

**June 24, 2017**  
**Minutes of LBA Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 4:50 p.m. by President Vangie Smith.

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

Board members absent were: Judy Banks, Chuck Fassler, Rachelle Goodwin, Jim Morguelan, and Darlene Pyles.

Verna Goldberg was there as Directors' Representative. Ralph Letizia attended for the Pianola discussion. Kit Overpeck attended as a non-voting member.

Minutes

Vangie Smith moved to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2017, meeting; John Van Cleve seconded; and the motion passed.

President's Report

Vangie reported that an ADA representative studied the handicap parking situation and said that we have all that we are allowed. No handicap spaces were taken away. Vangie can push the landlord for more.

Vice President's Report

Jean Donoho proposed changes for the February 2018 sectional tournament: Friday and Saturday games at 10:00 and 2:30 with no evening games and holding compact knockouts rather than regular knockouts. Kit Overpeck suggested keeping the times as they are now (9:00, 1:00, and 7:00) with pairs in the morning and compact knockouts in the afternoon and evening.

Jean moved to schedule Friday and Saturday games at 10:00 and 2:30 and to hold compact knockouts; Norman Smith seconded; and the motion passed. Jean asked Dotty Losey to update the times on the February 2018 sanction.

Pianola

Beth Dlutowski and Kit Overpeck have looked at Pianola, a software application for bridge club management and administration.

Ralph Letizia, who designed the LBA website, also reviewed Pianola and gave the following feedback. It's a simple website development tool with mailing list functionality. If we moved to Pianola, we would lose the look of our website, with its simple, uncomplicated, and attractive look and easy maintenance. With a new platform, we would need someone with expertise to set up and maintain it. Ralph and Bill Toutant maintain the current website, and they are currently working on making it seamlessly available to additional

devices and on developing a player database. Bill and Ralph can develop any additional functionality the board approves.

Beth noted that another piece of Pianola allows simple communication for tournaments, which we can't do now; only those who have opted in would receive emails. This component is free and independent from the website. The ACBL sometimes sends emails, and others come directly from clubs.

Kit likes the online directory; instead of printing directories, the online version would always be up-to-date per the ACBL's records. He also likes the advanced metrics; in addition to game metrics, individuals can purchase metrics for \$2/month.

Bill and Ralph are not interested in Pianola; Beth and Kit are. There may be someone from the ACBL at the Dayton regional to discuss it. The board agreed to discuss this again at the October meeting. Beth will get a trial and look at it before October, when she will present her findings at the next meeting.

Cost information was not presented. John noted that we can't vote without cost estimates.

#### Maintenance

John reported that light bulbs have been fixed. He has two quotes to add more lights, and he's getting a third. He's still looking for a good maintenance person to fix the threshold air gap; send John names and contact information if you know one. He's also working on a better vent in the training room for more heat. John also will look into options for a training room door.

#### Education

Vangie read Rachele Goodwin's education report, which is included below.

In April we completed another year of bridge club at Bates Elementary. This is the third year of teaching the same group of children. It has been very successful, and we might want to think about expanding lessons to other schools.

On a similar note the high school program has stalled out. It has been difficult to get this age group to commit as they already have full schedules during the week. Is it worth exploring a weekend class for high school and college age people?

The mentor/mentee program will be completed Tuesday, June 27, with a pizza party and final game. We had over 30 pairs of players this year. In August we will be having a single game for mentor/mentees as well.

The supervised game on Tuesday nights has been going great. I have had all positive feedback from the players, and the group continues to grow. Matt has graciously agreed to have a one-hour class before the game, and I was pleased to see that almost all the players show up for this.

Bill McAvinue has agreed to direct an 8 is Enough game this summer or fall. We should look at the calendar and find a day for him to do this. This is another good way to combine new and experienced players in a fun and social manner.

### NLM Tournament

The Non-Life Master tournament is on target for 8/19-20. The Saturday game starts at 10:00, followed by a 2:15 education session and a 3:00 game. On Sunday there will be a 10:00 Swiss team game. Coke provided 100 note pads with pens for give-aways at the NLM tournament.

### Treasurer's Report

Freida Trower distributed two reports: Balance Sheet as of May 31, 2017, and Profit & Loss January through May 2017. Cash looks good with approximately \$26,000 each in checking and savings. There is a big improvement from holding sectional tournaments at the club and avoiding outside rentals.

### NLM Regional Tournament

Vangie thought that Louisville was hosting the district's 2018 NLM regional tournament (which moves among the areas in the district), but it's slated elsewhere. Kit and Vangie decided that since Louisville is doing the GNT next year, it could be better to bid for the NLM regional later. Spreading out our district events could improve our influence in the district. It was agreed to bid on the NLM regional in 2019.

### Styrofoam v. Paper Cups

Paper cups cost 7¢ while Styrofoam cups cost 1¢. The board agreed to continue using the cheaper Styrofoam cups. Using ceramic mugs, either from the kitchen or brought from home, was discussed as a way to be more environmentally and fiscally conscious. Some days the dishwasher is a problem (not emptied when clean, or too many dishes to fit, or occasional problems with operation).

### Guest Speaker

This topic was tabled due to Verna's surgery. She is planning to talk to Randy Baron about guest speakers; we are considering holding clinics followed by a game.

### Calendar

Beth completed the 2017 calendar through December. Any additional activities can be included. She will be away during July and August, and Bill Toutant will cover for her.

John asked if classes could be added to the calendar; this would help with maintenance scheduling.

Cancellations and changes are not handled well. Once a game is on the calendar, it was agreed not to take it back. Beth is asking directors to post any special games. A preview of the coming month is now online, so Beth needs to have input two months ahead. Directors sometimes choose to have a club championship game at the last minute; this is not an issue. The LBA game will stay on Tuesday nights.

### GNT

Kit is the District 11 GNT coordinator, which means that he runs the event. The 2018 GNT will be in Louisville on 2/24-25, one week after our sectional. There will be a one two-session

qualifying event on Saturday for flight B and two two-session qualifying events on Sunday for flights A and C. We need to promote GNT and get a big turnout, touting the sectional as a tune-up for GNT.

Kit noted that STAC hands are now standardized in the district.

### NAP

NAP qualifying games will be held in June, July, and August. Kit wants every director to hold one per month. The NAP game will be held in Cincinnati the week before the November regional.

### Subleases

Vangie gave an overview of Cincinnati's subleases. Cincinnati has a club setup like ours, and they use subleases for the small clubs within the association. Due to our lease, we can't sublease. We want an agreement between the club (basically the building and facilities) and the directors who host games. Verna asked about the penalties for noncompliance. It would most likely be a fine to pay for extra services.

Chuck has rewritten the Cincinnati agreement; Vangie will distribute it to the board for discussion at the next meeting. Verna will discuss this with directors.

### District Ethics Handbook

The District 11 Ethics Handbook is posted on the LBA website. Vangie encouraged everyone to read it.

### Rent Raise

Beth asked when the rent will go up; Vangie will review the lease. We need to have a plan to raise table fees.

### Adjournment

John moved to adjourn the meeting, Jean seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

### Action Items

1. Dotty Losey will update the times on the February 2018 sectional sanction.
2. Beth Dlutowski will review a Pianola trial and present her findings at the October meeting.
3. John Van Cleve will look into options for a training room door.
4. Vangie will distribute the draft club/director agreement to the board for discussion at the next meeting. Verna will discuss this with directors.
5. Vangie will review the lease to determine rent increase dates.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dotty Losey  
LBA Secretary