

**DISTRICT 11  
BOARD MEETING  
February 28, 2015 Indianapolis Regional**

**In attendance:**

**Officers** - Terrell Holt, Cheryl Schneider, Adrienne Netherwood, Maribeth Ransel

**Voting Members** - Unit 117 Vangie Smith, Matt Just (alternate); Unit 122 Larry Jones; Unit 124 Steve Moese, John Meinking (alternate); Unit 130 Liz Brown, Bob Lyon; Unit 136 Georgia Banziger, Joyce Dennis (alternate); Unit 164 Sandra Marlin, Sondra Holt; Unit 193 Billie Brown, William Lea.

**Members** - Beth Reid, AJ Stephani, Isaac Stephani,

**Contractor** – Brad Bartol

**Guest** - Kendra Bridges (Indianapolis)

**Call to order – Terrell Holt**

The meeting was called to order and guests and alternates were greeted. The Secretary announced there was a quorum present.

The President acknowledged the good work of Steve Moese (website); Adrienne Netherwood (work on treasurer's manual and completion of billing); Brad Bartol (*Midwest Monitor*); AJ Stephani (keeping the tournament calendar in order and keeping all of us up-to-date on tournament business); Larry Jones (GNT/NAP); Cincinnati and Dayton Units (hosting GNT and NAP events).

**Minutes – Maribeth Ransel**

Minutes from the November, 2014 meeting, along with the addendum from the vote on the GNT Conditions of Contest, were reviewed.

- **Moved and Seconded** – To approve the minutes as written.  
(Marlin/Banziger – Passed unanimously)

**District 11 Financial Report – Adrienne Netherwood**

- Current bank balance is \$30,075.75.
- GNT profit was \$1076.60 (33 tables).
- 2013 earmarked for 2014 NAP - \$1,800
- 2014 earmarked for 2014 - \$2,200
- available to be earmarked \$1,014
- \$17,000 earmarked for future NABC in ACBL District 11
- Treasurer's report accepted and filed for audit.

**District Director Report – Beth Reid**

- Providence meeting report can be located on the District 11 website.
- Providence NABC lost money because of high cost of convention center along with smaller attendance than anticipated.
- Beth asked everyone to remember ACBL's Jeff Johnson who died recently. His death brings a huge gap in service for ACBL and everyone is working hard to fill the void. This job will be posted in the upcoming Bulletin.

### **Tournament Coordinator – AJ Stephani**

- Next regional is the split regional between Evansville and Cincinnati which takes place in June. Kudos to Evansville planners who had to make a quick change in venue when they learned, just a week ago, that the contracted venue would close before the event. Evansville has found a new venue at the Owensboro Convention Center.
- The *Tournament Handbook* was distributed. It contains tournament policies and procedures for District 11. If you have corrections or amendments, contact AJ and he will revise as needed. If you need copies, e-mail AJ with your request. Updated calendar will be forward to the unit coordinators next week. If you need information on tournament calendars, please contact your own unit coordinator.
  - Q. Will the Handbook be made part of the Website?*
  - A. As soon as the Handbook, Bylaws and other documents have been approved by the Board they will be made part of the District Website.*

### **NAP and GNT Coordinator – Larry Jones**

- Distributed two documents. The first sets out the breakdown of GNT/NAP reimbursements that was passed at the last District Board meeting and another details GNT and NAP MP Awards.
  - Q. Was the amount voted on meant to be for one year or was it an ongoing amount?*
  - A. It was not meant to be an ongoing amount because the amount might fluctuate based on the amount of Grass Roots funds available, and the likely costs incurred based on the venue where the NABC takes place in. There should be a generic policy on funding, and the amount of funding adjusted from year-to-year.*
- District NAP event has been sanctioned for November 14 and 15, 2015 in Cincinnati.
- District GNT event has been sanctioned for Jan 30 and 31<sup>st</sup> 2016 in Cincinnati.
- Coordinator's said his approach is that Cincinnati is the center of the District geographically, so he would lean toward having these events in Cincinnati unless another unit makes a proposal to host the events. Coordinator will not actively solicit other units to host, but will entertain any proposals to host.
  - Q. Why did we change what we voted on several years ago which said that the GNT event should rotate around the District?*
  - A. Discussion followed with agreement that Board is not certain what the wording of the original motion had been. It was probably made in 2012 at the Louisville meeting. The Secretary was asked to review the minutes to find the wording of the original motion on the location of the GNTs. Decision on 2017 GNT will be made after that review. All agreed it is a benefit to "C" players to have the event locally, but Units must want to host the event and submit a proposal.*
  - Q. When will those who are scheduled to be reimbursed receive their funds for these events?*
  - A. As soon as players attend the NABC that they are to be reimbursed for, the Treasurer will send their funds.*
- There were some discrepancies on the MPs that were given for last year and this year. For some reason the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> teams in "C" didn't receive their MPs this year. Larry will check with the TD to find out why there was a discrepancy to see if it can be resolved.
- Adrienne suggested that the Board consider using some of the funds that are available to promote the event to encourage participation by new players.

### **Website Coordinator – Steve Moese**

- The *Midwest Monitor* went out, online, recently. There was an initial problem when ACBL sent the wrong URL, but the error was corrected within 24 hours. There is also a URL for the District Director's report. Icons have been added for major events such as tournaments and special events.

### **Education Liaison – Sandra Marlin**

- There will be a symposium in Gatlinburg which will be on the topic of youth bridge. Some expressed concern that there was a substantial fee for the symposium when it was already set to receive ACBL grant funds.

