

DRAFT MINUTES OF ACBL DISTRICT 4 BOARD MEETING
Ramada Hotel, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
May 5, 2012

NOTICE:

The minutes were taken by Secretary Pro-Tem, Joann Glasson, from her notes taken during the meeting. The tape recorder line cord became unplugged accidentally before the meeting was called to order. During the Education Committee report, the problem was discovered and the tape recorder plugged in. Thereafter, the minutes reflect both Joann's notes and the audio tape record of the meeting.

Voting Member Attendees:

- At-Large: Walt Mitchell (Board President), Tom Weik (1st VP), Rick Rowland (IPP),
Craig Robinson (District Director) (4 of 7)
- Unit 112: Michael Mihevc (Unit Pres.), Mary Poplawski, Dan Boye (for Robert Simard)
(3 of 6)
- Unit 120: Tom Henson Ray Depew, Bill Orth (2 of 2)
- Unit 121: (0 of 2)
- Unit 133: Frank Kuebler (Unit Pres.), Chuck Campbell (2 of 2)
- Unit 141: Joann Glasson (Unit Pres.), Tom Purl, April Uhlenburg, Ala Hamilton-Day,
John Marks, Elaine Landow, Meyer Kotkin, Corey Krantz (for Everett
Young) (8 of 12)
- Unit 168: Linda Ivanoff, Ella Zimmerman, Stefan Basinski (for Ron Orr), Sylvie
Basinski (for John Klinger) (4 of 5)
- Unit 190: Rich Popper (for Trina Williams) (1 of 4)
- Unit 217: (0 of 2)

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

A meeting of the ACBL District 4 Board of Directors was held at the Ramada Hotel, Wilkes-Barre near the site of the District 4 finals of the GNT, May 5, 2012. Walt Mitchell, President, called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM, a quorum being present (24 of 42 voting members representing 6 of 8 units).

ELECTION OF SECRETARY PRO-TEM

In the absence of the District Secretary, Bill Bauer, Joann Glasson was elected Secretary Pro-Tem (with Craig Robinson opposed).

SECRETARY'S REPORT & APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOV. 4, 2011

The minutes of the Lancaster Board meeting of November 4, 2011 were unanimously approved as submitted (photocopies distributed and previously e-mailed to the Board).

TREASURER'S REPORT

Rick Rowland distributed the Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statements for the District for the period June 2011 through April 2012. All together the District realized a net loss of \$39,229 which included \$35,000 to the 2012 NABC Committee. The Board approved the Treasurer's report.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Walter said that he would like to attend all the Unit Annual Meetings and noted that he had attended the Unit 141 Annual Meeting in Glenside.

Walter also announced that he was looking for talent for the variety show he planned for the NABC.

RATIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

There were two Executive Committee actions taken since the Lancaster Board meeting. The Secretary provided background information on each resolution with the meeting agenda (posted on the District website and e-mailed to Board members).

1. Purchase of \$2,500 of plastic bidding box inserts

The new bidding box inserts were purchased and in use at the Valley Forge Regional in February, the purchase having been authorized by the Executive Committee. Joann Glasson washed the plastic bidding boxes prior to inserting the new bidding cards.

The Board affirmed the purchase unanimously.

2. Authorize the Lancaster Tournament committee to reschedule the Lancaster Regional to the 1st or 2nd week of December

Upon discovering that the Lancaster Host booked the wrong week for 2012 (coinciding with Regionals in Danbury, CT and Buffalo, NY), the Lancaster Tournament Committee recommended the week of Dec. 3 to Dec. 9, 2012. The 2013 Regional will be held in December as well. The Executive Committee approved the December dates.

The Board affirmed the Executive Committee approval of the date changes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLICITY

Joann Glasson reported that the district website receives 2,000 hits each month.

DISTRICT 4SPOT

Elaine Landow had no report.

TOURNAMENT COORDINATOR

John Marks requested Unit TC's to send him 2013 and 2014 tournament dates.

CHARITY

April Uhlenburg presented a process to allocate the District's \$30,000 ACBL Charity Foundation grant (as part of the ACBL's district rotation program). The ACBL will issue up to six checks, so April decided that our eight units may nominate one charity each.

Six of the eight unit grant proposals will be chosen, each awarding \$5,000. April will inform the Unit Presidents via letter. The Executive Committee will use the Decision Matrix that April has prepared. Unit Presidents will receive the decision matrix so that Units' know the selection criteria and the importance of each criterion.

