

New Hampshire Bridge Association
Annual Meeting
June 5, 2016
MINUTES

The annual meeting, held at Rivier University in Nashua, NH, was called to order by president, Sarah Widhu at 11:30 AM. In attendance were, Sarah Widhu, Lawrence Cheetham, Nora Miller, Barry Rogoff, Anne McCune, Marshall Thomas, Rick Weinstein, Wayne Burt and Jane Verdrager.

President Report:

There was discussion and feedback about this year's State Championship in this new location. Both the food and the venue (Rivier University) received very favorable comments. Discussion then focused on the need to grow the event, what the maximum the venue might accommodate, the need to adjust the stratification since there were a large number of C players, and how we might better accommodate partnership requests, perhaps on the NH Bridge website.

Lawrence Cheetham moved to assign responsibility for finding alternative sites for NHBA tournaments to one or more Board members. Marshall Thomas seconded and the motion was passed

Treasurer Report:

Nora Miller and Lawrence Cheetham brought us up to date on the finances of the organization and provided a spread sheet of each of the previous three years' profit/loss itemization. There was discussion as to whether the compensation to tournament managers was in addition to their free play. It was clarified that the compensation would in essence be reduced to prior levels, if the tournament manager had to then pay for their own entry, and that our decision to increase compensation was in addition to free play for the tournament, but that this should be clarified.

Rick Weinstein moved to accept the report and it was seconded by John Maxwell. It passed unanimously.

Website Report:

Regarding Pianola, Barry Rogoff asked that club directors delete the "Regular sessions waiting for upload" that were cancelled, and that they complete the player information corrections needed for each result uploaded.

Elections:

Ryan Hickey and Claire Gardner were nominated to fill the open positions including one vacated by Rick Weinstein. Marshall Thomas' status as a Board member was changed from temporary to permanent.

John Maxwell moved to close the nominations, seconded by Lawrence Cheetham. Passed unanimously.

Lawrence Cheetham moved to accept the nominations by acclamation, seconded by Tink Tysor and passed unanimously.

Retiring member, Rick Weinstein was thanked for his many contributions to the organization.

By-Laws:

Lawrence Cheetham moved to accept the revised by-laws as amended. Barry Rogoff seconded the motions, which passed unanimously.

Other business:

The District has asked us to reschedule the April 2018 Sectional tournament due to a conflict with GNT. They have suggested we combine the Sectional with the NLM Eastman tournament scheduled for April 21/22, 2018. Sara had made an executive decision to grant this request.

Discussion followed regarding the policy of the Eastman NLM tournament being required to compensate the Unit \$100.00 when their dates conflict. This was initially thought to make up for the loss of players who might instead attend the NLM tournament which does not financially benefit the Unit. The argument is that the NLM tournament is a stepping stone for inexperienced players to participate in a tournament in a less threatening environment and acts as a feeder for future tournament attendance as those players gain experience and confidence. With the location of the Unit Sectional changed from Newington to Nashua, it is anticipated that attendance will increase because of the close proximity to a more densely populated Massachusetts area.

Barry Rogoff moved to eliminate the \$100.00 fee. It was Seconded by Lawrence Cheetham and passed by vote of 6-4 with Jane Verdrager abstaining.

Anne McCune moved that the Unit purchase 10 additional tables since it is anticipated that attendance at the Rivier location is going to increase. Barry Rogoff seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

There was also discussion regarding the capacity that the Rivier location could accommodate. We could use a second room for additional tables. That raised the possibility that we could need to hire a second director. One solution to that is to use a baby monitor for calling the director from one room to another. Nora Miller volunteered to provide the monitor.

John Maxwell moved that compensation to tournament managers include free play at those tournaments. Ann McCune seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The District has asked that we do a Grass Roots Sectional which costs more and that the money go to NE District 25. Anne McCune moved to donate \$500.00 to the district Grass Roots Fund instead. Paul Levesque seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Paul Levesque moved to include a letter with our donation, encouraging the District to continue holding the Regional in Nashua, NH. Anne McCune seconded and it passed unanimously.

There was some discussion regarding the Leroy Lake award and the need to form other committees to handle nominations, tournament set up, clean up, snacks and also to be looking for other tournament locations. Joan Cook, Wayne Burt and Bruce Downing were suggested as possible members for the Leroy Lake Award committee.

It was confirmed that a sufficient number of our delegates will be attending the Board of Delegates meeting at the June Regional in Nashua.

Marshall Thomas moved to adjourn, which was seconded by Lawrence Cheetham and passed unanimously.