

ROCHESTER AREA BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

TEMPLE B'RITH KODESH, ROCHESTER, NY

MAY 3, 2019

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

The meeting was called to order by President Gary Gottermeier at 10:05 a.m.

MINUTES: Jim suggested the following amendments to the January Minutes.

- In the Treasurers Report: "The Board decided not to let any director take the old duplimator offsite."
- In the Constant Contact item: "Cindy Reid reports that Constant Contact is working fine."

Ken moved accept the report as amended, Barb seconded, and all approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Barbara McIver reported \$400 income from the Appreciation Game, \$95 less than the previous year. Spring Sectional net proceeds of \$1,975 was better than the last year which was \$1,192. Compliments were received on the menu which consisted of healthier food choices.

\$250 is set aside for the new duplimator. A check was received from the Genesee Valley Bridge Club (no longer in operation) in the amount of \$378.94. This could be used towards the purchase. Bruce asked if he could take the old duplimator home to use. After much discussion, it was decided not to loan it to anyone. After more discussion, the Board decided to try selling the old machine. Jim was asked to place an ad on e-Bay with an asking price of \$750 with the understanding that we could take \$500. Before placing the ad, we would offer the machine to Bruce and to Mary at \$500. Ken moved to approve, and Barb seconded; the motion passed.

Barb noted she discovered some inconsistencies on charges for duplimating boards. The board agreed that going forward, RABA would charge \$5/set to duplimate boards and provide hand records; Doug would be paid \$4/set.

RABA has a credit card issued by Key Bank which has a \$5,000 credit limit. This is to be used only by the treasurer and not for all purchases. New playing cards could be purchased using the card.

RABA uses Constant Contact to communicate with members. It costs \$400 per year. Most email providers restrict the number of recipients of any email; Constant Contact solves this problem, is easy to use, and simplifies communications.

Barbara pointed out that RABA is not tax exempt because it is considered a social club.

SUMMER SECTIONAL: Chaired by Jane and Jack, the game will not allow Life Master*s who have less than 499 points to play in the 499 game (*Those who earned the title with fewer points under the old laws.) The change was made to attract more 499'ers to the game. ACBL does not dictate how individual clubs handle this situation according to Lois. Jane will hire a caterer and charge \$8.00 per meal.

FALL SECTIONAL: Chaired by Bill Hettrick and Pat Connell, the game will be held on September 28th and 29th. A new flyer was prepared by Jim Patton. The start of Sunday game was moved from 10:30 am to 10:00 am since Rosh Hashana starts that evening; the Saturday game will start at 10:30 am. Barb suggested that the 499ers be offered a team game with fewer boards. The idea of a three-day sectional was proposed, but Gary sees no need for an extra day since a game on Friday may reduce participation on Saturday and involve the need for overnight housing. At the end, no changes were made.

TEAM GAMES: Lois says we should encourage team games because extra points are offered. Mary Lou Lawson offers a team game for her 199ers, and Mary Miller offers several team games in Canandaigua. Bruce Toder has two per month with up to six on a team.

OTHER SECTIONAL INFORMATION: Doug is not interested in being a sectional director. Lois says that the unit will eliminate one sectional game per year, but that should not affect the three RABA games. After discussion, it was decided 10:30 am should be the default starting time for sectional games unless there was a specific reason to change (as noted for September 29th.)

CHARITY AND APPRECIATION GAMES: We need to increase attendance in these games; and Gary suggested that they be played on the same weekend on subsequent days – Saturday, the Appreciation pairs game with a free lunch; and Sunday – the Charity team game with lunch provided by RABA at a cost to participants. Since the Appreciation Game is now held in February, we face the risk of inclement weather and loss of attendance due to many going south for the winter. Only local people are eligible to play in the Appreciation Game now, but Priscilla suggested it be open to all who might be interested. The Charity game is held in November, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, and many may find this an awkward time to play. Gary will check with the Columbus Center to see what times are available. Roger expressed concern because the combined game may seem just like one more sectional. Jim moved that we vote on this issue at another meeting, Ken seconded and all approved. Gary asked Roger to be committee chairman of a group investigating event locations.

AWARDS: RABA issues “The Goodwill Player of The Year Award”; other awards are issued by the unit. Ken suggested that we make more of the awards by taking pictures, interviewing recipients and writing reviews of the events. This year’s Goodwill Player’s name will be sent out by Ken. Anyone not on the board is eligible for the award.

DIRECTORY: Gary asked Jim to rewrite the directory.

NEW TABLES: We need 40 new tables, and Jim had ordered one made by Cosco (not Costco) at a cost of \$39.88 as a trial. RABA has approved the proposal to buy 40 new tables for Sinai. The proposal is RABA pays for 20 tables, and Bruce and Duncan each pay for 10 tables and RABA will own all of the tables. We need to confirm with both Bruce and Duncan that they are amenable to the plan. Priscilla suggested that we go thru Bed Bath & Beyond and use 20% discount coupons to reduce the price. Pat offered to contact the company (Cosco) directly to see what kind of quantity discount we could get for buying 40 all at once. Lois pointed out handling of the tables by custodial staff at Temple Sinai as they continually set them up and put them away is the likely cause of the rips and tears in the tops.

RABA NAME TAGS & PICTURES: “SevenNoTrump.com” makes personalized RABA name tags for \$7 each plus a \$5 shipping fee. The shipping fee would be the same \$5 whether we bought 100 or one tag. Scooty will organize a plan for RABA members to participate in a group order. Jim will promote using Constant Contact.

We would like to have a picture of every RABA member on file so the face shows on “Common Game.” That picture is missing for many members. Bruce Toder can submit the pictures + ACBL number to the ACBL to make this happen. Scooty will organize the effort.

AWARD WINNERS: Sandy Stockton will bring a list of members whose rank has changed so that they can be recognized. For example, Regional Life Master, Life Master, Gold Life Master, etc.

UNIT REPORT: Lois pointed out that RABA is a functionary establishment, not a decision making one. The unit issues awards for Mini McKinney and Ace of Clubs along with the rank change recognition. The unit will have one less sectional in 2020, as previously stated.

NEXT MEETING: June 7th or June 14th. Gary will confirm date.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Scootie moved to adjourn, Pat seconded and all approved.

RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED,

Patricia Connell, Secretary.