

Rhode Island Bridge Association, Inc.

Minutes of Unit 145 Meeting

May 6, 2017

Present: Linda Ahrens, Barrett, Barbara, Joe Brouillard, Bart Buffington, Charleen Christy, Maureen Fahey, Julie Goulet, Carol McCullough, Paula Najarian, David Prentiss, Chris Soares, Marshall Williams
Excused: Lois, DeBlois, Diane Lambert, Bea Martini, Meg Gousie

Call to Order:

President, Paula Najarian, called the meeting to order at 10:40.

President's Comments:

- Welcome to our new board member, Barbara Barrett
- Lois DeBlois and Paula Najarian attended the GNT and Regional at Falmouth on the Cape. Heard only positive comments about the Warwick Regional and the Johnston Sectionals; the facilities and the people. Great word of mouth publicity

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the March meeting were distributed via email prior to the meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was passed and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

- Treasurer's Reports were reviewed and approved unanimously.

Tournament Report

- Joseph Brouillard presented the March Sectional Report.
- There was a loss from the March sectional due to the conflict with the New Hampshire sectional on the same weekend.

Reports:

- Paula Najarian presented the In/Out report. Our Unit has 519 members as of May 1, 489 as of April 1.
- A question was asked regarding the Unit's growth and Paula Najarian will review numbers over the past 4 years, comparing month to month for the months of June.
- Lois DeBlois presented the Executive Board update. The District has had increased attendance at the Regionals, making money.
 - Expectations are that attendance will be high in Nashua, recommend that if you're planning on attending, make room reservations ASAP and please contact Helen Pawlowski if no rooms are available.
- Paula Najarian reached out to the tournament scheduler for the district regarding the scheduling conflict between New Hampshire and Johnston. The New Hampshire update

was approved as the distance between the two sites fell into the ACBL guidelines; was more than 90 miles apart and the distance needed is only 75 miles. An email was sent regarding the impact to our Johnston Sectional because the 2 sites provided options to the Boston players as both sites were within 75 miles of Boston. Additional guidelines will be put in place so the conflict does not occur again.

Old Business:

- There will be no BRidge Bits in May. There will be one in June which will include information on the Longest Day. It will also include comments from the President (Paula Najarian), instructional information on bidding from Bart Buffington, membership information, announcements of new board members, membership information, games over 70% and information about the upcoming Nashua Regional and the knockouts.
- Marshall Williams stated that the RI Kings and Queens had been established for the Longest Day on Wednesday, June 21. Please sign up on the ACBL website. Joe Brouillard will post a link on the RIBA website.

New Business:

- Sectionals
 - A sanction number for the Grass Roots game (June Sectional) is needed as Paula Najarian was told that we need a different sanction # for extra point games. The new number will replace the original sanction number. The Grass Roots game will run on the Saturday. There will be 2 sanction numbers, 1 for Saturday and 1 for Sunday. The 2 sanction numbers are needed for ACBL live as results are posted based on the sanction numbers.
 - The September Sectional will be an International Fund game as September is International Fund month and we will run the game on Sunday for the Swiss. We will get a new sanction number for that.
 - Flyers are posted on the ACBL website for the June and September sectionals. Joe Brouillard will post them on the New England District website as well.
 - Going forward we will have the ACBL send out the Sectional Flyers for each sectional prior to the sectionals. They do that for the area requested by the Unit. Joe Brouillard will have them send the email to RI, MA, CT, and NH. We will continue to mail flyers to Clubs.

Schedule of Upcoming Board Meetings:

- Future meetings will be held :
 - None scheduled at this time

The meeting was adjourned at 11:13 AM.