

## SALEM BRIDGE CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING, November 21, 2017

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**Call to Order, Attendance:** President Paul Graham called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. on November 21. **Present:** Paul, Dave Astle, Zina Galaka, Susan Palmer, and Anita Walker. **Absent:** Jean McKinney, Joan Page **Also present:** Dick Pitzer, Club Manager; Allen Carter, Game Director; Judy Lathrop, Unit Treasurer,

**Approval of Minutes, Approval by Email.** The minutes of the October 17 meeting were approved. **MOTION:** PAG/SP. **"Authorize approval of minutes by email vote of a majority of the board members."** The motion passed unanimously.

**Financial Report/Table Count.** Anita presented the club's financial report for October, 2017. The club gained \$324.50 in October. Our cash balance decreased from \$14,911.18 on September 20 to \$14,230.32 on October 22. Table count for October was 180-1/2 vs. 183-1/2 in October, 2016. The treasurer's report was approved.

**Consumer Satisfaction.** Discussion of suggestions (Nos. 1 & 2 are holdovers):

1- **Hold a Sunday game at Capitol Manor.** (*This is a holdover from 8/22/17.*) If approved, this game would be held on every Sunday, except when it conflicts with the Sunday Unit Game. Dick knows who he should talk to at Capitol Manor to get permission for this game, which he says would be an evening game. We need to get a sense of this how our members feel about this proposal. Paul will ask Miriam Brand to try to gauge support for a regular Sunday game at CapManor.

2- **Hold at least one IMP game per month.** George Foust explained why he made this suggestion. He pointed out some advantages of IMP scoring: it shifts the focus in playing a hand away from making overtricks, allowing the declarer to concentrate on the safest way to make the contract. In IMP games, the emphasis is getting to your game and slam contracts. IMP scoring is typically used in team games. The club currently does not sponsor any team games. However, Dick thinks there may be a way we could enjoy the advantages of IMP scoring without having a team game. He will explore this possibility and report back to the board.

3- **Pregame Announcement: "No political talk at tables."** Judy asks that the board instruct its game directors to make an announcement before each game that no one engage in any kind of political discussion at the table. The board agrees with this request. Paul will ask our game directors to make these announcements.

**Club Manager's Report for November.** Dick Pitzer's report for November follows.

1- The Director Log is now being used in parallel with the game summary slips until the end of the year. The logs were printed for October and looked reasonable. We have decided that free play cards for fill-ins are unnecessary since the name of an individual called in to play is not required; only that the event occurred (as indicated by Judy Lathrop last month).

2- **Free play cards for partnership facilitators.** Although it was initially thought free play cards should carry a one-year expiration date, it would seem those issued to partnership chairs should not carry over since they are issued monthly.

## Minutes of SBC Board Meeting, 11/21/17, page 2.

### Club Manager's Report (cont.)

3- **Our games are taking longer to complete** and we need to reduce that time. Guidelines indicate a maximum game time of 3<sup>1/2</sup> hrs for a pairs game and we are pushing that boundary now. Taking boards away from the slower players doesn't seem to do the job since they often elect to take a late play, lengthening the game. It would seem a viable solution is to disable the BridgeMate traveler option.

4-The "**Club Asset Award**" (created by board action on 10/17/17 at Dick's suggestion) plaque has been purchased and is here. I would propose that SBC Board of Director members not be eligible to receive this award while in office. Board members should decide who the award recipient will be each year. The award should be presented at the club's Annual Meeting each December.

5- **Monthly game schedules** for Unit 490 have been created and sent to the Unit, SBC, and Oak Valley board members for review. These schedules must be completed and posted by the second week of December.

6- **Game Sanctions.** During the next period, the club game sanctions are renewed for 2018. The sanction fee for each game is \$11.50, or a total of \$69.00 for all SBC games. We will no longer have a NLM game. It will be a 499<sup>er</sup> game. Removing the NLM name in favor of the 499er name should remove all ambiguity about the nature of the game and alleviate the problem identified earlier this year. (See Item 4 of my August report.)

### Response to Club Manager's Report.

1- **Free plays.** Dave has prepared an initial draft summary of the club's policies and procedures related to expenditure authority, monetary remuneration, and free plays. His goal is to have a comprehensive statement covering these subjects approved by the Board early next year. Copies of his initial effort were distributed to all board members, Club Manager, and Judy Lathrop.

2- **Speeding up the game.** The Board supports Dick's goal and his efforts to keep our games moving at a pace that allows completion within 3-1/2 hours. All directors are striving to achieve this goal. Players can help by limiting the time they spend reviewing the results of hands just played, by **fine sorting** hands for slower players, and by moving along quickly when a new round is called. However, at this time, the board is not willing to disable the BridgeMate traveler option, noting that a part of the enjoyment of playing duplicate bridge is seeing in real time how well your partnership has done on a completed hand relative to the other players.

3- **Club Asset Award.** The Board agrees to select the recipient of this award. The club president will announce the recipient's name at the club's Annual Meeting in December each year. The board has selected this year's recipient by approving a motion by Anita, seconded by Dave. The recipient's name will be included in the minutes of the annual meeting.

4- **Changing the Wednesday day game.** The board supports Dick's proposal to change the Wednesday day game from a Non-Life Master Game to a 499er Game. **MOTION:** PAG/SP. **"Change our Wednesday day Game from a Non-Life Master Game to a 499er Game."** The motion passed unanimously.

**Minutes of SBC Board Meeting, 11/21/17, page 3.**

**Interview on KBZY radio.** Paul reported that all of our paid advertisements have run on KBZY radio. (We paid \$150 to KBZY for 15 spot announcements.) We are also are entitled to one 15-minute interview. Paul and Shain Oleson will be the interviewees. Each has prepared some questions for the interview.

**Annual Meeting, Charity Game, Finger Food Party.** Paul will conduct the annual meeting of the membership commencing at 12:30 p.m. on Friday, December 15. Board members whose terms expire at the end of this year are Paul, Zina, Anita. Each is willing to stand for re-election. Paul will ask if there are any other nominations from the membership and conduct the election of board members for terms commencing January 1, 2018. -- Zina and Susan have agreed to co-chair this year's finger food party.

**Annual Charity Drive.** Bill Anning and Susan Palmer are co-chairing this year's charity drive. The Board has selected HOME Youth and Resource Center and Marion-Polk Food Share as our primary local charities. The purpose of our annual charity drive is to benefit local, charities. We want to limit it to checks or cash actually received by the club and to donations benefitting Salem-based charities.

**Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m. The club's Annual Meeting will be held at 12:30 p.m. on December 15. The next regular meeting of the board will be held on January16, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

David Astle,  
Secretary

