

RIBA Board Meeting January 15, 2022

Present

Marshall Williams, Cindy Mottle, Barry Gilbert, Meg Gousie, Maureen Fahey, Joe Brouillard, Charleen Christy, Julie Goulet, Stanley Williams, Chris Soares, Sue Miguel, Don Rankin, Peter Marcus

Absent Lois Deblois, Barton Buffington, Megan DiOrio,

Call to order at 10:00

1. Greetings from warm South Carolina. Peter and Sue are looking at a possible STaC event in March. January STaC was not scheduled but we can hold a StaC just in Rhode island. Very easy to set up and just need to coordinate with Peter 3/14 to 3/20. Won't be that many points as only a few clubs but nice way to get folks into clubs. No cost to the unit per Sue Miguel and the unit will make a little bit of money. Several folks thought it was a good idea and no down side. Reiterate a good thing for local clubs. Clubs are having a difficult time. People have forgotten how much they like playing face to face. We have a national and regional scheduled for RI and very few face to face players. If there is a new virus or another issue we could cancel but Peter says if you schedule it is not a good thing to cancel. No upside to canceling even if small. If clubs bow out no issue but no risk to the unit. Two things going on to be aware of to be called Royal Stac in April will have gold red and silver but that is in April. Another observation RI has always participated with all the units sponsored by EMBA and Peter said that all money went to EMBA so in future we will have to decide if we want to participate with EMBA every club can participate and if out none can participate. But we can have our own and still participate and we can invite any unit we want. All clubs in the unit can participate. Marshall mentioned a STaC in lieu of June sectional though June should be safe to restart. Sectionals must be open to all players. We are canceling the March tournament. Charlene mentioned that the northern part of the state has no clubs anymore. During a Stac week we can have a unit game, rent a hall and the unit is a club. The STaC is sanctioned then someone in the unit registers a game with details of cost, location etc. Sue says that many people are not coming back. Getting people back is like starting a new business. 3/14 - 3/20. Sue thinks she would have a Sunday's game that would be RSVP. Discussion of Omicron and concern about infecting others. No way to decide how to handle Covid at this time. We can not predict the future of bridge. Can not determine how this pandemic will be next year.

We are going ahead to hold STaC. The conditions of the contest are we charge the clubs per table fee standard fee does not go to ACBL strats, average highest to be part of combined open game must be to have 5 table minimum Maureen and Sue will work out detail off line.

\$5.00 sanction fee and then send \$4 and change to ACBL

Joe said if he can get a list of the games and he will send out an email to all RI bridge members to help Bob's club

2. 2021 Charitable Donations not made for last year. Julie wanted to do something for House of Hope and Sue raises money every Christmas. Sue committed to raising \$10,000. She has \$10,750 so wants to get to \$11,000. Check has not been delivered but when the final amount raised Sue will deliver and get some publicity. Julie spoke about other possibilities: House of Hope, Food Bank, Crossroads that would benefit from a donation from the unit. Joe mentioned what other charities we have donated. Proposal 250 to Sue's donation to HOUse of Hope 1500 to the food bank and 1000 to Crossroads. 3. The Secretary's Report was sent out. Motion made to approve minutes, seconded and approved.

4. Treasurer's Report

Joe detailed the money we had at various accounts. Received money from ACBL for memberships and only expenses was storage and web site for email. Motion made to approve, seconded and voted unanimously by board to accept reports. We are not required to give any money to Nationals being held in Providence.

5. Reports: In/Out Report

Total Membership 09/30/2021 through 11/01/2021 447 4 in 11 out

Total Membership 10/31/21 through 12/01/21 443 1 new 3 transfer in 1 deceased Eileen English

Total Membership 11/30/2021 through 01/01/2022 439 1 new 2 in 5 out 1 deceased John Fitzpatrick

7. Contribution to Providence NABC

NABC asked for some sponsorship money \$6000 would get two days for Rhode Island. Joe suggested one day will be RIBA day and the second day would be Bob Bertoni day. Approached Fidelity to be corporate sponsorship they said no and the committee is now waiting on Blue Cross Massachusetts to see if they would sponsor. If no corporate sponsor then will call it the Bob Bertoni NABC championship. Motion made, seconded and approved to donate \$6000 for two days of sponsorship one of which will be a Rhode Island day and the second day to be designated toward a Bob Bertoni memorial.

6. Board of Delegates in April or date to be determined

Not sure when the date is made everyone aware of what board is and let folks know the meeting is to make sure we have enough people at board of delegates

Saturday April 9th 10:00 by zoom

Meeting adjourned at 11:04