

FTLBC Board of Governors' Meeting Minutes
Meeting Date – March 11, 2024

4:07 p.m. – Meeting called to order by President Jonathan Salt

Board members present: Daniel Tordella, Allen Bozek, Bella Ionis-Sorren, Rick Shapiro, Alan Rubin and Jonathan Salt.

Club manager Emilio Lopez was present.

FTLBC members Michael Schneider, Daniel Woerner, Keith Gellman and Barbara Tate were also present.

1. **February Board Meeting Minutes:**

Minutes of the February 12, 2024 FTLBC Board meeting were approved.

2. **2025 Cruise Report:**

The Board revoked its previous approval of the 2025 contemplated FTLBC Bridge Sectional at Sea Cruise and requested a refund of the \$2,600.00 deposit from cruise organizer Mindy Aiken pending re-examination and evaluation of the matter.

3. **Keith Gellman Report**

ACBL Unit 243 Unit President and FTLBC member Keith Gellman reported:

- a. There will be an awards/recognition ceremony at FTLBC for winners of the Ace of Clubs and Mini McKinney contests as well as an award for BBO winner(s) for 2023.
- b. Unit 243 has funds available for specific requests / special occasions by clubs in the Unit. President Salt will investigate possible applicable requests by FTLBC.

- c. Mr. Gellman, speaking only as an FTLBC member, expressed concern that the absence of *Swiss teams* games at FTLBC for the newer players is a missed opportunity for income. He suggested having Swiss teams games on a Sunday.
4. **Treasurer's report:** Treasurer Rick Shapiro reported:
- a. **January – February 2024**
 - (1) Total bank, *PayPal* and petty cash/change balance was \$93,366.67 as of 2/29/24.
 - (2) FTLBC showed a net operating gain of \$45,217.38 for the two-month period ending 2/29/24.
 - (3) **ERC:** The IRS has frozen payments for Employee Retention Credit because of its ongoing fraud investigations. FTLBC has an application pending for an ERC payment.
 - (4) The Board approved opening a \$50,000 interest bearing account. The finance committee will proceed accordingly.
 - (5) **Cash Handling:** Board member Alan Rubin volunteered to take over (from the Club Treasurer) the FTLBC cash counting and deposit duties along with the club manager (two persons verify each cash deposit). Board members Allen Bozek and Bella Ionis-Sorren also volunteered to help as needed.
5. **Club Manager's report:**
- a. **Table count** for February 2024 was 423 (plus 112.5 table from the sectional tournament) compared to 390 in February 2023.
 - b. **Advertising:** The new banner has been placed on the fence near SE 7th Street and Federal Highway.

- c. The Longest Day: Club member and director Daniel Woerner presented a *Longest Day* proposal, which is an ACBL – wide event, with morning, afternoon and night bridge games, to raise funds for Alzheimer Disease research. Barbara Tate volunteered to help. Many thanks to Daniel and Barbara for getting this event re-started. The event is planned for June 17, 2024.

6. **President's report:**

- a. President Salt advised that interest by the Allegro Senior Living Center regarding possible sponsorship / advertising by Allegro at FTLBC has waned.
- b. Honor Roll / Recognition Boards: Concern was voiced regarding inconsistent treatment of donations by generous Club members. President Salt volunteered to draft a policy to address the issue.
- c. Zero tolerance: Renewed focus on zero tolerance compliance, including posting of ZT guidelines and renewed and more vigorous enforcement of the rules by directors.
- d. 2024 FTLBC Budget: Pending.
- e. Credit from Paradise AC: Pending.
- f. FTLBC Bylaws: Updated bylaws to be reviewed and will be posted on the website.
- g. Spring Cleaning Day: FTLBC Spring Cleaning Day has been moved to April 3rd following the bridge game. All are welcome to join in the fun.

7. **Committee Reports:**

- a. Events Committee (Chair – Bella Ionic-Soren):
(1) Birthday Brunch / St. Patrick's Day game scheduled for March 17th.

- (2) Al Levin Trophy Game scheduled for March 28th.
- b. House Committee (Chair Allen Bozek):
- (1) The public address system has been satisfactorily replaced. Total cost - \$798.00.
- (2) The “hole” between the office and the small bridge room has been filled in and looks great. Total cost - \$675.00.
- (3) The *transitional floor* strip in the large bridge room has been installed.
- (4) Carpet stains have been spot treated.
- (5) A new bulletin board will be ordered for the small bridge room.
- c. Education Committee (Chair Robin Kupperman):
- (1) Robust enrollment and completion of Robin’s beginner bridge series’ continues. Let’s all remember to be nice and welcoming to all the new players.
- (2) John Albright finished his intermediate lesson series.
- (3) Supervised games, free 30-minute lessons (a club member attending the lessons requested / suggested that other members keep their voices down while Robin Kupperman conducts her lessons) and mentor games continue.
- d. Grievance and Ethics Committee (Chair Daniel Tordella):
- A hearing was conducted with a club member because of continuing complaints about his conduct during bridge games. Discipline to be determined by the FTLBC Board.
- e. Insurance Committee (Chair Barbara Sunshine): \$6,151.95 general liability policy was renewed and paid.

f. Membership (Chair Rosemary Boden):

- (1) FTLBC has 348 paid members as of 2/8/24.
- (2) Efforts to identify non-paying former members masquerading as paying members continues.
- (3) Efforts to encourage renewal will continue by Rosemary and her committee, to include phone calls to non-renewing members.

g. Marketing (Chair Knyvett Lee):

- (1) The new banner is up! Invoice for \$320.00 is pending.
- (2) The ad in *OUTSFL* ran at a cost of \$385.00 to be shared equally with Quick Tricks.

5:20 p.m. – Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:

Daniel F. Tordella – FTLBC Secretary