

January 2, 2016 Minutes of LBA Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Vangie Smith.

Other board members in attendance were: Candi Conway, Jean Donoho, Dotty Losey, Norman Smith, Denise Tonini, Freida Trower, John Van Cleve, and Janet Vowels.

Verna Goldberg was there as Directors' Representative. Kit Overpeck, non-voting member, also attended.

Not in attendance were: Judy Banks, Hannah Davis, Erin Kennedy, Darlene Pyles, Tom Reece, and Marianne Thomas.

2016 Organizational Responsibilities

The primary purpose of the meeting is to determine the organizational responsibilities of this year's board members. The following assignments were made:

Bulletin Board – Hannah Davis

Calendar/Midwest Monitor – John Van Cleve suggested Beth Dlutkowski, and Vangie will follow up with Beth.

Charity – Candi Conway (with assistance of Hospitality and Special Games chairs)

Concessions – Norman Smith

Education – Candi Conway

Hospitality and Special Games – Erin Kennedy, Denise Tonini, Janet Vowels

NAP and GNT Coordinator for Unit 117 – Tom Reece

NAP and GNT Coordinator for District 11 – Kit Overpeck

Supplies – John Van Cleve

Maintenance – John Van Cleve

Level of Play

Louisville members have not often qualified in GNT and NAP games at the district level, and ways to improve the level of play were discussed. In Cincinnati they sometimes have top players sit in on limited games to give advice. Lexington runs a monthly potluck Eight is Enough Swiss that usually has 20 teams; it was suggested that top players split up the partnership and each pair with a novice for Eight is Enough. Norman Smith is in favor of enforcing use of convention cards as a tool for all players. Board members can help beginners complete them and encourage their use. Kit Overpeck has given lessons on filling out convention cards, and the ACBL website has a good explanation (see http://www.acbl.org/learn_page/how-to-play-bridge/introduction-to-duplicate/convention-cards/how-to-complete-your-convention-card/). Verna Goldberg will review convention cards after the Tuesday and Friday games in the second week of January. Vangie will broadcast an e-mail on convention cards.

Education and Mentoring

The Bates Elementary program will start in February. Another round of mentoring will be held in March, April, and May, and if the need continues, a second round will be held in

August, September, and October. A mentor/mentee game is scheduled for Saturday, January 9, 2016, and Verna needs more mentor volunteers for the 29 mentees who have signed up.

Charity Game

The ACBL may be changing its schedule so that we can participate in at least some of the ACBL charity games. The Longest Day game for Alzheimer's has fallen the same time as our June sectional. The 2016 ACBL charity games are scheduled Thursday a.m. 4/14 and Tuesday p.m. 11/22. The Longest Day will be on 6/20, the week before our sectional. We agreed to do one charity game on a Tuesday evening in July in support of cystic fibrosis. Candi Conway will head up the Charity committee with the help of the Hospitality and Special Games chairs. Board members are asked to help get donations and sell tickets for the drawings.

Plainview Construction

John Van Cleve reviewed progress on the Plainview buildout. The contract has been negotiated down to \$105K, with the landlord paying \$50K. The contractor is working on architectural drawings and permits. Work will include taking out walls, new sewer and water lines (involving digging up the slab), electrical work, and putting in new walls. Pat Buckley, Ann Zimmerman, and Verna have selected carpet and tiles. We hope to be able to move by the end of February. Norm applauded the transparency in the facility activities to date and suggested keeping members informed of construction milestones.

Verna recognized all the hard work that Vangie, John, and Norm have done for the new place and thanked them for their dedication.

Move

Bill Cook volunteered to help with the move, and he will be asked to be in charge of the move committee. We will need to get as many members involved as possible in areas such as cleaning out old stuff, technology issues, and caring for art work. Kim Maxey cleaned all the tables and bidding boxes, and it's likely she would serve on any committee.

We will have a grand opening, and Vangie will look into a mayoral declaration of "LBA Day" in Louisville.

New Location Issues

- Cleaners: Will the cleaners' responsibilities be renegotiated for the new place? Verna wants the cleaners to throw away empties and trash on tables, put cups in dishwasher. She also noted that if the club has to pay the cleaners to pick up after directors, then directors should be charged \$.50 per table.
- Verna requests soffits above cabinets, so that there is no storage there.
- AV equipment will be moved. Can it accept Blue Tooth?
- Parking will not be available up close to the stores, except for legitimate handicap parking at the back. Vangie will visit the surrounding places and give them her number so that any complaints can be addressed promptly. If the landlord fines the

LBA, then the cost will be passed along to the offender. A map of authorized parking in the shopping center was suggested. Vangie got written approval to park the trailer in the back.

- Parking at tournaments: Will use Skyline for tournament parking. Discussed valet parking, but liability is deterrent. Could use caddies to direct parking.
- Hallway shared with Joe's OK Bayou: Joe's stores kegs in the hallway, where our space has two doorways. Norm asked John to look into this.
- Awnings: Alcoves have to have awnings. We have received approval of red awning.
- Chairs: Jean Donoho is heading a committee on chairs, and Janet Vowels volunteered to help. We will need to buy more chairs. An anonymous \$500 donation for chairs has been received.
- Tables, corner units: Will use card tables in training room initially, but will need more tables and corner units in the space that's twice our current space.
- Dumpster will need a lock.
- Operations directives: Norm suggested considering operations directives, such as standards for heat and AC. Verna asked Norm to write these up.

Growing Membership

We need more members to support higher cost of larger space. We should be facilitators for newcomers. Addressing a few negative members is important. Everyone should strive to make games pleasant and report any problems to game directors. Verna suggested giving free plays to first-time students. Everyone should encourage acquaintances to come to play.

Sectionals

We will not be in the new location for the February 2016 sectional. Kit asked if we can hold longer sectional tournaments in the new location; this may be a contract issue. At the February board meeting, Vangie will discuss the future of the Barren River tournament. Dotty Losey will request sanctions for tournaments in 2018 and as many more years as possible.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Action Items

1. Vangie Smith will follow up with Beth Dlutkowski on handling the Calendar/Midwest Monitor.
2. Verna Goldberg will review convention cards after the Tuesday and Friday games in the second week of January.
3. Vangie will broadcast an e-mail on convention cards.
4. Vangie will look into a mayoral declaration of "LBA Day" in Louisville.
5. Norman Smith will write up suggested operations directives for new place.

Respectfully submitted,
Dotty Losey

LBA Secretary