FINANCE

Dave Kresge was not present.

NAP

Mike Giesler, although not in attendance, submitted the following motion, read by the Secretary pro-tem:

Moved that for 2012, the District 4 NAP Flight "C" be changed from Saturday, October 20 to Sunday, October 28. The event will be played at clubs. Any club within district 4 interested in hosting may do so.

Mary Poplawski stated the Endwell, NY Sectional Tournament Committee did not want the change, as had been thought previously, and that if there was a change, they would not run the event.

Allentown representatives supported the change of date.

The motion was defeated.

Mary Poplawski suggested that the schedule for the NAP District Final be decided at the Lancaster Board meeting in December.

Craig Robinson suggested that John Marks let TC's know if they are scheduling a tournament for the same dates as the NAP District Finals.

GNT

Tom Henson said Ray hopes for a successful event today.

EDUCATION

Mary Poplawski stated that the ACBL has \$750,000 available in grant money. Mary asked for volunteers to join her committee to write a grant request.

Mary suggested that ACBL advertise their website on public radio to help prospective players find teachers and clubs.

A "Learn Bridge in a Day" Workshop conducted by Patty Tucker attracted 100 people in Lexington, KY. Thirty-five participants joined the ACBL that day. It is not known how the event was publicized.

Craig noted that another program offering 8 lessons for \$49 (including the cost of ACBL membership) was promoted by mailing 5,000 flyers and did not attract enough participants to have a class.

INTERMEDIATE/NEWCOMER

Ala Hamilton-Day had no report.

TOURNAMENT

John Marks had no report. No committee meetings have been held since the Revised Tournament Procedures went into effect.

TOURNAMENT REPORTS:

2012 Summer NABC – John Marks needs volunteer lists from each unit (Unit 190's received). April has done a fantastic job on Publicity. She has flyers and stickers should anyone need them.

Dan Boye will work on linking the partnership page on the ACBL website with the District 4 partnership page. The ACBL site was down for a week. The ACBL website provides capability to contact a potential partner.

Walt Mitchell still needs acts for the Variety Show that he will MC. So far, he has a tap dancer, pianist and vocalist (himself).

Valley Forge
(2/27/12 – 3/4/12)

- John Marks reported that the 2012 Valley Forge Regional attendance, 1061 tables, was the lowest ever. Still, a profit of \$4,700 was realized despite spending \$13,000 on hospitality.

Ala commented that players want stickers (to show where they have played). John agreed to have them for next year's tournament.

In 2013, the tournament returns to June 17-23 in its former customary week, the week after Father's Day.

Lancaster
(12/3 – 12/9/12)

- Rick Rowland reported for John Klinger. The 2011 tournament table count was up by a few hundred tables helping to contribute to a profit of \$7,904. The increase represents a partial rebound from 2010 when the Regional followed the October 2010 WBF tournament in Philadelphia. Craig noted declining Regional attendance in the entire Northeastern US. The daily bulletin discontinuance upset some players. In particular, new LM's no longer have hard copy noting their accomplishment. Game results, however, are posted to the website each evening.

Harrisburg
(7/22 – 7/28/13)

- No report. Note that the Regional returns in 2013 (split site with Liverpool).

Syracuse
(7/30-8/5/12)

- Mike Mihevc reported that the tournament starting times will be 10:00 am and 3:00 pm.

Paul Cherin of Rochester has proposed moving the regional to a location in Rochester in 2015. He anticipates making a profit. It was noted that District approval to move the Regional would be required.

Delaware
(6/18 – 6/24/12)

- No report.

Scranton
(3/4-3/10/13)

- Tom Henson reminded the Board that the 2013 Regional will be held at the Woodlands Inn from March 4 thru March 10.

DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Craig Robinson reported that the ACBL President, Sharon Anderson, will be coming to Wilmington.

The ACBL Board will change masterpoint awards so that all awards are based upon “strength of field” rather than table count. K/O awards are already determined on the basis of strength of field. Craig expects little effect on District 4 tournaments. This proposal resulted in a great amount of discussion.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no items of old business.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no items of new business.

NEXT MEETING

The next Board meeting will take place during the Lancaster Regional on Saturday, December 8 at 10:00am.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Joann Glasson Bill Bauer
Secretary Pro-Tem District 4 Secretary
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