

**January 6, 2018**  
**Minutes of LBA Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 p.m. by President John Van Cleve.

Other board members in attendance were: Beth Dlutowski, Chuck Fassler, Judy Geraldts, Rachelle Goodwin, Matt Just, Dotty Losey, Kay Omanson, Stuart Ray, Denise Tonini, and Janet Vowels.

Board members absent were: Judy Banks, Hannah Davis, Darlene Pyles, and Norman Smith.

Call to Order

John called the meeting to order and confirmed that a quorum was present. John thanked everyone for volunteering to serve on the board. He noted that Norman Smith is at home recuperating and had submitted his resignation from the board, which John rejected. The other board and club members have volunteered to help while Norman gets healthy.

Minutes

No corrections or additions to the minutes of the November 14, 2017, meeting were requested. Judy Geraldts moved to accept the minutes, Janet Vowels seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report

John reviewed the latest Treasurer's Report. The club currently has \$108K in assets. There was a profit of \$2,075 in November and net profit from January through November of \$14,373.14. Louisville's share of the November regional income should be received late in January. The yearend report will be posted when completed.

Rent remains the same in 2018 and goes up in 2019. With all else being equal, we can handle the increase. John will check on the amount of the rent increase. [According to the 10/14/17 minutes, rent will increase from \$4800 to \$5100 monthly beginning December, 2018.]

John, Denise Tonini, and Freida Trower will go to the bank together to update authorized signatures for the club.

Board Member Assignments

The following areas of responsibility were assigned to board members:

Back Page	Rachelle Goodwin
Bulletin Board	Judy Geraldts
Calendar	Beth Dlutowski
Concessions	Stuart Ray
Education	Rachelle Goodwin and Matt Just
Hospitality	Janet Vowels and Kay Omanson
Newcomer/Novice	Beth Dlutowski (includes 2018 NLM tournament)
Regional Hospitality	Judy Banks and Darlene Pyles

Special Games	Matt Just
Supplies	Stuart Ray
ACBL Reporting	Bill Toutant
Condolences	Marianne Cooper
Conduct and Ethics	Pamela Feldhoff
Legal/Parliamentarian	Chuck Fassler
Unit NAP/GNT	Kit Overpeck
In-house Computer Progs	Bill Toutant
Midwest Monitor	Discontinued
Website Administrator	Bill Toutant
Website Mgr/Developer	Ralph Letizia

John will work with Stuart Ray to transition supply and concession duties. Hospitality applies to LBA games and sectionals. Judy volunteered to help with Hospitality. Beth Dlutowski will chair the 2018 Non-Life Master tournament, but she will hand it off in 2019. The Midwest Monitor, now published only online, is likely to be discontinued this year. Other clubs' websites can provide information on their activities, and the district tournament calendar is posted on our bulletin board and website. Beth is involved in website administration; she and Bill are coordinating tasks. Beth has also taken over adding jewels to the Life Master board from Gary Peterson. [After the meeting, John advised that he had forgotten to announce that Chuck Fassler will be an Advisor to the President.]

### Education

Rachelle Goodwin noted that Candi Conway is still handling bridge at Bates Elementary (the continuing group is now in fourth grade, playing full games and using bidding boxes) and will start a program at Norton Elementary, at their principal's request. Judy Gerald's volunteered to help with the school programs. The Manual High School program fizzled; high school students seem to have full weekday schedules with other clubs and sports. A Saturday program for high schoolers may be considered. John reported that at the November regional, the ACBL president discussed a goal of increasing collegiate teams, and funds will be available; Vangie Smith and Kit Overpeck are planning to try something with colleges.