### **Youth Coordinator – Isaac Stephani**

- There are several units considering summer youth events. If your unit is running a youth program this summer, please let Isaac know. He would like to be helpful.

### **Tournament Chair (Indianapolis) – Kendra Bridges**

- As of today, we are on track to surpass last year's attendance, but everything will hinge upon the snowstorm that is on the way. The Gold Rush games have been well-attended. We had 9 tables of 0-20 players at their special game at the beginning of the week.

### ***The Midwest Monitor* – Brad Bartol**

- *The Monitor* was late in January because of illness of the editor. Next issue is "in the works."

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Letter of Understanding with Brad Bartol – Terrell Holt**

- A *Letter of Understanding* with Brad has been signed. It is a two-year agreement which will be re-visited later this year or early next year.

### **STAC – Bill Sentman**

- Bill was not at the meeting to report on the STAC. However, a question arose.  
*Q. Can the director play and place in the overalls?*  
*A. AJ said Directors can play in a STAC game, but they are not eligible for overall awards. However, the District can vote to allow a Director who plays to place in the overall awards.*

### **Membership Charge for *The Midwest Monitor* – Adrienne Netherwood**

- Billing has been completed and expenses are being covered.

### **District 11 Assets – Terrell Holt**

- The only assets owned by the District are 360 bidding boxes and nine crates to hold them, and the recorder that is kept by the Secretary.

### **Grass Roots Money Distribution Matrix**

- Addressed in the Coordinator's report.

### **Tournament Guide and Bidding Boxes**

- Addressed in the Coordinator's report.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Proposed Budget 2015/16 –Adrienne Netherwood**

- The proposed budget for 2015/16 was distributed in November for review and action at the February 2015 meeting.
  - **Moved and Seconded** – to accept the proposed 2015/16 budget distributed at the November Board meeting..  
(**Moese/Banziger** – Passed unanimously.)

## **Bylaws Review – Terrell Holt**

- The Bylaws have been totally re-written and the draft proposal emailed to Board members for comment. There are many changes and members of the Board have had the document for review for several weeks. Only three or four comments have been received thus far. We are not ready to vote on the Bylaws at this meeting, but we would like to have the vote at the Cincinnati meeting.

### **Comments:**

- ✓ The 1991 Bylaws are on the Website and all the subsequent revisions have been incorporated into the Bylaws and are shown on the revision page. ALL revisions are documented and incorporated.
- ✓ Terrell said he cannot tell when the ORIGINAL Bylaws were published and would like it if anyone can provide that date. Beth said it should be the original incorporation date of the District.
- ✓ Discussion of whether the officers of the Board should vote, even when they are not the voting representatives from their unit. Some felt it would give some units a larger share of representation and this would not be equitable. Others felt that the leadership of the board should be able to vote. A straw vote was taken and members said officers, who are not representatives, should not vote. The Board should only have sixteen (16) voting members (two from each unit).
- ✓ Discussion about use of *Roberts Rules of Orders*. Some felt use of *Roberts* can be overly restrictive. Most Board members have a limited understanding of the *Rules* and the Board can spend a lot of time trying to interpret them. Members thought we should follow them casually, but not be bound to the *Rules*. After a straw vote, it was decided not to include *The Rules* in the Bylaws.
- ✓ Will we have standing rules? Yes. Standing rules can be changed more readily than the Bylaws. Bylaws give a broad overview and the standing rules provide more specificity.
- ✓ Election of Officers. The current proposal says that the Nominating Committee will submit one name for each office. Shouldn't it say more than one name? Board agreed that the Bylaws should read that the Nominating Committee will submit "at least one name for each office."
- ✓ What is a board member? Some coordinators are not board members. Who should be on the board? Perhaps that should be a question addressed in the standing rules.
- ✓ What if there is a tie? Should the President vote in case of a tie? The Board felt that in the case of a tie, the motion should die. The President should not break the tie.
- ✓ Does it have to be the **Unit President** and one other representative? Board agreed that we can't bind units in that fashion since not every Unit President wants to serve on the District Board. The proposal provides for the Unit President to send another representative in his/her place.

## **Bidding Boxes for the Split Regional**

- Bill Lea asked if Evansville could use some of the District boxes for their part of the Regional. Referred to AJ to have further discussion with Bill.

## **ACBL Communications – Terrell Holt**

- Two items sent by the ACBL were provided in Board packets. The first deals with privacy issues. It is not a new policy but reaffirms what is already in place. It points out that a member's permission must be received before information can be published on a roster that is distributed to other members. The second item concerns payment of caddies and other personnel at tournaments. The DIC can no longer pay the caddies or other personnel. This must be done by the tournament chair. Reminder that if an individual receives more than \$600 for any one tournament, a 1099 form must be filed.

## **Audit – Terrell Holt**

- It has been a few years since an audit has been conducted. Volunteers were solicited to be on the audit committee. AJ and Larry volunteered. Beth suggested that outside persons be appointed to Audit Committee so as not to have the appearance of a conflict of interest situation. Terrell will contact persons to set up the committee. Terrell would like to have an annual audit (audit review), and a review of the Bylaws every four years.

**Adjournment**

- **Moved and Seconded** – to adjourn the February meeting of the District 11 Board.  
(Marlin/Brown– Passed unanimously.)

**NEXT MEETING: Saturday, June 6, 2015, Cincinnati, Ohio**

Submitted by  
Maribeth Ransel,  
Secretary