

**MINUTES**  
**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF**  
**THE UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION**  
**1/24/2007**  
**8 PM CST**  
**VIA CONFERENCE CALL**

Directors Present: Steve Beatty, Joan Gerard, Jan Martel, Rose Meltzer, and Bill Pollack.

Others Present: Peter Rank, Gary Blaiss Barbara Nudelman

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Jan Martel at 8:00pm CST

**II. ATTENDANCE: ESTABLISH QUORUM**

The chairman noted that at least a majority of the directors were present at the meeting, thus establishing a quorum for the purpose of transacting business by the Board.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MEETING OF DECEMBER 19, 2006**

The minutes were accepted and approved as submitted.

**IV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The Board elected the following officers:

President: Jan Martel

Vice President: Bill Pollack

Secretary: Joan Gerard

Treasurer: Steve Beatty

**V. GAVIN WOLPERT REQUEST FOR LETTER**

Gavin Wolpert from Canada has asked the USBF to write a letter in support of his application for a Green Card. Gavin is currently living in the US. We agreed to write a letter stating that Gavin would be a valuable member of the USBF but that we would not mention his potential for being a member of either the Junior or the Open teams Jan will write this letter and Peter will ok it.

## **VI. WEB SITE AND DUES REPORT**

139 people have paid their 2007 dues. No teams have entered the Senior Trials as yet but that is to be expected because they are first going to play in the Open Trials. 4 teams have entered the USWBC and 5 have entered the USBC.

## **VII. 2007 TRIALS REPORT**

### **A. Entry Deadline for Women's Shawn to present**

Shawn wrote the Board a report suggesting that we extend the deadline that the WITTC has for the Trials from January 31 to the same date as the Open Trials. Joan spoke with Nadine prior to this conference call and Nadine explained that if the event ended up with more than 10 teams (not including any teams with byes) the event would have to be extended another day. While the WITTC recognized the need for more team to be interested the majority felt that January 31 should be the deadline for signing up. The Board felt they did not want to overrule the WITTC at this time but would recommend that they reconsider this approach for the future in the interest of getting more teams to enter.

### **B. ENTRY FEE CONCLUSIONS**

Bill reported that the entry fee committee had agreed that the 2007 entry fee for the USBF and USWBC will be an initial fee of \$360 plus a per session fee of \$120. The Board approved that fee structure.

## **VIII. 2008 & 2009 TRIALS REPORT**

Joan reported that Baltimore seems to be still interested but no report to date. The Philadelphia area is also interested and at the moment, Craig Robinson, District Director from District 4, reported that the Marriott is holding our dates, the room rate is \$190; space requirements can likely be met. Craig is working with a few other hotels trying to get a better room rate and will of course try to get the Marriott to lower their rate as well.

Bill Rosenbaum has stated that he does not want to try and negotiate something for 2008 because the dates are too close to the Cavendish dates. Joan said she would talk with Bill about 2010 when the date could be in August and stated that 2009 is still a viable possibility in White Plains. The dates are being held.

## **IX. SPONSORSHIP DISCUSSIONS**

Bob was not present so a motion to defer was moved and carried.

## **X. BOARD MEMBER TO REPLACE SHAWN**

Shawn has resigned because of her move to Poland, so in accordance with the Bylaws, the Board must replace Shawn for the remainder of the year. Rose

Meltzer nominated Lou Ann O'Rourke and Joan Gerard seconded this nomination. Rose felt that Lou Ann would be willing to accept this nomination. Lou Ann was unanimously elected. Jan will call her to ask her to serve.

#### **XI. CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE PROCEDURES**

Jan reported that procedures are in General Conditions of Contest. Committee will work on subcommittee procedures.

#### **XII. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Barbara Nudelman reported that we currently have \$185,000; \$12,960 is Junior Fund monies. In addition, the Mahaffey Fund, which we administer, has \$53,000. Barbara also stated that we generally received between \$3,100 and \$3,200 each month from the check-off on the ACBL membership form. In November '06 we received \$3,800 and in December '06 \$2,600.

#### **XIII. OLD BUSINESS**

##### **A. 2008 Regional**

D17 has confirmed their intent to co-sponsor the USBF Regional in 2008. It is scheduled to be held in Tucson the week ending 12/16/08. D17 will be responsible for organizing and running the Regional and will pay USBF \$2 per table.

##### **B. 2009 Regional**

Puerto Rico is still interested and is looking into possible sites and dates. They haven't made a firm commitment yet.

#### **XIV. NEW BUSINESS**

Barbara raised the issue of the annual audit and stated that she would probably need some information from ACBL to supply the auditors with all of the information they need; there could be some costs involved. The Board authorized Barbara to proceed.

#### **XV. SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, March 26, 2007, at 8:00 PM CST via conference call.

#### **XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11 PM.