### Novice Players

It has been noted that we have a lot of novice players at club games but not many at sectional and regional tournaments. Kay Omanson thinks the tournaments are overwhelming to novices, who need encouragement and orientation. Rachelle asked if it would be possible to combine the Tuesday or Friday novice and open games once a month, to help novices acclimate to playing with more experienced players. Monday and Thursday games have combined the novice and open sections. Denise suggested scheduling more novice games; Matt Just recommended coming on Tuesday night, where attendance has dropped off. Matt's class and game may bring in more people if scheduled a different day, not the same day as Verna's morning novice game; Matt will talk to Tony about the possibility of Wednesday night instead. John asked Matt to teach a class on Swiss teams and knock-outs before the upcoming sectional and GNT games, and Matt agreed.

### Increasing Membership

John discussed several ideas for getting more people to come and play.

1. Bring a Friend Day: Encourage members to invite friends, play with a new person, or meet a friend here to get them started. We may be able to coordinate a discounted rate with directors. Judy said that Erin Kennedy's Thursday afternoon game is a good time to bring in new players.
2. Talk to private bridge clubs
3. Car Pool—Day and Night: Bill Cook suggested to Beth that we set up a sign-up program for volunteer drivers to pick up players who don't drive, especially for the night games. Judy will follow up with Bill.
4. Private clubs play at LBA: Invite social groups to play here.

Denise agreed to chair an Outreach group to other clubs. Kay, Matt, and Judy will join the Outreach effort.

We also discussed the shoppers and diners who walk by our windows and look in. A sign, such as "Welcome" or "Classes Offered," may draw in interested people.

Matt mentioned that we have not participated in the ACBL Longest Day game, held on the summer solstice to support Alzheimer's research.

### Directors and Games

John distributed a schedule of current games with the directors and owners. He discussed ownership of games (some are owned by individuals and others by the current club president on behalf of the LBA).

### Smoking

John hears comments about cigarette butts in front of the bridge club. He will encourage all smokers to smoke outside the back door. Matt asked if there are any legal considerations with the landlord. Rachelle suggested getting an ashcan for the front; Stuart noted that there is an ashcan by the former Joe's OK Bayou restaurant.

### GNT

Chuck Fassler asked what the club has to do as host of the GNT qualifying games on 2/24-25. Carolyn Carpenter is the chair for this location, and Kit Overpeck is also involved. Arrangements for directors and hotels have been made. Carolyn will get caddies. Matt wants to develop Louisville players to compete in national events such as GNT and NAP, with teams at every level. An information session scheduled after one of Verna's games to make players familiar with what happens and the steps in the national competitions would be useful; John will discuss with Verna.

NAP is for pairs. GNT is for teams of 4-6 players. At the regional level, the GNT consists of Swiss teams on the first day and knock-outs with four teams on the second day. The national GNT is a longer event.

### Security

Janet Vowels suggested locking the back doors after games start, as a security measure. John will discuss this with Verna and the other directors.

### Louisville-Lexington Regional Tournament

Chuck suggested that morning games in the regional next November begin at 10:30, rather than 10:00, to avoid Louisville traffic. John will bring this up with the committee.

### Next Meeting

The next board meeting will be held on Saturday, 2/17/18, around 5:00 p.m., and dinner will be served.

### Adjournment

Rachelle moved to adjourn the meeting, Matt seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

### Action Items

1. John Van Cleve, Denise Tonini, and Freida Trower will go to the bank together to update authorized signatures for the club.
2. Matt Just will talk to Tony Lipka about the possibility of moving his Tuesday night class and novice game to Wednesday night instead.
3. Matt will teach a class on Swiss teams and knock-outs before the upcoming sectional and GNT games. John will discuss with Verna holding an information session after one of Verna's games to make players familiar with what happens and the steps in the national competitions.
4. Judy Gerald's will follow up with Bill Cook on his suggestion for volunteer drivers to pick up players who don't drive, especially for the night games.
5. Denise will chair an Outreach group to social bridge clubs. Kay Omanson, Matt, and Judy will join the Outreach effort.
6. John will discuss locking the back doors when games have started with Verna and the other directors.
7. John will bring up the suggestion to start morning games at 10:30 with the Louisville-Lexington Regional committee.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dotty Losey  
LBA Secretary