

Unit 354 Minutes
February 21 at AzBridgeWorks

Call to Order

President Kim Corbin called the meeting to order at 5:45. Present were the following members: Gaer, Tompkinson, Ulrey, Corbin, Rubenstein, Drake, Bias, Davis, Spanier, Newman, Bunnell, Rhodes, J. Lowe, Welch, Kelley. Absent: Leon Lowe. Kim welcomed our newest board member, Janet Newman and congratulated Rod Bias on achieving Life Master.

Treasurer's Report

Standing in for Leon, Joanne reported 590 tables at the recent tournament with a profit of \$2000. The checkbook has \$20,400 and we have a CD for \$12,000. Joanne suggested a committee might look into charges for playing in other area sectionals. Jerry said we don't need to raise regional rates yet.

Tournament Report

Lesley reported no significant complaints at the President's Day Tournament. Page suggested we need new cards in some of the boards. We will order replacement cards on a regular basis, about ten dozen a year. We also need more bidding box inserts. Joanne will order ten sets from Barclay's.

Charlie is working with ASU for a President's Day Contract for Feb. 09.

The Silver Sun in January will be at the Doubletree, however, work is being done to improve on some details from the previous sectional there. Joann will create a list of area restaurants. Kim will get flyers to Doty Bridge; Janet to the Mesa clubs; Jerry to Ahwatukee and Linda Green's club; Barb to AzBridgeWorks. Shirley volunteered to handle details of food at the Doubletree sectional for lunches, coffee, snacks. She would like to have last year's tournament numbers.

It was suggested we leave information about a provided lunch off the Horn of Plenty flyers to be decided upon later.

Flyers are ready for the regional. George suggested publicity ads for the Forum. Page sends articles to the Forum and Shuffle, Deal and Play about the tournaments. Lesley will send info to the national for email disbursement. George inquired as to whether we want to advertise in The Bulletin and quoted prices: \$910/month/half page; \$615/month/third page. If so, the ad must be reserved by March 25.

A motion was made to purchase an oil cloth banner, 3'x 10', costing \$169-\$180 to promote our regional at other tournaments. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. Another motion to purchase ad space in the daily bulletin at the national tournament was also seconded and passed unanimously. Barb volunteered to coordinate these ads.

Novice Report

Rod Bias has been studying material regarding novices and education on the ACBL website. He has already promoted our tournaments to novices through a phone tree and wants to have greeters at the tournament to welcome new players. A motion passed to permit Rod to purchase 50 more learning discs. Rod described various school programs for bridge and chess in our schools. He suggested we need to purchase more novice trophies.

Shuffle, Deal, and Play

Jamie announced a March 22 deadline for the next issue. Efforts will be made to get SDP out a month before each tournament.

Barb asked for articles for the website. She needs articles from Page, Rod, Bob, Jerry, Steve Bruno hand

of the month, treasurer report, and about open choice article, regional speakers, pre-duplicated boards, and Ace of Clubs awards.

Future Tournament Sites

Jerry, Lesley, and Leon have been working with Casino Arizona for a five year contract with room rates at \$125/night to begin in 2010.

Trailer and Storage Problem

Charlie explained that our present solution to moving tables with a rental truck is dangerous and hard work. He has called a trailer sales company for information about buying a truck. Charlie elaborated on the problems of moving, storing, getting tables to tournaments, and possibilities for the future. Kim, Charlie, and Leon will work to find a solution.

We must let the Mesa unit know whether they can rent our tables. They need to know what they are getting into. Details must be worked out.

Membership

Bob reported that we have 1600 members in the unit; 130 are snowbirds; our membership numbers are up by ten. Bob needs to be notified when clubs need more flyers or copies of SDP. Janet was named as club liaison to aid in this communication.

Other Business

Website is working very smoothly.

There will be a district meeting in Vegas next week.

Some concern was voiced about the local clubs being open during the area tournaments. That is their business decision and we have no authority.

Next meeting: April 22 in Peoria