

Rhode Island Bridge Association, Inc.

Minutes of Unit 145 Meeting

June 3, 2014

Present: Linda Ahrens, Joe Brouillard, Lyn Bradford, Bart Buffington, Lois DeBlois, Marguerite Gousie, Brenda Iemma, Paula Najarian, David Prentiss, Nancy Rosenbaum, Cathie Sallar, Marshall Williams, Maureen Fahey and Stan Williams
Excused: Liz Brian

Call to Order:

President, Lois DeBlois, called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

President's Comments:

- Fredda Sharfstein and Will Everett have volunteered to be on the Board. Both were unanimously accepted to Board.
- Lisa Eklund has resigned from the Board
- Currently 2 openings on the Board
- Correction to Nancy Rosenbaum lesson schedule: Nancy will prepare a lesson for the June Sectional; Dean Panagopoulos will come to the September Sectional to provide information for IN games at the Providence Nationals.
- The new Partnership sign up developed by the ACBL showed up as an active application for the Johnston Sectional. No additional details available at this time.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the February meeting were distributed via email prior to the meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

- Treasurer's Report was reviewed and approved unanimously
- Annual IRS for Non Profit Organization was filed in May

Tournament Manager's Report:

Sectional:

- Due to the Dallas NABC, the March sectional had light attendance.
- Shriners are asking us to commit to the 2015 Gala date as they have a request for that same weekend. Voted unanimously to commit to the date.

Providence NABC 2014 Report: Joe Brouillard reported on the most recent accomplishments for the 2014 Providence NABC.

- All tournament chairs are doing an excellent job.
- Hotel reservations opened up May 15.
- Discounted parking is available at the Convention Center. Vouchers will be provided (perhaps at the registration desk) for \$4 off the full price. The reduced rate of \$8 will be available from 6AM until Midnight.

Old Business:

Nomination Committee:

- The District needs a Vice President and a President in 2 years. Meeting will be held in Nashua on June 21 and Linda Ahrens will represent our Unit.

Charity/Grant Committee:

- Phyllis Bausher from the CT Unit is the District Chair. The ACBL awarded District 25 \$30,000 (charity money is awarded annually on a rotating basis). The Charity/Grant Committee will be meeting June 21 in Nashua to discuss how to distribute the monies among the 6 states in District 25. The thought is to divide the money equally. Lyn Bradford will be our representative at the meeting and will report the final decision in August.
- Lyn reported on some of the ideas for the charities for us to contribute to and asked for suggestions. Camp Sunshine was mentioned and other ideas were: Crossroads Rhode Island (for the homeless), Big Brother/Big Sister, San Miguel School, Little Sophia, Providence Journal Sunshine Fund and Angels on Horseback. She will review administrative fees for any charities that we wish to consider.

Document Retention Policy and Reimbursement Policies:

- Tabled for this meeting, will be discussed at a future meeting.

Longest Day:

- Games will be running in RI from Friday evening through Saturday evening with over \$1,000 raised so far. Marshall Williams has taken the lead on organizing the games.
- A blast email will go out from the web master to all RI members with details on the Longest Day and where to go to play to participate. This will go out after the sectional. Flyers will be available at the sectional as well. All the table fees go to the Alzheimer's Association; the ACBL does not keep them.
- Any Club can have a sanctioned game that day even if it is not part of the club schedule. It will be a charity game with sectional points.
- Marshall Williams expressed interest in coordinating a game.
- There is a Team Captain's toolkit that comes from the ACBL.
- It will be announced at the next sectional as the date is June 21.

GNAT/NAP update:

- Tabled until next meeting.

New Unit Directory

- Paula Najarian and Joe Brouillard will work together to have that ready for distribution at the Gala.

Facebook

- The ACBL sent out instructions on how to set up a Facebook page for Units. Cathie Sallar volunteered to take the lead on this. She will be our Social Media Director.

Learn to Play Bridge in a Day

- This is available just by applying for a grant. Should we apply for it? Maureen will investigate and report back in August.

bRIdgebits:

- No discussion at this time.

New Business:

Unit Nominations:

- Nominating Maureen Fahey for President.
- Vice President will be addressed at the August meeting.
- Thank you to Maureen Fahey and Stan Williams for being the Tournament Manager(s) for 4 years.
- We currently do not have any volunteers for the Tournament Manager position.
- Bart Buffington said he would be co-chair.
- Meg Gousie has proposed a breakdown of tournament responsibilities that would be managed by multiple people with one Tournament Director ultimately responsible for ensuring each chair was able to complete their responsibilities. She distributed a handout with 5 main responsibilities.
- A blast email will go out to the RI Members asking for volunteers for the board.
- There will be a sign up for the Board and for the Tournament Director at the Sectional.

Schedule of Upcoming Board Meetings:

August 3 (8/3)

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.