

Miami Valley Bridge Association Board Meeting
Minutes – March 15, 2016
Draft

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by president Georgia Banziger

Present: Georgia Banziger, Barbara Bitticker, Joe Camillus, Darin Campo, Tom Coyle, Joyce Dennis, Steve Forsythe, Jeff Gargrave, Joe Keim, David Kennedy, Stuart Petersen, Judy Simmons, and Ilse Tebbetts.

Excused: Lori Harner **Absent:** Sue Stephens

Minutes: Two corrections were made to the February minutes. **A motion to accept the minutes, as corrected, (Stu/Steve) was passed without dissent.**

Treasurers Report: Jeff presented the treasurers report (attached), pointing out that the unit is still in the red (about \$2,500) since there has been no revenue of note in the January-through-March 10 reporting period. Once again, he noted, computer and Internet expenses represented the largest expenditures during this time. Barring any unforeseen events, we will likely be able to get through until events that bring in revenue begin in April, Jeff said. Board members briefly discussed the \$308 that had been spent on library books and other equipment (i.e. pockets and cards). Since a full \$300 (authorized by the board for “library books” last month) had not been spent on books alone, the question was whether we should buy a few more books. The informal decision was that no more money be spent on books this year. **A motion to accept the treasurers report ((Tom/Joe C.) was unanimously passed.**

Investment Report: The graph distributed by Tom (attached) showed that the investment account has now recovered close to the value it had at the end of December 2015. The cash value of approximately \$5400, Tom noted, is up since December and, with dividends that will be paid at the end of March, will probably rise to about \$6,000—an amount that we should maintain. **A motion to accept the investment report (Tom/Marilyn) was passed unanimously.**

Bridge Center News (report attached): Tom reported that while table counts for the first two months of the year exceeded last year’s, the total to date is still below the 325-tables-per month that represents the club’s break-even point. There is \$224 in the checking account, he said. This means, for example, that he will have to pay upcoming bills, such as the insurance, on the credit card and that he will put off paying his own salary until April. The MVBC will be sponsoring the STaC game in April, which should bring in much needed revenues, although increased sanction fees by ACBL will put a dent in the club’s income from this event. Another decision by the ACBL will also cut into the club’s take: invitational games (such as our Tuesday game) may no longer switch to open games during STaC weeks. Georgia reported that the District is not happy about that decision and that the matter will again be on the agenda for the next District meeting.

A brief discussion ensued about ways and means of increasing table counts. Dave wondered whether we should be thinking about reaching out to players who used to be active as we did three years ago in

order. Darin suggested trying to transition people from the Wednesday game to the Tuesday and Thursday games. Steve noted that the mentor/mentee program was helping. No action was taken.

On-going Business: Georgia renewed her call for chairpersons for the Non-Life Master Sectional in June and the Summer Sectional in early August. Dave offered to chair the Non-Life Master tournament providing he could get some help with the hospitality; Darin volunteered to co-chair (but not to make cookies).

Georgia also reported that free-play letters have been distributed and/or sent to all the newly anointed Ruby and Sapphire Life Masters.

New Business: Tom moved and Judy seconded a motion to subsidize half-price entries for all mentor/mentee pairs playing in the Tuesday evening, Wednesday noon, Thursday evening, and Friday morning games, beginning on April 15th and concluding after the last of the three special mentor/mentee games scheduled in August. The motion was passed with one abstention. Georgia reported that Sandy Forsythe has offered to help with the mentor/mentee program (but not chair it). A short discussion about what should qualify a player to be a mentee ensued. It was agreed to retain the current single criterion that a mentee could be anyone with fewer than 500 master points.

Georgia, reporting briefly on the District 11 meeting in Indianapolis, noted that Fort Wayne had some interest in joining with our district, but also possibly with districts in Illinois or Michigan. The matter was tabled until the next District meeting.

Darin announced that District 11 had been well-represented in the NAP contests at the recent Reno nationals: Ryan Schultz and AJ Stephani from Dayton were winners in Flight B, while Steve Moese and Mike Ma from Cincinnati were the Flight B runners-up.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m. The next Board meeting will be held on April 19.