



Minutes of the District 17 Board of Directors Meeting

May 4, 2021 via Zoom Video Conference
(as amended at the July 6, 2021 video conference meeting)

Present: Liz Hamilton (President), Cindy Shoemaker (National Board), John Grossmann, Lakin Hines, JoAnne Lowe, Steve Nordberg, Jennifer O’Neill, Bill Phillips, Steve Reynolds, Richard Rosenthal, Sharon Smith

THE PRESIDENT CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 8:10 AM, PDT

GENERAL

Opening Remarks

Liz Hamilton

Liz Hamilton thanked everyone for the work they are doing. She particularly expressed appreciation to Bonnie Bagley and Sharon Smith for their success in recruiting teams from D17 to participate in Grand National Team competition.

Approval of March 2021 Minutes

Bill Phillips

Jennifer O’Neill moved that the March 2021 Minutes be approved as submitted. Seconded by JoAnne Lowe. Carried unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report

Jennifer O’Neill

John Grossmann moved that the Treasurer’s Report be accepted as submitted and reported. Seconded by JoAnne Lowe. Carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Website

Liz Hamilton

JoAnne Lowe is maintaining the calendar. Liz and Sharon are posting items. Sharon pointed out that Goodwill ambassadors for 2021 are not posted on the website. One of the Goodwill awardees, Chris Dorton, did not get listed in the May 2021 issue of the Buzz. JoAnne mentioned that the dates for tournaments are listed on the website through 2024.

Education Committee Report

Sharon Smith

Swiss team coaching was effective and well-received. Districts 7, 9 and 23 were inspired by District 17 to establish similar programs. A total of 28 teams signed up for GNT: 4 for Flight A, 14 for Flight B, and 28 for Flight C. Buzz and Facebook are being used for advertising, along with Pianola and Constant Contact. The 99er Nite Club table count is holding up well. Sharon requested that D17 Board members send her information about local classes they are offering, be they virtual or in-person.

Western Conference Report

John Grossmann

Cindy Shoemaker was elected President of the Western Conference. The current balance in the WC treasury is about \$6,000. The WC website has been shut down. WC has run STaC games for many years. These events provide an opportunity to earn silver points, but very few players earn extra points because of a high finish when tallied across the participating clubs. The exit process requires nine months if D17 decides to withdraw. There was discussion as to whether District 17 might operate STaC events on a no-profit basis. Jennifer pointed out that heretofore District 17 gained \$15 to \$18 thousand per year from participation in WC STaC. If D17 chose to run no-profit STaC events there would be a significant loss of revenue. Liz pointed out that STaC games could be run as a no-profit service, or they could be run as a revenue generator and the proceeds used for other services. Liz Hamilton moved that *D17 withdraw from the Western Conference*. The motion was not seconded but extensive discussion continued. The motion was not formally tabled, and no vote was taken [but see **Western Conference Revisit** on the next page].

National Board Report

Cindy Shoemaker

The next ACBL National Board meeting will take place in July. There will be many committee meetings between now and then. Cindy will keep us informed about ongoing developments.

Policy Manual and Financial Matters

Jennifer O'Neill

Jennifer requested job descriptions from everyone vis-à-vis their responsibilities, duties, and standard procedures.

Jennifer O'Neill moved that *all IN tournaments will get one Pianola mailing*. Seconded by JoAnne Lowe. The motion was clarified to refer to Non-Life Master (NLM) Regional tournaments. The amendment was not formally accepted by the seconder. A vote was taken. Carried unanimously.

Jennifer proposed that Regional tournament entry fee be increased to \$14 per player. JoAnne suggested that the time is not right to raise the fee because of various factors that might discourage people from attending tournaments. Liz mentioned that Las Vegas would like to raise the entry fee to \$14 for the 2021 Las Vegas Regional. Many people spoke in favor of increasing the entry fee. The consensus was that increasing the entry fee by \$1 would not meaningfully impact attendance or participation. Cindy advocated raising the entry fee uniformly for all Regionals to \$14. John Grossmann spoke in favor of leaving the entry fee at \$13 unless there is a compelling reason to increase it. Jennifer moved that *we raise the entry fee for District 17 Regional tournaments to \$14. Those who already have an approved RTP may maintain their agreed-upon fee structure*. Seconded by Lakin Hines. The vote was 7 in favor and 3 opposed. Motion carried.

Grant Requests

Steve Nordberg

Grant request from Unit 355. Request was for \$1,000. Jennifer O'Neill moved that *we fund \$500 initially and they can come back with an additional request if needed*. Seconded by Sharon Smith. Carried unanimously.

Grant request from Unit 359. Requested \$400 for print advertising and \$100 for ACBL membership, a total of \$500. Motion by JoAnne Lowe that *we give them \$500*. Seconded by Jennifer O'Neill. Carried unanimously.

Grant request from Unit 363. Motion by Jennifer O'Neill *we fund Unit 363 \$500 to start the process, and that they can come back for more*. Seconded by Lakin Hines. Carried unanimously.

Western Conference Revisit

Cindy Shoemaker

Cindy sought closure on the Western Conference discussion. Motion by Liz Hamilton that *the Western Conference be dissolved*. Seconded by Steve Reynolds. The vote was 7 in favor, 3 abstaining. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Jennifer O'Neill. Seconded by Lakin Hines. Carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:35 AM PDT.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 from 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM PDT, via video conference

Respectfully submitted,

William D. Phillips

Scribe