

Lake County Duplicate Bridge Club
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
February 9, 2022

Present: Directors: Jim Carpenter (JC), President; Linda Edwards (LE), Vice President; Virginia Parker (VP), Secretary; Barbara Benedict (BB), Treasurer; Ralph Dolan (RD) and Joan Mager (JM). **Guests:** Lindley d'Ouille (Ld), Club Accountant; Jiggs Zamierowski (JZ), Interim Club Manager

Determination of a Quorum

With all members present, a quorum was determined as present.

Approval of January 12, 2022, Annual Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the Club's Annual Meeting, held January 12, 2022, were approved. (motion RD/second BB)

Approval of January 12, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the January 12, 2022, Board of Directors Meeting were approved. (motion JC/second BB)

Treasurer's Report

Lindley d'Ouille (Ld), club accountant, presented the January 2022 balance sheet and profit and loss statement. She noted the \$2,000 loss for the month is the result of paying our insurance premium and our being on a cash basis as opposed to accrual. Ld also cited the continued generosity of our members and the income of \$1250 due to a gift of \$1,000 and the donation of the fees for his classes by Walter Bogaerts. The monthly report was approved. (motion RD/second BB)

Ld reported there have been no changes to the preliminary year-end financials submitted at the January 12, 2022, meeting, so that report could be considered as final. The 2021 year-end report was approved (motion JC/second VP)

The bank signature card required to list Barbara Benedict (BB) as the new club treasurer can now be completed, since the bank requires a copy of the approved minutes indicating her appointment. Ld and BB will complete the process.

Ld and Jiggs Zamierowski (JZ) reported a discrepancy in their records on the number of members who have paid their 2022 dues; one shows 65, the other 67. Virginia Parker (VP) asked how that number compares with the renewals pre-pandemic, but no comparison has been made. Ld will check.

Reports

President's Report

President Jim Carpenter (JC) reported on initiating a concurrent game, with sections for those over and under 299 master points, to begin Feb. 16. An email notice to members has been circulated. If the minimum required 2 ½ tables of 299-ers is not achieved, those players will join the over-299 section. He asked everyone to encourage players with lower points, especially those who have not yet resumed playing, to attend the game. JZ is to check with ACBL to see if a sanction fee must be paid for concurrent games.

JC discussed the need to pursue former players who have not yet renewed their memberships. The problem of no centralized list covering members, addresses, phone contact and email addresses was addressed as well as the lack of any position's responsibility for maintaining such a list. VP noted her data collection team's hearing of privacy concerns from members who are willing to provide such information to the club but do not wish it to be accessible to any outside the membership. Currently there is no system in place to allow for that. JC tabled the issue for future discussion and resolution.

JC announced his wish to table a decision on raising the price of drinks to \$1 in light of the minimal impact the action would have on the club finances and the other more serious issues the Board and members must address. He brought up resuming the availability of snacks and the option of a 15-minute "snack break" during games to both please those who wish to have snacks and offer a period of socializing during the games. Any discussion and decision were tabled.

The President's Report was approved (motion BB/second JM).

Club Manager's Report

JZ distributed his report and reviewed that the transition to his assuming the position has been smooth. He complimented Jerry Robie on the extra work put in for compiling the year's schedule of special games to overlap with our seasonal member influx. Game participation has continued to climb, with January's table numbers higher than December's.

Discussion followed on JZ's wish to see games added, especially Swiss games and/or a morning game for players with fewer master points. JZ will set up a brainstorming group to include JC, Joan Mager (JM), Ralph Dolan (RD) and Nancy Williams, if available, within a week.

The shortage of game directors persists, although the return of Denise Erwin has helped. That is, however, offset by Dave Bischooping's recent back surgery, which will require three weeks rehab before he is able to resume. So far JZ is able to see all games are covered. The Director Study Group has suspended meeting for now due to JC's COVID exposure. Ld contacted former member Susan Fraser, now in The Villages, who reported they are also facing a director shortage, but she will let Ld know if any directors there are willing to work our games. Ld also said the game directors are now turning game income over to her or BB rather than making the deposits.

The Club Manager's Report was approved (motion JC/second VP).

Education Committee Report

Nancy Williams (NW), Education Chair, was out-of-town but submitted a report. She detailed the success of the mentoring program, thanking the mentors, and the success of Walter Bogaerts's two classes, attended by eleven members. Walter generously donated class fees back to the club.

The Education Committee's Report was approved (motion JC/second RD).

Facilities Manager Report

Dave Bischooping (DB), Facilities Manager, was absent as was JJ Bursell, his assistant. RD observed the men's room plumbing problem has been repaired. JC said the shed repairs, which may be more extensive than thought, are tabled pending DB's return from surgery.

Other Standing Committees/Programs

RD said the Partnership Desk has continued to facilitate successful matches. There were no reports from the Ethics Committee (LE), Sunshine Chair (Thelma Martin), Purchasing Chair (Babs Treiber) or Web Master (Bryce Norwood).

Old Business

Club Manager Search Committee

VP said the committee is awaiting information, now that JZ is fully in the manager role, on which tasks in the job description can be handled remotely. This information will not only allow JZ to cover tasks while north for the summer, if necessary, but will allow the committee to better determine how much time a club manager would have to be on site versus working from the convenience of home—information that could be useful in recruiting or understanding how the job might be shared among several people. JZ said the position's salary is low and would be a deterrent to finding a replacement who sees the post strictly as a job rather than a means of helping the club through affection or loyalty. He said ACBL has been officially notified of the transfer to him from Jerry Robie. VP will look into placing ads for the position in bridge publications, and JZ will have game directors remind players before games to suggest candidates.

Data Collection

VP reported additional corrections to member data have been relayed as she processes more of the caller results. She noted there are still many gaps due to unreturned calls, inactive numbers and incomplete answers by some respondents. The problem of fragmented data, as discussed during the President's Report, was reiterated. The Board agreed the scattered membership data is a problem and hinders efforts to contact absent members to encourage their return to playing. It will continue to look for a solution, and VP will continue to process the caller results. Ld said she will update the Board with any additional information on how many members have paid their 2022 dues.

Other

A plaque of appreciation was presented to Jerry Robie for his service to the club before the January 26 game. JC was thanked for his kind remarks on behalf of the club.

The *ad hoc* group that met to brainstorm ways to revitalize the club is the source of the scheduled February 16 concurrent game. No further meetings were announced as scheduled.

New Business

Insurance

Ld asked for someone with insurance expertise to review the club's policy. Linda Edwards (LE), because of her legal background, volunteered if no one else comes forward. RD will ask if a person he knows would be willing.

Meeting Time

RD asked the meeting start time be switched to 10:30 to allow time for Board members to have lunch before the 1 p.m. game. There were no objections, and JC authorized the change.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:22 (motion JC/second BB)

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Parker, Secretary