

**ROCHESTER AREA BRIDGE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
TEMPLE B'RITH KODESH, ROCHESTER, NY  
JANUARY 18, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Gary Gottermeier, Ken Knight, Barbara McIver, Jan Egger, Bill Hettrick, Jack Kress, Jane Romal, Roger Woodin, Jim Patton, Pat Connell and Lois Sanders.  
Absent were: Scootie Seeman and Priscilla Brown.

The meeting was called to order by President Gary Gottermeier at 10:00 a.m.

**MINUTES:** Ken moved to approve the minutes from our October 15, 2018 meeting, Jim seconded and all approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Barb reported few changes from the last quarterly report. And for the charity game report, the member cash donations were slightly lower than last year, but there were more participants, translating to more revenue, so the total donated to charity was about the same.

There was a discussion on the cost/recovery of making boards. Directors pay RABA to make the boards, and RABA pays Doug Bradley to make them. RABA also provides hand records. RABA loses money in this arrangement. Jim, Ken and Barbara agreed to meet separately to discuss possible ways to address this. Also there was a suggestion that RABA have a budget. Jim, Ken and Barbara will look into this idea.

Gary said that Bruce Toder has asked to take the old duplimator to his home. Currently, no one is using the old duplimator. Bruce uses the new duplimator for free to make his boards; he comes to TBK to do so. Gary says he has no concern about Bruce taking the machine to his home, but when something goes wrong with it, we need to address who will be responsible for repairs.

Jim asked if we have started a new reserve for a replacement duplimator. Barbara answered no. Jim recommended we start doing so at the same rate as we did before, \$250 per tournament, Jane seconded, and all approved. Gary asked Jim to get in touch with Kathy Landon, our former treasurer, to investigate the current cost.

**WEBSITE:** Doug states that he is having no problem with website and the software is adequate. Jim Patton offered to set up a group email for RABA so we can remove the Directors Emails and phone numbers for security reasons. Scam emails and texts have been received by board members. The privacy and financial security of our members should be of utmost concern.

**BRIDGE CENTER:** Our search has come to a halt. It is not financially viable to move our Monday -Thursday games. Fridays are still available at Temple B'rith Kodesh and end date is in Limbo. The temple will keep us informed. We are no longer able to have

lessons at Sinai due to Security reasons. We are reminded that Jewish holidays can interfere with our games as well. The desirability of a bridge center should still be under consideration for the future.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE:** Ken found no material issues with our books but noted that this was his first examination of them since October 2018. The treasurer has the details from all the tournaments and these details have not been reviewed. Barb suggested that we have a budget limit to cover unexpected expenditures, for example the purchase of a new duplicate machine. The Board approved a motion that anything over \$250 needs board approval. Barb cited the carrying case as an example of an unexpected charge.

**GOODWILL PLAYER OF THE YEAR:** Gary nominated Kathy Landon for this title, Ken moved to accept, Jane seconded and all approved. We were reminded that no current board member is eligible, but Kathy left her post as treasurer this year. Ken, as Vice President, will make the award in the absence of Gary at the tournament. Ken asked for a list of criteria to be used in the selection of the Goodwill Player of the Year. Gary assigned Ken with the task of coming up with criteria.

**Appreciation Game:** The divisions will be a bit different in that 499ers and under will pay \$72 per table and be a STaC game. The open section will pay \$60. If you sign up for a STaC game, you will get silver points. Jim, Priscilla and Scootie will be running the game. We were told that we could expect about 80 people. Salvatore's hot menu was approved at an approximate cost of \$672. Graham and Roger will transport the tables from Gary's garage. Barbara will stop by to deliver the checks even though she will not be in attendance at the tournament. It was suggested that the award be given before the tournament begins so that we can have the attention of all the players.

**SPRING SECTIONAL:** It was suggested that perhaps a 499 and open session might be more appropriate. It was determined that it was RABA decision. The board voted and approved. Under 500, the breakdown could be 1-100, 100-300, and 300-500, assuming that all parties agree.

**TOURNAMENT DATES PROPOSED for 2020:** RABA tournament Sunday 2/23/2020, Sectionals: Saturdays and Sundays 3/28-29/2020, 7/11-12/2020, 10/3-4/2020 and Fall Charity tournament Sunday 11/22/2020. Board approved that Gary G should reserve these dates in 2020. The dates in 2019 have already been reserved. Gary G stated that we would have to cancel any date reserved 60 days in advance or be responsible for a 50% payment. No deposit was required. ACBL/District/Unit are looking to have fewer sectional tournaments, but no change is anticipated for 2020.

There was much discussion on Charity Games & RABA Banquet. The poor attendance needs to be addressed. The board will continue to discuss and look at suggestions.

**BUDGET COMMITTEE:** Barb, Ken and Jim will form the Budget Committee.

**MENTORING PROGRAM:** Priscilla sent a letter to RABA, citing that Tom Long is worried he will not be able to continue his mentoring of John Liston, the young man confined to a wheelchair at St. John's Home. Jim offered to send out an email to see if anyone would be available to take Tom's place. It has been Tom's routine to play with John on Wednesday mornings at St. John's Home. Tom should be honored for the many hours he has devoted to this young man.

**WEBSTER COLUMBUS CENTER:** We should use the new designation for Knights of Columbus in our flyer and publications.

**TABLES:** Our tables are showing wear, and a decision needs to be made. Currently Cheryl and Duncan own the tables at Sinai, and Lois thinks it is their responsibility to replace them rather than having RABA do it. Jim offered to price out hard top tables pursuant to a decision. Ken suggested that RABA buy the tables and rent them to Duncan and Cheryl. We have food for thought at our next meeting.

**SCHOLASTIC PROGRAM:** Ken has the idea that a bridge league for kids may make sense. He suggested that the unit might provide bridge books and tee shirts for teachers. The Rochester Chess Center has already adapted a program for kids who want to learn chess, and he thinks that a similar program for budding bridge players could be equally successful. The target may well be middle school students who seem to be the most approachable. McQuaid and Mercy high schools have shown interest as well. A program must be established before the idea is set in motion. Gary suggested a \$500 budget to get things rolling. Roger seconded and all approved. It was noted that at the Buffalo tournaments, kids were participating. We will need to identify school contacts and meet with school representatives before any progress can be made. The Rochester Chess Center is located on Norris Drive and might be a possible location.

**NAME TAGS:** Scootie is absent, but Barb will ask her for a date when the tags might be available. Scootie has created stationery with our RABA logo which will be kept with the secretary. Thank you to Scootie!

**OTHER TOURNAMENT INFORMATION:** Tom Mulgrew has agreed to be partnership chairman for upcoming tournaments. Tournament chair people should make sure his email address is on the flyers they prepare to advertise their games. Participants in tournaments must be ACBL members. Jim has prepared a list of criteria for chair people in preparing their flyers, and it is urgent that the flyers be distributed in a timely fashion so that we get good turn outs for our games.

**List of assets, New sectional Guide Lines and a Communication Plan:** Were distributed and approved by Board.

**NEXT MEETING:** Friday, May 3, 2019 at 10:00 a.m., Temple B'rith Kodesh.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:** Jane moved to adjourn, Jan seconded and all approved.

**RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED,**  
Patricia Connell, Secretary