

Subject to Board Approval

ACBL Unit 246

Board Meeting Minutes 3rd Regular Scheduled Board Meeting of 2009 July 12, 2009

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Unit 246 Board was called to order at 10:30 a.m. on July 12, 2009, the meeting being held at the residence of Linda Lord.

Present:

Board Members: Don Lough, David Hamer, Nick Wong, David Cohen, Rob Hanly, Linda Lord, Graham Warren, Helen Johnston, Tom Kinnear, Rea Rennox, Ian Coats, Bing Wong

Guest: District 2 Representative Paul Janicki

The meeting was called to order with Don chairing the meeting, and the 3 new board members; Rea, Ian and Bing, were welcomed to the Board.

A. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was reviewed and unanimously approved as distributed.

B. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting of May 31, 2009 were unanimously approved as distributed.

C. Treasurer's Report

- 1) The \$20,000 GIC, which is appropriated for the Regional, has matured. Nick will check with Tom on funds required to be available for the upcoming September, 2009 Regional and will reinvest the funds not immediately required into another GIC.
- 2) Hall receipt for the Peterborough sectional was still missing. Nick to follow up with Cindy Forth.
- 3) Advances. Two advances Float Supplies, D. Goden \$500 and Youth Program, D. Goden \$1,000 as still unexplained. Don Lough to follow up with Dwight.
- 4) Nick presented the Budget compared to actual for the year. Trenton sectional was missing from the budget and, for ease of reading, column headings 'annual budget' and 'year-to-date as at "the date"' to be added to the budget presentation.

The actual showed a deficit of about \$2,700 for the period January 1, 2009 though to June 30, 2009. Markham tournament of July 1st (not included in this actual) had a surplus of about \$2,700. The net result would be a break-even as of this meeting date.

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5) STAC process used to determine this Unit's contribution. Nick has sent a note to the Treasurer of Unit 166 asking for an explanation of the process.

D. Membership Chair Report

Dave Hamer presented that the membership has remained constant from 1,250 last year to 1,253 this year.

Don requested a more detailed report for future meetings that would indicate the actual numbers and trends.

E. Tournament Chair Report

- 1) The sanction for the Peterborough tournament for 2010 was approved by e-mail vote prior to this meeting. Peterborough tournament will require a new date as the Kingston Regional is being held May 19-23. Graham will follow up with Cindy Forth.
- 2) Graham advised that the eastern side of Unit 246 is lacking in ACBL sectionals. Deferred for future follow-up.
- 3) The handbook on Tournament procedures still to be posted on the Unit website. Rob to look at the Hospitality write-up. Helen to define her concern on the 'coupons'.
- 4) The 'internet flyer' must come from the ACBL.
- 5) Cell phones. Directors should announce, along with zero tolerance, the shutting off of all cell phones. Paul will find out what penalty is imposed at the National level. The majority of the board members feel an 'imp' penalty is more appropriate than a \$ penalty. The board will vote on the policy for this Unit once all information is available.
- 6) Markham tournament. Nick was congratulated on a very successful tournament. It was noted that there was a problem with the air-conditioning and a suggestion made that next year's flyer should indicate that the 'air conditioning' has been fixed.

F. Education Chair Report

Rea Rennox will provide a report for the next board meeting.

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Other Business:

- 1) Humanitarian Award
A discussion was held on what a 'humanitarian award' means to various board members. Should this award be focused on a person's personal bridge accomplishments or, a more general of what this person has done in the Unit as a humanitarian? David Cohen will send out what he proposes.
- 2) Vote for Vice President
The board voted, and with the majority of votes, Rob Hanly was elected as Vice President.
- 3) Communication Lines
The board has recognized that communication with all clubs of the Unit need to be improved. Ian Coats has agreed to set up an e-mail data base to send all communication to the club level. Helen to forward to Ian the current e-mail information.
- 4) Supplies' Manager
By on-line vote, Dwight Goden was replaced as Supplies' Manger by Dave Hamer to take effect after the Markham July tournament. Dave Hamer to provide an inventory of supplies and a template on the duties and responsibilities of the Manager.
- 5) Adventures in Duplicate Beginner Handbook previously given out by our Unit.
Rea to check with David Cohen and report on the feasibility of the Unit sponsoring this booklet. The purpose, scope and potential cost to the Unit considering the impact of all clubs in the Unit participating.
- 6) Incorporation of the Unit
Nick will proceed with the incorporation. Bing Wong has offered to assist.
- 7) GST/HST
Bing will investigate the process of getting an GST number and the responsibilities of the Unit in filing and claiming GST/HST.
- 8) Youth Bridge
Don stated that one of his objectives is to see 'youth bridge' promoted in our Unit. Rea will take on the role of investigating what is available in the 'youth programme" and will work with Don on future feedback.

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9) Annual Meeting and Nominating Committee

The annual meeting is set for Saturday, November 7th at the Oshawa tournament at 9:30 a.m. Don appointed a 'nominating committee' Helen, Rob and Don. The nominating committee is to ensure that all members of the Unit receive advance notice of the annual meeting and to prepare a schedule of all positions on the board, the election date and the date the term ends.

10) Role of each executive member and their duties

Over the next few meetings, all board positions will be documented, distributed to the Board prior to the meeting and a 5-10 minute presentation on the position will be presented at a future board meeting. The presentations for the next board meeting will be: Don as President, Rob as Vice President and Rea as Education Chair.

11) Barrie Regional

Tom mentioned his concern that this current venue has no accommodation within walking distance and some concern expressed that the Regional is being held on the Jewish high holiday. His suggestion is that both of these items be considered for the next Regional. Some discussion took place about considering another regional within the 3-year period. Deferred to a future meeting.

12) Judiciary Chair

Linda Lord accepted the nomination of becoming the Judiciary Chair for the Unit.

Adjournment and Next Meeting:

Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. by Don Lough. Don thanked Linda, on behalf of the board, for providing the venue and excellent hospitality.

The next general meeting of the Board will be at the Trenton sectional on Saturday, October 3rd from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.