

ADOBE BRIDGE CLUB
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FEBRUARY 14, 2024

President Pam Krisak called the meeting to order at 10:35 via Zoom. David Pearlman served as Secretary.

Directors Pam Krisak, Ram Sundaresan, Barry Abrahams, Penny Storry, Debbie Keller, David Pearlman, Cayce Blanchard, and John Farbarik attended. Director Pat Klein did not attend.

Club Manager Eric Swanson and Adobe member Liz Detloff also attended.

Minutes

President Krisak noted that draft minutes of the meeting of January 12 had been circulated before the meeting. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Financial Statements

Ram Sundaresan reported on the January financial results and compared them to January of 2023. Table count was significantly higher (even excluding the NLM games), resulting in greater revenue, and expenses were moderate, with no unexpected items.

Ram also noted that he had circulated a proposed budget for 2024 and requested that members review and comment on it.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the financials were unanimously accepted as presented.

Club Management

Several players have passed the ACBL Director's exam and will begin directing soon. David Pearlman will prepare a handout for both players and the new directors outlining the most common reasons for director calls, and the rules applicable to those situations.

Software issues relating to the recent malware attack have been resolved, and Bridgemates are once again working properly.

Microsoft will soon stop supporting Windows 10. There followed a discussion that included Barry Abrahams as to what, if anything, the club should do in response, and agreement was reached on the proper approach.

Pam Krisak noted that no candidates have yet emerged for the position of Lead Director. David Pearlman will propose to the Unit board that an announcement be made at the Regional that starts February 27.

The Board approved having a new 749er game on Saturdays beginning March 16. Bill Schelstrate will direct.

The Board agreed that future meetings would be held at 9:00 on the second Friday of each month. Cayce Blanchard urged that at least some meetings be held in person, and Pam Krisak said she would do so.

Webmaster

Penny Storry reported that she has begun a complete revamp of the Club's website. Goals are to improve the look and feel of the site, and to declutter the homepage by limiting it to current topics and to blurbs about other topics that will contain links to more complete information.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Conduct and Ethics

David Pearlman reported he had received several verbal complaints related to player conduct. One of them will result in him having a discussion with a player.

He also initiated a discussion of when requests for scoring corrections can be made to the director, and how those requests should be handled. He will prepare a handout for players and directors on the subject, including ways for players to review their scores quickly after the game. Eric Swanson will review it, then its contents will eventually be posted on the website.

Education

Pam Krisak and Ram Sundaresan provided an update on current classes. Ram proposed, the Board concurred, that there be 30 to 45 minute lessons before the new 749er game, and the Wednesday 499er games, except for the Wednesdays of the monthly mentor games.

Facilities and Maintenance

John Farbarik reported on routine maintenance items. He also repeated his belief that the Board should get started on refurbishing the apartment in the main building. A lengthy discussion of the pros and cons ensued. The subject will be taken up again at the next meeting.

Membership and Publicity

Cayce Blanchard has completed a fundraising letter. The Board approved its distribution to the membership. Pam Krisak appointed members to a newly formed ad hoc Fundraising Committee: Cayce Blanchard (chair), Julie Carnes, Kathy Mitton, Penny Storry and Ram Sundaresan, and the board ratified the appointments.

Cayce reported on the results of the player survey. Players most want the following: a stronger set of directors, variety in snacks served at the games, some 30 to 45 minute lessons, and establishment of a 749er game.

Cayce also reported on the progress of the directory update project, which is going well.

Hospitality

Penny Storry was complimented on her handling of the recent Sunday StaC game, having provided excellent refreshments while coming in under budget. Players also appreciated the raffle prizes. Per the results of the player survey, she will provide a wider selection of refreshments at club games.

Non-Life Master

Debbie Keller reported on recent NLM attendance at open games, at 499er games and at mentor games. NLM attendance trends are good in all categories.

New Business

The board agreed that financial and other information should be provided to the members sooner than they currently are. Accordingly, preliminary financial reports and draft minutes will be posted on the website and labeled as such as soon as practical after each board meeting. If there are changes to the preliminary documents the final versions will be posted on the website after approval at the next board meeting.

Pam Krisak announced the creation of an ad hoc Technology Committee, and appointed Debbie Keller (chair), John Farbarik, Kathy Mitton, Penny Storry and Barry Abrahams as members, who were ratified by the Board.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

David J. Pearlman
Secretary