

Rhode Island Bridge Association, Inc.
Minutes
May 8, 2021

In attendance: Joe Brouillard, Maureen Fahey, Barry Gilbert, Julie Goulet, Meg Gousie, Cindy Mottle, Don Rankin, Chris Soares, Stanley Williams, Marshall Williams

Guest Sue Miguel

Absent: Linda Aherns, Charleen Christy, Lois DeBlois Megan Megan Diorio, Bart Buffington,

Call to Order: Call to order at 10:20

President's Comments: Good to see all. Things are going along the same. Got a very nice email from a librarian in Wyoming Rhode Island who is teaching middle school students and they liked our website and suggested an additional site which we added. Possibly a newsletter about the kids. Longest Day will be played on-line and will be on June 19th. Julie asked if there was a possibility to do a fundraiser for the House of Hope as they are doing a great job with the homeless during the pandemic. Marshall thought it was a good idea and will discuss with Sue Miguel about doing it in conjunction with our annual meeting. There was also a suggestion to make our annual donation sooner in the year. Meg said the Longest Day fundraiser in June is for Alzheimer's so we should look at next month. Joe said we could designate one or two charity games for House of Hope.

Secretary's Report: Minutes resent with corrections. Move made to approve and seconded Fred Rogler's name spelled incorrectly. Accepted with correction.

Treasurer's Report: No income this month there was a small loss for the storage unit and website. Website is an annual charge. Some discussion of unrealized income. Approved as submitted

Reports:

In/Out report

Total membership is 456 as of May 1st. This total included 29 snowbirds that have returned to Rhode Island. Joe would like me to send an email to all the snow birds saying you can declare unit 145 as your unit even if you are in Florida for part of the

year. Mutual advantage as we get a financial advantage and they can compete for our Ace of Clubs and MiniMckeney. Decision to put an article in the newsletter instead of individual emails.

Executive Board update.

Providence Nationals backed to square one on prizes and sponsorships. Hopefully National will be successful. It will be interesting to see how the Austin NABC runs in November. The new dates for the Providence Nationals is the 14th - 24st of July as reported on ACBL website.

Old Business:

District is still considering having a regional in Warwick in September. A survey made to potential players indicated low interest. New England knows the steps it needs to get ACBL to approve a regional. New England is sending a letter to ACBL to get approval to hold the regional and if approved what safety restrictions would be required of the region. The biggest issue is eating at the regional. At a local club, eating can be done in their car or outside. Concern that attendance could be low and the region would lose a lot of money. Concern from potential players is that they don't want to wear a mask.

Local Clubs Opening Warwick Bridge Club is opening with reservations, proof of Covid vaccination and mask wearing.

Sectional in Johnston in September cancelled. The Senior Center has new coordinator Denise Hall but no food in building and slowly opening. It will be removed from the website and Maureen will contact the Senior Center for 2022 dates.

Open Committee Chairs: Hospitality, Tournaments tabled to next meeting.

Newsletter Cindy will follow up on the high school students learning bridge emails and will interview Bob Garfinkel for the June edition. Newsletter will include information about the longest day. There have been attempts to have bridge lessons with high school students already and there is a New England youth coordinator.

New Business:

Some discussion about having an annual meeting in person. Maureen will look at possible sites. Food can not be served as a buffet but will look at a couple of food trucks.

Schedule of Upcoming Board Meetings:

- Future meetings will be held :
August 14, 2021 10:15 Zoom Meeting
Annual Meeting October 30th to be confirmed
October 23rd at 10:15 Zoom Meeting

Meeting adjourned 11:12