

TRENT VALLEY BRIDGE ASSOCIATION – UNIT 246
MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING #4-2010

Held: Sunday, December 5th, 2010
At: Thornhill Community Centre, 7755 Bayview Ave., Markham, Ontario.

Present: Ian Coats, Greg Coles, Rob Hanley, David Harmer, Helen Johnston, Linda Lord, Don Lough, Bing Wong, Nick Wong, Graham Warren

Regrets: Erfan Ashraf

Absent: Leigh Ives

Chair: Don Lough

Recording Secretary: Bing Wong

With the Directors present, the notice waived and holding of the meeting consented to the meeting was declared properly constituted for the carrying out of business of the Unit. The Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:37 am.

1. **Agenda:** The agenda was approved as presented.
2. **Minutes:** The Minutes of the previous meeting held November 6, 2010 was approved as amended noting that Tom Kinnear was not present at the meeting as recorded.
3. **Tournament Chairman's Report**

Graham distributed a schedule of sanctioned tournaments and dates up to October 2012. It was noted that 2011 sanctions for the Peterborough, Cobourg and Trenton tournaments were missing from the schedule. Graham also pointed out that we still have to obtain the sanction certificate for the upcoming Unit 246 Regional. Lastly, Graham confirmed that Unit 246 will be getting a Regional Tournament in 2011, 2012, 2014 and 2015, with 2013 being the "off-year".

Graham reported a table count of 52 at the recent Oshawa sectional generating a net income of \$770. Players again praised the terrific hospitality sponsored by the Unit and organized by Helen and her committee.

Motion by Ian, seconded by Nick and carried that "the Board to approve the Oshawa tournament budget as submitted".

4. **Treasurer's Report:**

Ian reported that he started discussion with the Bank of Montreal in Ajax about transferring the Unit's bank account there. Ian recommended an account at BMO that's suitable for non-profit organizations. With a minimum deposit BMO charges

no fees and provides 75 free transactions. The need to open Canadian as well as U.S. operating/saving accounts was discussed and agreed. Nick and Don will sign over a \$10,000 check to Ian to open such accounts, and Nick indicated that he will transfer all banking and financial documents to Ian, our new Treasurer, for keeping.

The Board discussed and approved Don, Rob, Ian and Bing as authorized signing officers. Ian agreed to co-ordinate and set up a meeting with BMO and the signing officers to execute the necessary documents to open the new accounts.

5. Review of Organizational Bylaw No. 1

A draft of the proposed Unit's Organizational Bylaw No.1 was circulated prior to the meeting. Bing and Don helped the Directors present review the Bylaw in its entirety during the meeting. Policy issues were discussed, agreed and approved. Bing will add the amendments and make the changes in a final draft for distribution and last review prior to adoption of the Bylaw at the next Board meeting.

6. Surplus Fund & Tournament Entry Fees (TEF)

Another way to return some of the surplus to Unit 246 members was a thought to reduce the TEF for all sectional-rated events to \$10.00 per session. Others think the surplus could be better spent to improve hospitality, education, communication and sponsoring/subsidizing a new tournament for intermediate players.

A motion to reduce the TEF to \$10.00 for all future Unit 246 sectional events was defeated. It was later agreed that discretion, subject to Unit Board approval, be given to local organizers to set the TEF.

7. Education Co-ordination

Rob reported a search for educational material, resources, programs and services that are available to help Unit 246 plan, develop, implement and deliver new education program services to members and to promote bridge within our community.

Rob outlined a need to restructure and organize our education efforts. He envisions a central chair and a group of local coordinators, mentors and teachers. He outlined some of the education program services and funding that are available through and from the ACBL including, but not limited to:

- ACBL co-operative advertising \$1,000 – 75% reimbursement
- School bridge lesson programs, primarily for Grade 7-8 students
- School bridge league
- Junior scholarship program – teach bridge to other kids
- New player services program
- Easy bridge
- ACBL Lesson plans for teachers

Rob sees adding an educational component to the Unit 246 website. He suggests a future brainstorming session for us to discuss and plan such a program.

8. **Date of Next Meeting:** 9:30 am., Sunday, March 27th, 2011 at the Angus Glen Golf Club, Markham, Ontario.
9. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 3:47 pm