

Cincinnati Bridge Association Board of Trustees (Directors)  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 1, 2012

Board President A.J. Stephani called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Present were: Cordell Coy, Patrick Hoffman, Gayle Keaney, Barb Levinson, Ron Manne, Potter Orr, Mike Purcell. Members Absent: Mary Clifton.

The April minutes were reviewed and approved.

The board agreed to review progress in the following three areas at each meeting during 2012 as these are our three (longer term) priorities.

- membership care and recruitment - no progress.
- lease and location - no progress, but the board did ask the committee to plan to present an options proposal by year end.
- sanction holder relationship and communication - discussed the issues of a playing director. ACBL prohibits the practice for multi-section games and single section games greater than 17 tables. The board felt that for CBA games where there is an independent standby, that the director should only play to create a full table. If there were no independent standby, then board members were mixed on whether the value of the standby was worth the inconvenience to players of a 1/2 table and combined with the inconvenience of having a playing director.

We also discussed the upcoming fee structure changes that will take effect at the end of the year if the board takes no further action. We felt it appropriate to remind the sanction holders that these changes were still coming. This will likely be included in an upcoming directorgram.

Gayle provided the treasurer's report. The report was accepted. The report showed the results of the STAC. It indicated that table counts were up substantially, due to the STAC, for the same time period last year. It was noted that Chris Schwartz won the Pappadeaux gift certificate at the STAC raffle. Potter will announce it on the website.

We discussed status of the upcoming Flying Pig regional. Potter reported that our contact at the LivInn Suites, May ???, is no longer working there, and that the remaining staff were unaware of past arrangements/agreements with us. He was able to confirm that the rooms for the directors and Sharon Anderson were still reserved and after much trouble able to get the hospitality suite assigned to us, but only grudgingly and only for this year. We expect not to continue the same hospitality practice next year since we plan to be using a 10:00 & 3:00 format for the regional which would eliminate the need for an evening hospitality.

Also relating to the Flying Pig, we will be setting up on Sunday evening at 5:00 PM. We will be in a new smaller room and need to scope it out early to see what changes will be needed.

We discussed the STAC in relation to sanction holders. We were largely happy with the changes we made this year, with CBA running more of the games. Still, there were issues with getting the boards and the hand records. The tournament committee is preparing a written document for the June STAC which will more clearly state the

expectations that CBA has for sanction holders who wish to run a game during the STAC. Hopefully, being more clear about our expectations will eliminate these items of friction and make the STAC process run more smoothly.

The tournament committee also acknowledges that it needs to do a better job of planning and advertising what events (NLM sections and open sections) will be available during the STACs. The tournament committee will document recommendations for how to handle games where there are not enough (fewer than 5 tables) players before the June STAC.

We discussed, again, the issue of the rental of the extra parking spaces. The board acknowledged the lack of communication of expectations between CBA and Deschappelles. Also that Deschappelles has often been an ally and partner to CBA. We noted that the additional parking is most beneficial to Deschappelles, and that the agreement to end their obligation to the parking was contingent on the rental fee change which did not happen. Many of the board members are willing to discontinue the extra parking rental agreement with Viox altogether. AJ will speak with Sandy to see if some amicable accord between the organizations can be reached.

We continued our copier discussion. This month we learned that we are using 5000 sheets of paper per month. The fact surprised most board members. Gayle was asked to provide data on our current printing and copying costs. We will use the information to compare to the information provided by Ron several months back regarding getting a commercial company to provide and service our printer(s) and copier(s).

Barb reported that the Mentor/Mentee program is underway. There will be no opening/closing sessions this year, but the program will remain largely unchanged otherwise (1/2 price entry fee and pairs play one level lower than the mentor). Four Wednesday evenings and four Sunday afternoons will be used as the special games for which these rules apply. Paper and web applications are already being received. The committee will pair mentors and mentees in the week after the Flying Pig.

We revisited our discussion of purchasing new chairs periodically. The board approved the purchase of an additional 6 chairs. Several of the broken chairs will be dispensed with. The board affirmed its conviction that maintaining a variety of chairs is a good policy.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM.

Cordell Coy  
Recording Secretary