

**MINUTES**  
**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF**  
**THE UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION**  
**THURSDAY, NOV. 1, 2012**  
**8:30 PM EDT**  
**BY CONFERENCE CALL**

Directors Present: Cheri Bjerkan, Joan Gerard, George Jacobs, Ralph Katz,  
Howard Weinstein, Jonathan Weinstein

Others Present: Marty Harris, Bob Katz, Jan Martel, Barbara Nudelman

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Joan Gerard, president, at 8:35 pm EDT.

**II. ATTENDANCE: ESTABLISH QUORUM**

The president 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. MARTY HARRIS CONTRACT**

Joan reported that she and Barbara had received a letter from Marty Harris regarding an expense of \$128.31 for research in connection with USBF business; Marty also requested a fee of \$1500 in addition to his normal retainer for excess time spent by him in connection with the USBF Bylaws as well as other matters.

The Board unanimously approved paying Marty Harris \$1500 for his services in connection with the Bylaw amendments and other matters during 2012, and expenses in the amount of \$128.31. The Board further voted to renew Marty's appointment as counsel to the USBF at a retainer of \$2400 per year for another year.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes from Board meetings on June 12, August 27, September 18 and October 3 were unanimously approved as distributed.

**V. ITTC CHAIRMAN**

Henry Bethe has been appointed to chair the ITTC to replace Jonathan Weinstein. The Board welcomes him.

**VI. BOARD ELECTION**

There were no petition candidates for the three Board slots and therefore Cheri Bjerkan, Bob Katz & Howard Weinstein have all been elected to 3 year terms on

the Board, commencing January 1, 2013. The Board welcomed Bob as its new member and Cheri & Howard as continuing members.

#### **VII. 2013 WORLD YOUTH CONGRESS**

Hotel contracts will soon be signed with the Best Western Hotel. The WBF and ACBL and Joan will meet in San Francisco to discuss details.

#### **VIII. ACBL**

Joan invited Robert Hartman to attend this meeting but he was unable to attend. He will be invited to attend future meetings.

#### **IX. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Preliminary spreadsheets showing our expenditures from the Junior and International Funds were sent out earlier today.

#### **X. SPONSORSHIP**

The sponsorship committee wants to advertise our interest in sponsorship for our tournaments in the NABC Daily Bulletin, on the internet and possibly in the ACBL Bulletin.

George offered to put something about the possibility for sponsorship in his ACBL Bulletin column.

The Board agreed to arrange for publication of an announcement about the sponsorship in the Daily Bulletin in San Francisco.

Jan will post the announcement that is going in the San Francisco Daily Bulletin on our website and on BridgeWinners & BBO. We will also post on any other websites to which we have access.

We will ask the ACBL Bulletin editors if they will run an article about the possibility of sponsoring USBF events in December or January.

#### **XI. DISA EYTHORSDDOTTIR RESIDENT MEMBER APPLICATION**

The Board unanimously voted to accept Disa Eythorsdottir's application for Resident Membership in the USBF. The Board noted that Disa has a green card and resides permanently in the United States.

#### **XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board went into Executive Session and invited Marty Harris, Bob Katz, Jan Martel and Barbara Nudelman to join the executive session. The Board came out of Executive Session.

### **XIII. GARY BLAISS**

Joan reported that Gary Blaiss had retired from his work on USBF matters and Joan sent him a note thanking him for his service and also sent him an engraved pen. Gary thanked USBF for the gift.

### **XIV. REQUEST TO ACBL BOARD REGARDING USE OF LAWS §12C1C AT OUR TRIALS**

WBF Laws allow use of Laws §12C1c; ACBL Laws do not allow use of §12C1c. Jan asked ACBL Management to waive the rule that an ACBL sanctioned event cannot use §12C1c and ACBL Management presented a motion to the ACBL Board asking that they allow us to use §12C1c.

The Board agreed to add an explanation to the motion before the ACBL Board that WBF requires a Zonal Championship to use the WBF Laws and our Trials are Zonal Championships, which is an advantage to our players because they get WBF masterpoints and placing points.

### **XV. BYLAWS AMENDMENTS**

Marty will send a new version of the Bylaws Amendments other than the Resident Member sections. Jan will post the proposed amendments on the USBF website and the Board will vote on them 30 days after they have been sent out. The Board will discuss the Resident Member sections of the Bylaws further and after that Marty will draft Bylaws Amendments dealing with Resident Members.

### **XVI. NEXT MEETING**

The Board agreed it would like to schedule a face to face meeting in San Francisco, probably after an evening session.

The specific date to meet in San Francisco and for the next conference call meeting will be scheduled by email.

### **XVII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 pm EDT