not available for the new June 11 and 12 dates that we had selected. Maureen worked with the ACBL to have the new dates posted with updates flyers and a new sanction #.
- **Action Item – Need lecturer for June along with topic.** No updates to flyers or times of the lecture at this time.
- **Action Item – Pro Am Games.** They are being offered now at the Regionals and are successful. Should we be offering it at one or two of our sectionals. Joseph Brouillard suggested using Saturday night as an option as a few people stay over locally and we have the use of the Center most of our dates.

Old Business:

- Bob Garfinkel will be doing the March Sectional Lecture
- **Action Item** – From January – Maureen Fahey to ask if 299'rs would attend earlier, before the games begin, to attend the lecture.

New Business:

- Discussion related to new board members. We have one person interested in joining the board at this time. To ensure there is no confusion related to responsibilities related to board members it was decided that a Mission Statement would be distributed that would include a description. Julie Goulet suggested that we should use the term Working Board to describe ourselves.
- **Action Item** – Lois DeBlois to find the Mission Statement she had developed and had sent to prospective board members. She will send it to Linda Ahrens who will then email it to everyone who will review and get back to Linda with suggested updates. We will refer to the objectives that are outlined in our bylaws. **This will be discussed at our next Board Meeting May 21 at 10:30.** Lois will then update.
- Zero tolerance was discussed. There was a lawsuit by a player at the Unit Level in another district. We must ensure consistency at all Clubs and Sectionals in how bad behavior is reported and handled. Zero Tolerance is not just bad behavior towards you, but any behavior at the table that may make a player uncomfortable including bad behavior between partners.
- **Action Item** – (From January Minutes) **Please submit anything that we need to do yearly or monthly; for example flyers to Lois DeBlois who will put together a calendar of important dates and what needs to be done.**
- Grassroots Games – Mark Aquino asked us to consider running one game at our sectional. There is an extra \$1 fee, but there are more points awarded.
 - **Action Item** - What is done with the funds? Maureen to follow up with Mark to see how the money will be spent.
 - **Action Item** – Will decide at May meeting if we will run it at our September Sectional. The flyers can be updated.
- **Action Item** – Gala Tables – Paula Najarian to follow up with Randy to see what he will be charging to move the tables for us to the Gala.
- The B & C North American Pair qualifiers will be held this year in Mansfield. The A qualifiers will be held in Watertown at a Sectional. It is a two day event for A and B players and a one day event for C players.
- The team GNT qualifiers will be held April 9 and 10th in Sturbridge for the A and B Teams and just Sunday for the C Teams.
- Clint Wright will be offering a Mentor Program one Thursday night per month at his club.
Action Item - **This will be added to the BRIDGE Bits.**

- If interested, Clint can send Joe Brouillard the web master an email which Joe can send out to the Unit Players.
- In and Out Report – Paula Najarian provided the report. As of now we have 510 members with 3 new members. 2 were reinstated in December and 1 in November.
- BRIdgebits. Action Item - The next one will be in June and then one in October for the Gala. We will use it to help promote what we do and solicit for new board members. The Mission Statement will be included. It will also include an article about the Pro-Am being offered at the Warwick Regional.
- The Board Meetings will be held at 10:30 going forward, please see below for the next two scheduled.

Executive Committee Updates:

- Lois Deblois gave a report. There will be a Prize Day in Mansfield on Thursday with section top prizes given, similar to what is done at the Nationals.
- Action Item – Article in BRIdgebits on the Warwick Regional Pro Am.

Schedule of Upcoming Board Meetings:

- Future meetings will be held :
 - Saturday, May 21 at 10:30AM
 - Wednesday, August 17 at 5:30PM

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35AM.