

**DISTRICT 5 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BOARD MEETING
September 1, 2018**

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Officers Present: Marc Sylvester, Mary Paulone Carns, Brian Ellis

Representatives Present: Jan Assini, Barbara Bacon,
Sharon Fairchild, Ron Franck
Jim Overcashier, Chris Urbanek

Representatives Absent: None

Guests: None

WELCOME/PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Marc Sylvester called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. He welcomed the members.

MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING

The minutes from the May meeting had previously been emailed to the members. The minutes were approved.

COMMITTEES

Treasurer's Report – Brian presented a written and oral treasurer's report.

- Attendance has been stable.
- Cleveland (May) had a profit following contract renegotiation.
- The bank has charges for cash deposits. No way around this was identified.

Report of the District Director – Sharon Fairchild previously emailed her newsletter.

- At the Summer NABC, the whistleblower policy was revised. We need to check with the state of OH (where District 5 is incorporated) to see whether we are required to have a policy. Brian will look into this.
- Zero Tolerance is now in effect for all ACBL tournaments.
- District Directors are now limited to 4 terms (total 12 years).
- Rules for STaCs regarding duplicated boards, originally scheduled for 2019, are postponed to 2021: Pre-Duplicated boards, across the event, will be required to be scored in the open event. Clubs that don't use these will be in the side game.

Pittsburgh Labor Day Regional (ongoing) – Mary reported that the tournament is going well. Attendance continues to decrease, but not at a greater rate than the District's and Units' populations. The tournament is moving to the Doubletree in Greentree, starting in 2019, where we have a 3-year contract. For that year, the tournament will start 1 week

later than usual because of a previous commitment by the hotel. Since the tournament will end on Sunday, it will be one day shorter. We will have an opportunity to evaluate the attendance opposite fewer tournaments. If we are successful, we can consider moving the tournament in future years.

Jan asked for suggestions regarding attendance at lectures at this tournament. All are poorly attended, especially those in the evenings. Possibilities were discussed including having only 1 lecture per day, moving lectures to the playing area for more visibility, more advertising, and more announcements.

Buffalo Regional – Chris Urbanek reported.

- She brought flyers.
- The hotel has been sold and there is different management.
- There are plans for a tribute to John Toy this year at the tournament.
- The Prize Room is doing well.

Rock and Roll Regional (2019) – Sharon reported. She has flyers. A scheduling problem resulted in moving the tournament one week earlier for 2019 only.

All American Regional – Sharon Fairchild reported.

- The contract was renegotiated regarding the room block. We are now looking at similar changes for January.
- Hospitality has been changed. We are now purchasing from the hotel.

Rock and Roll Regional (2020) – Jim Overcashier has no information yet, but is looking at some new ideas.

NAOP and GNT – Barb Bacon reported.

- Ron is transitioning to the chairmanship. For the NAOP in October, Ron is doing hospitality. Barb is submitting the paperwork for next year.
- The board thanked Barb for her service; there was a round of applause.

STaC – Mary reported that the summer STaC went well. The new rules regarding duplicating boards have been postponed to 2021.

Website – Bill Hogsett will take over as webmaster, but is unable to assume the role for several months. Bill Holt will serve during the transition, and will serve as backup until another backup can be identified.

Membership – Marc Sylvester will present the report at tomorrow's meeting of the Full Board.

Social Media – Marc reported that Facebook is still not very active.

Education – Chris Urbanek reported.

- Howard Lebow award went to one of Barb G's students.

- Buffalo sent 10 students to the NABC in Atlanta. Sharon Benz is teaching and will give a report at the meeting tomorrow. Others participating in the program are Jim Gullo, Fred Yellen, and Carol Bedell. There are 24 students signed up.
- Marc reported that Barb G. will report at the meeting tomorrow
- The Cleveland program is on hold because Doug had an accident.
- Pittsburgh has 3 schools in the BiS program. The PBA is sponsoring LB1D later today; 27 people are registered.

OLD BUSINESS

District 5 Exemplary Service Award – Mary proposed the following details: The award will be given annually in May. For the first 5 years, when the Executive Committee is charged with determining the winner, a committee of 3 people appointed by the president will choose. The board agreed, and the first award will be given in May 2019.

McGilvrey Electronic Voting – Mary, as VP, is in charge this year. Since the award wasn't given in May (pending previous plans to vote in Buffalo), she asked the board whether there should be an award this year, or wait until May. The board requested an award this year. Mary will organize electronic voting as soon as possible. If this approach is successful, in future years the timing will move back to May.

District Director Election – Sharon reported that the election is ongoing, and closes Sept. 15. Results will be available Sept. 17. Since there are 3 candidates, and a majority is required, there might be an additional voting period.

NEW BUSINESS

ACBL Data Analysis Requirements – Sharon said that there is a Data Analysis Committee of the ACBL. They are asking for input regarding data needs. She distributed a document summarizing possibilities and eliciting input.

Election Tomorrow – The election of officers will be at the meeting of the Full Board, tomorrow.

Executive Board Meeting in January – Marc reported that the meeting will be on Saturday between sessions. The hotel will provide lunch.

Format of Full Board Meetings – Jan asked if the meetings of the Full Board could be accomplished in another way, considering the cost and the work involved. After discussion, the plusses were thought to outweigh the minuses. This is an important way for the District to communicate with the Units.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00.