

Unit 116 Western New York of the ACBL  
Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors (approved)

July 22, 2016

Bridge Center of Buffalo, Amherst, NY

**Members present:** Carol Bedell, Howard Foster, Jim Gullo, Chip Kean, Betty Metz, Dian Petrov, Tova Reinhorn, Paul Zittel

**Member Absent:** Elaine Kurasiewicz

**Guests:** Judie Bailey, Kathy Pollock

The meeting was called to order by President Betty Metz at 2:10 p.m.

1. The **minutes** of the meeting of June 17, 2016, previously distributed by email, were approved.
2. The **Treasurer's Report** covering the period 6/15/16 to 7/21/16, previously distributed by email, was accepted. The balance was \$15,061, down from \$15,658 at the beginning of the period.
3. **Correspondence.** Betty noted correspondence from District 5, forwarded by Chris Urbanek, regarding StaC fees owed by Airport Bridge Club.

Tova reported receiving a letter from First Niagara Bank indicating that with the merger our account would be transferred to either KeyBank or Northwest Savings Bank.

4. **Committee Reports:**

**Buff.** Judie is working on the September Buff, the "Election Issue." She also reported that the in-and-out report from ACBL indicated no new Unit 116 members.

Judie also distributed copies of the 2016 Player Directory to Board members. We had 250 copies printed, and they will be on sale at the Unit Picnic.

**Fifth Column.** Entry for the August issue has been submitted. There will be an entry in the October issue but not in the December issue.

**Unit Tournament Coordinator.** Sanction numbers have been obtained for all Sectionals in 2018.

**Sunshine.** Tova reported that two cards were sent since the last meeting.

**Refreshment Supplies.** Paul obtained a membership for the Unit at Restaurant Depot, which will allow us to purchase supplies at a discounted rate.

**Publicity.** Carol has been sending information to the Buffalo News about Unit events, most recently the picnic. She will send information for the Eight Is Enough game on August 14 at Airport Bridge Club.

**Education.** Carol reported that there are 15 elementary and middle-school students in the summer beginners' program currently being taught by Christy Kellogg. Several "bridge buddies" have been attending to fill in tables and answer questions. The Bee newspapers will be doing a story on this program. Programs at the Tapestry School and Transit Middle School are on track to begin in the Fall. If there is interest there will be a follow-up to the summer program at BCB, again taught by Christy. Additional Beginners' lessons are tentatively planned as well.

## 5. **Old Business:**

**NLM Sectional.** Kathy Pollock reported for herself and Joyce Greenspan on this event, held at BCB on July 8-9. There were 41 tables, down ten from the previous year. Kathy judged that the decline was a result of the falling Canadian dollar and the fact that she has less directing contact with the NLM players. Since expenses were about the same, the Unit's profits were lower (\$360). There were some computer issues that caused a delay in posting results. Otherwise BCB prepared the site excellently. Recommendations: (1) get fliers out four months in advance; (2) promote the event heavily at all NLM games; (3) make no more than 30 hand records for each session; (4) make no more than 100 copies of flier; and (5) deal two sets of boards for Friday afternoon only. Kathy will not be doing the event next year.

Betty noted that that NLM Sectional used to be a three-day event. If it is to continue to be a two-day event, the Board should consider holding it on Saturday and Sunday instead of Friday and Saturday.

**Board Elections.** Jim Gullo is chairing the Nominating Committee. Other Committee members must be appointed by August 4. The Committee must decide on nominees by September 4. Petitions for additional nominees are due by October 4.

**Picnic.** Paul reported that he has a new contact at the Fairgrounds and all is under control. He estimated that there will be about 104 players, higher than last year.

**Mentor Program.** The program has started, with very favorable reviews so far. There are 29 pairs signed up.

## 6. **New Business:**

**Lending Boards for Regional.** Betty asked whether the Board favored lending its boards to the District for Regional events. The Board had no objection in principle but we need to have numbers.

**Fall Sectional.** Dian inquired whether we want to purchase on-line advertising for the Fall Sectional. He is willing to pursue it. There was concern that we were unable to determine what effect the advertising had last time. A motion to approve the \$100 expenditure for advertising the Fall Sectional on line was approved 5-3, with the admonition that we make an effort to gauge the number of people drawn to the event by the ad.

**Annual Meeting.** Dian is replacing Chip as co-chair.

**Picnic 2017.** Tova ascertained that the Rescue Hall (North Tonawanda) is available for this event on August 20, 2017, for \$200. That is much lower than the cost at Main-Transit. Paul asked that we wait on finalizing the venue until after the picnic.

7. **Next Board Meeting:** August 26, 2016, 2:00 p.m., at BCB.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Howard Foster, Secretary