

Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
ACBL Unit 573
February 13, 2021
Virtual

President Miller called the Unit Board of Directors meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. In attendance and constituting a quorum were:

Present: Barb Miller, Marian Hutchinson, Lorraine Garratt, Rick Grieman, Rick Gaucher, Jan Carter, Sandra Benson

Excused: Wayne Natrass

1. **Motion** by Marian Hutchinson to approve the agenda. Seconded by Jan Carter. Carried without dissent.
2. **Motion** by Jan Carter to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2021 meeting. Seconded by Rick Grieman. Carried without dissent.
3. **Tournament Update:**
 - a) 2021 Fall Sectional
 - Gary Johannsson was approached by Rick Gaucher and is willing to be the Chairperson.
 - Free play for those under 100 masterpoints – Deferred to the August meeting.
 - Mini-lesson – Deferred as above because the event could be cancelled due to COVID.
 - Draft brochure – should be sent to Gary and Jason Larrivee (partnership coordinator) for their review. Once finalized, brochure will be provided to ACBL and posted on Wasumi website. Suggestion was made that it would be a good idea to put the name of the Hospitality Chair on the brochure. Recognition is important. Jan Carter indicated that she would be willing to help Gary find someone for that position. Noted that hospitality may be different in light of COVID.
 - b) 2022 299er Sectional and 2023 Tournaments
 - 2022 299er Sectional and Spring 2023 Sectional – venues are booked and ACBL sanction applications have been submitted.
 - Regional in the fall of 2023 – Italian Club is booked and ACBL sanction has been received.
4. **Unit Storage Update**
 - a) Information
 - Jan Carter indicated her possibility has stairs but could find out more information if needed.
 - Lorraine Garratt indicated the church she investigated did not have available space.

- Barb Miller indicated that the Eastview Community Centre has nothing inside, but outside may be an option.

b) Action Plan

- Suggestion made regarding using a cube or purchasing a small trailer. Either of these items would then need a storage place (e.g. someone's acreage or property) and would need Unit membership approval if cost exceeded \$1,500. Jan Carter will price out cubes.
- Suggestion made that an e-mail be sent to Unit members to see if anyone has available space and would be willing to store the Unit's tournament supplies.
- Barb Miller and Jan Carter will compose an e-mail to be sent to current Unit members; if no response, then a motion will be drafted for the AGM.

5. Annual General Meeting (AGM) – March 27, 2021

a) Motion re: financial assistance for Clubs in light of COVID

- A potential motion for COVID-related financial assistance to clubs within our Unit was discussed.
- Barb Miller and Jan Carter had a discussion with the Regina Duplicate Bridge Club President. Although the Regina Club's current fixed costs (approximately \$4,000 per month) are considerably higher than its revenue, it remains in a healthy financial position for now; the Club would welcome a grant opportunity if one becomes available as its reserve will be significantly reduced by the time a return to regular play occurs. When Barb Miller inquired about fixed costs of other clubs in the Unit last spring, Moose Jaw indicated that they only pay for days they use and Weyburn indicated that the senior's centre where they normally play was closed
- When clubs are allowed to reopen, they may incur additional costs for things such as hand sanitizer, increased cleaning or bridge promotion. In addition, future attendance may be lower as some people may not return to their former bridge clubs after they reopen or may play less bridge as they pursued other interests during the COVID period.
- Decision was made to put forth a motion to AGM to authorize the Unit Board to spend up to \$7,500 to provide COVID-related financial assistance to the clubs within Unit 573 from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022.
- If this motion is approved, the Board would invite applications for COVID-related assistance from clubs within our Unit to assist with extra costs associated with their reopening as well as to soften the financial impact for an initial period if lower attendance levels are experienced following their reopening. The Board would adjudicate applications considering factors such as how a club would utilize Unit-provided funds, financial information and membership numbers.

b) Vice-President Nominee

- Linda Holowaty is willing to put her name forth for this position.

c) Review of AGM material

- Material that had been circulated is acceptable.

6. Real Bridge 299er Update

- Jan Carter reported results of phoning 299ers regarding RealBridge. Perhaps new names could be obtained from Gaylene Spence and those people could be contacted as well.
- Based on phone-calls made to date, decision was made to see if 299er attendance increases in the next few weeks and then further assess whether there would be sufficient interest to warrant a separate RealBridge 299er game on Monday nights.

7. Potential Subsidy Request

- Potential subsidy Inquiry had been received regarding online NAPs. However, there might not be an entry fee for this event.
- If there is an entry fee, participants could submit a request for subsidy consideration in accordance with the Unit's subsidy policy, including their contributions to Unit 573 and local club.

8. Other Business

- Rick Gaucher indicated Claire Jones is willing to become the Unit Tournament Coordinator subsequent to the Unit election.

9. Next Meeting

- Date decision deferred to a later date.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

ACBL Unit 573 Board of Directors Meeting

Motions Passed by Email Approval Since February 13, 2021 Meeting

Motion by Jan Carter that Claire Jones and Rick Gaucher be authorized to carry out the motion approved at the Unit AGM meeting authorizing the ACBL Unit 573 Board of Directors to spend up to \$10,000 to purchase and customize a small cargo trailer to store Unit 573's tournament supplies. Seconded by Lorraine Garratt.

*Carried without dissent.

Motion by Jan Carter to accept the attached draft minutes of the March 27, 2021 AGM and put them forth for approval at the 2022 AGM. Seconded by Marian Hutchinson.

* Carried without dissent.