

ROCHESTER DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 10, 2020

Board meeting called to order by President Arne Fockler at 10:04am on Wednesday, June 10th via teleconference.

Present were Arne, Ed Prosser, Matt Belau, Mary Jo Kelly, Betty Shidler, Cindy Heins, Gloria Georger, Linda Grigoleit, and Yvonne Steiroff. Bob Roediger was also in attendance. Ex-officio members in attendance were Sue Greenberg and Kathy Maegerlein.

President's quote: "If you've always done it that way, you're probably doing it wrong."
-- Charles Kettering

Board items that required voting included:

- **April's Treasurer report** was approved (9-0, motion: Mary Jo, second: Ed) as submitted with the update of actual revenue from the ACBL for the month.
- **May Board Minutes** were approved (9-0, motion: Betty, second: Linda) as submitted.
- The **Alzheimer's Association schedule of games** was approved (9-0, motion: Betty, second: Matt, see schedule below).
- **Alzheimer's Association Fundraiser games entry fee** of \$8 was approved (9-0, motion: Linda, second: Cindy).
- **Virtual Director's fees** were approved (9-0, motion: Matt, second: Cindy, see figures below).

Board items discussed that did not require a vote:

- President's report: No report.
- Treasurer's report:
 - Kathy reported that **the RDBC made money last month** (roughly \$1,300 after paying our monthly rent obligation). The big difference resulting in this positive cash flow was that in May we had not paid any game directors. We held 24 games and 270 tables in May. Sue added that both the Friday afternoon and Thursday night games have seen much higher table counts since going online, and the addition of the Saturday evening game has also helped our table count.
 - Actual income figures from the ACBL for March and April finally came in, and **the April Treasurer's report was updated** to reflect the hard numbers. (April's income from the ACBL was \$1,377 vs the estimated \$1,173.) The Board approved the updated April report.
 - There was a miscellaneous charge on May's Treasurer's report of \$600 which was for **the federal filing of the non-profit forms**. Kathy indicated the filing forms were mailed on May 31st, received by the IRS on June 2nd, and the RDBC check had not yet been cashed.
 - Because the monthly income from the online games doesn't come through until around the 15th of the month, **the May Treasurer's report was tabled** until next month's meeting.
- Club manager's report:
 - The Longest Day schedule was discussed and approved. This year the **Alzheimer's Association Fundraiser games** will be played on Saturday, June 20th. Games were approved to be held at 10am, 1pm, and 7pm, with a table fee of \$8 (see votes above).

Gloria had recommended a higher table fee as this is for such a good cause, but it was ultimately decided that during the games a link would be provided to players to the RDBC donation page for those wishing to make an additional donation. Sue reported that to date we've had between \$500 and \$600 in donations. Greg, Matt and Sue will work out the schedule of Directors for these games.

- Sue discussed trying a **3rd Friday parking lot happy hour**, where bridge players could bring their own chairs, beverages, snacks, and properly social distance – so people get to see one another. The idea was well received by the Board, although with the rent break we're getting from Pagenhart for June and July it was decided to revisit this idea in August.
- At present, none of our online Directors have been paid for their time in setting up and running games. The topic of **Virtual Director compensation** was discussed, as at some point a Director may want to be compensated (and the Board agreed they should be) for providing their service. Various existing rates paid elsewhere were discussed, but ultimately the Board decided to pay online Directors \$35/session for a game they directed where they were ineligible to play (for example, an Open player directing a limited masterpoint game) and if a Director could not play in a game they were directing *because* they were directing it, the fee would be \$40/session.
 - Bob cautioned against **setting a precedent of paying too much for Directors** online, as at some point we'll be back to face-to-face table games and may not be able to (or want to) continue paying this rate at that time.
 - Kathy added that the **Director's fees would be considered taxable income** to them and that they would be getting 1099s from the RDBC for the reported compensation.
- Bob, Sue, Cindy, and Arne continue to work **on finding a new physical location for future games**. St. Luke's was discussed again (see May 2020 Minutes) with the possibility of some negotiating on their user fee. Sue will visit a few more locations this week, some sounding more promising than others. Bob suggested 499er tournaments would be more likely to be held at a church location on a weekday (vs a weekend, when churches are typically busier). Sue added that many smaller clubs play in local senior centers, although Rochester's senior center's terms are not favorable for a bridge group. Arne had little luck with Autumn Ridge, as did Gloria with the Rochester Country Club, but Sue said we will keep looking at possibilities and doing comparison costs. Bob added rental fees will almost surely be higher going forward, and that we'll have to look at other costs and how we might cut back (or bump table fees).
- There has been a lot of interest in **an additional online 499er game** during the week. The Board agreed this was a good idea, and Sue will look into seeing how this could fit into the current schedule.
- The idea of **playing more than 18 boards per online session** was brought up; Ed wondered why they all couldn't be 21 or 24. Sue indicated it's up to the Directors that run the games, but that generally it had been agreed to be consistent with number of boards played so players know what to expect.
- Arne and Matt will keep working on **chat bridge options online** and report next month.
- Sue asked Board members to **review the ACBL guidelines for club safety considerations** when we re-open at the Club, even if the reopening ends up being several months away. (Those guidelines can be found at this URL: <https://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/F2F.pdf>.) RDBC teachers are having to either postpone classes or are trying to figure out how to ZOOM classes online, but some fall classes have already been cancelled.
- Gloria alerted (!) that today is **Ron Seeger's 90th birthday**. Everyone wishes him well!

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made (Cindy), seconded (Linda) and approved (9-0) to end the meeting at 11:20a. The next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 8th.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Belau, Secretary to the Board