

# Rochester Area Bridge Association Board Meeting Minutes

Temple Sinai Wednesday, January 8, 2020

**Present:** Board Members Ken Knight, Jack Kress, David LaTart, Jerry Manioci, Barb McIver, Jane Romal, Scootie Seeman and President, Jim Patton. **Absent:** Priscilla Brown, Jan Egger and Marsha Raines.

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Patton at 10:00 a.m. Minutes from the October 11th meeting were approved as written.

## Updates from the President included:

- Unit 112 Meeting: The Unit feels pressured by District 4 to reduce the number of Regionals from 8 to 5 in 2021. After the meeting, RABA agreed to cancel the 2021 Summer Sectional as it falls two weeks from the Regional and we were having problems securing a venue. Jim will pursue having the third (Summer) sectional at least in even years.
- B'rith Kodesh: There is still no date when Doug might have to move his game.
- Thoughts on Sectionals: Barbara moved, and Ken seconded, that we set up a Tournament Committee to work on ideas for changes that would improve Sectional attendance and satisfaction. The motion was approved.
- Jim passed out a Bridge Etiquette sheet which is also posted on our website. All agreed we need to make members aware of it. Roger will use it for one of his lessons; sheets will be distributed at a Tuesday game.
- Jim announced he added David LaTart to the Nominating Committee.
- The meeting dates and times for future Board Meetings were announced: 3:30 pm after the game at Sinai on Tuesdays, April 14th, August 18th and November 3rd

## Financial Update:

- Treasurer's Report - Barbara announced that we have net proceeds for the period 10/12/19-1/8/20 of \$745.38 and a working cash balance of \$12,260.37.
- The Monday night game has continually needed a subsidy the last few months (low attendance.) Marcia Raines committee will discuss this.
- Ken gave the Audit Report which gave good marks to the financial reports for the August 2018 – July 2019 Fiscal Year. Jerry motioned and Jane seconded that we accept it.
- Jim is now authorized to sign checks in case Barb is not available.

## 2020 Initiatives:

- Marsha submitted a New Player Committee Statement which was excellent.
- Roger's Tuesday Lessons and Sally Hill's Mentoring Program were discussed. We should continue both we both these excellent programs.
- Ken submitted a report on Youth Bridge. He is waiting for feedback from a decision maker at Brighton Rec for a Fall Program.
- Roger suggested on a possible Youth Program thru Brighton Rec on Saturday morning. He is currently giving adult classes at Brighton Rec and knows the right contacts. He feels we could start the program relatively soon. Jane moved and Jerry seconded it that we go ahead with a program.
- Roger moved and Ken seconded that we have a Memorial Game honoring RABA member who have passed away during the year. We will probably schedule the game on a Tuesday in November. Jim will work with Duncan on the details

**Charity Game Update:**

- The game is scheduled for Sunday, February 23rd at the Webster Columbus Center
- Ken and the Committee have most of the details under control. We still need folks to move the tables from Gary Gottermeier's garage to the WCC.
- The new title was decided to be "Benefit" not "Charity" and the beneficiary will be New Player Development, primarily for youth bridge. Ken will have sign-up sheets at the Tuesday and Wednesday games.
- The Board agreed to hold the next charity game will be in February 2021, not November 2020. Jim will try to schedule the Webster Columbus Center for the 14th or the 21st.

**Sectional Updates:**

- Barb gave a report on guidelines for ordering food. About 60% of the people playing on Sunday order lunch from RABA over the last few years. The recommendation is to do a hand count on Sunday morning to finalize the number of lunches we need.
- Since Priscilla could not make the meeting and Marsha was out sick, there was no report on the Spring event.

**RABA Player of the Year:**

- The board made a unanimous choice.

**RABA Spending for 2020:**

- Jim explained what items RABA owns (Boards, Cards, Cases, Bridge Mates, Tournament Bidding Boxes), what items the directors own (Weekly game Bidding Boxes, Table Cards), and what items are jointly owned (tables).
- We need to replace all the boards and carrying cases over the next few years
- Jane moved and Ken seconded that we purchase four sets of boards and four carrying cases each year until all the boards/cases are replaced. All were in favor. The cost will be approximately \$575 this year.

**Bridge Mentoring:**

- Tom Long has mentored and partnered with a gentleman from the Episcopal Home who has cerebral palsy for a few years now.
- Tom came to the meeting to announce he needed to move on. He thanked us for letting him be the mentor. The truth is we owe him a huge thanks for his selfless work over the last few years.

**New Business:**

- David mentioned that Irondequoit is working on a plan to develop the Medley Center; that may be a possible site for the Bridge Center in the future. Ken asked if we are going to reprise the Committee. No firm decision was made; we will see what we learn from the Medley center.

David made a motion to adjourn and Barbara seconded it. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully  
submitted, Scootie  
Seeman, Secretary