

**Minutes
of the
Unit 164 Board Meeting**

Held January 18, 2020 at the Bridge Club of Lexington

Members Present: Brad Beck, Darryl Bennett, Andra Gyor, Mina Hedayati, Ellen Hume, Bob Korten, Pat Matheny, Melena VanArsdall

Members Present via Telephone: Terrell Holt

Members Absent: Ted Addleton, Susan Dance, Norma Greely, Mike Proctor, John Kennedy

Guests: Bob Houtrow and Sondra Holt (via telephone)

The meeting was called to order by the Unit 164 President and Director Andra Gyor at 4:50PM. Secretary and Director Ellen Hume said that we have a quorum present so the meeting can proceed.

Opening Remarks – Andra made opening remarks and welcomed those present. She said because several Board members are unable to attend this meeting she will be making the Treasurer's and other reports.

Minutes from May's Unit 164 Board Meeting and General Membership

Meetings – Ellen distributed draft minutes from the May 18, 2019 Unit 164 Board Meeting and from the May 19, 2019 General Membership Meeting for approval. After a brief review, the documents were approved as written.

Treasurer's Reports – Andra distributed the Treasurer's reports and summarized the reports. She said that Ted provided reports of the past year's Sectional and Regional tournaments and a comparison of the financial status of Unit 164 for years 2018 and 2019.

She said we have one CD from Bank of Lexington with an interest rate of 1.75. She said that Ted has received permission from the IRS to make our accounting year the same as the Calendar Year. Our Fiscal Year will still end on June 30 but we will not have to account for it until December 31. She also said that our Treasurer is now bonded.

Andra said that Ted specifically mentioned the outstanding job that Mike Proctor did on the 2018 and 2019 audit reports. He said they were not only done well but they were done in the way an audit should be done. Mike has signed off on both audit reports and they are attached as part of the Treasurer's report.

Andra then said that the 2019 Sectionals: Lexington Sizzlin' Swiss, NLM, and Cabin Fever were down in table count but they all made a profit.

1. **Lexington Sizzlin' Swiss Sectional**—Approximately \$2,300 profit was made
2. **Louisville/Lexington Regional**--Attached
3. **Unit 164 Financial Report**—Attached
4. **Investment Status**—Attached

Cabin Fever Sectional/2020 Status—Director and Co-chair of the tournament Bob Korten reported that through Saturday afternoon we are up seven tables. He said he has talked with others and consensus is to change the 299er game to a 499er game. Director Mina Hedayati mentioned it could be valuable to have a 99er game at our Sectional tournaments to benefit the very new players. Andra responded that the NLM tournament in July is specifically designed for new players and we should encourage our new players to attend the NLM tournament.

Committee Chair Reports

1. Education – Darryl reported on the September 2019 Learn Bridge in a Day event. He said it did not meet expectations as it did not attract youth players. He went on to say that it had good attendance with eight tables. Terrell said it was successful from the standpoint that we exposed 32 new players to bridge and to our club and that Carole Fox had ten students attend her classes following the event. Terrell opined that a better way to

attract youth is to have youth camp separate from adult classes. Sondra Holt suggested that we contact Maribeth Ransel from the Indianapolis club as they have a very successful youth camp. Andra said she would do so.

2. Membership – Ellen reported that as of the end of December 2019 there are 334 Unit 164 members, a decrease of ten members since May 2019. Ellen said that since May 2019 she has sent 13 new member packets to new members. She said she has sent 21 expired membership letters and spoke personally with two members who have let their memberships expire. Two members renewed their memberships after they received the letter.
3. Ethics – Ethics is no longer a responsibility of the Units but has moved to the District level.
4. Publicity—Brad said there is no report.

Youth Camp “Learn Bridge in a Day” – 2020—LBIAD 2019 was discussed earlier in the meeting. LBIAD 2020 was not specifically discussed.

Old Business

1. Update on Sectional and Regional Sanctions (through 2025)—Darryl reported that all sanctions are up to date except for the Pine Mountain Sectional that still has not been changed to show the current Lexington location. Darryl said he will contact ACBL directly to ensure this change is made as there are currently problems with electronic submissions. Darryl said he is working on getting sanctions for the 2024-2026 Unit 164 tournaments.
2. Update on May Spring Sectional—Terrell and Andra are co-chairs and the 299er game has been changed to 499er. The flyer has been submitted, printed and distributed.
3. Update on NLM Sectional—Andra said that this tournament is set and is going forward as usual. ACBL has approved the tournament flyer but the flyers have not yet been printed.
4. Update on Lou/Lex Regional 2020—Sondra Holt reported. She said the new 110,000 square feet casino is now built. Outside the room where bridge is played there are five new restaurants. She said that attendance has gone down in recent years (down 170 tables this past year) and that Board

members should do all we can to encourage club members to attend. Terrell said next year will bring bracketed or round robin Swiss games so that average players will not have to play against top level players. Director Melena VanArsdall said she talked to several players who said it is the lack of restaurants, temperature of the room as well as the distance necessary to walk to the playing room which is a deterrent for them. Terrell responded that we did get a discount on scooter rental but that no longer having shuttle service is a problem that needs to be addressed by the facility. There was brief discussion about how we, as leadership, can talk this tournament up.

5. Proposed Revisions from By-laws Committee—Andra distributed the proposed changes made to the Unit 164 By-Laws and to the Standing Rules. She reviewed each change as follows:
 1. Page 1 – Highlighted item simply states that the By-Laws were updated and approved by the Board on January 18, 2020
 2. Page 4 – Section 5.1 add “the Treasurer’s Unit 164 Financial” and remove the word “Officer’s. This change is for clarification.
 3. Page 5 – Section 6.2.1 added the last two words “in attendance” for clarification
 4. Page 5 – Section 6.2.4 change the word “conduct” to “running” of tournaments.
 5. Page 7 –Change “his” to “his/her.”
 6. Page 9 – Section 7.5 concerning duties of the Unit Treasurer, remove the statement “shall prepare a budget annually for the approval by the board at the May meeting.” Andra said that our organization’s profits and expenses are consistent from tournament to tournament and a budget is not considered necessary.
 7. Page 11 – Under CERTIFICATION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, changes are made to this section to update the document and to add Andra Gyor as the current president.
 8. ADDENDUM – This page is added for specificity.

Andra then asked if there were questions or comments concerning the By-Law changes. There were none and Darryl moved that we approve the changes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mina and carried. Andra said we will present the updated By-Laws to the membership during the General Membership meeting in May.

Andra then went over the proposed changes to the Standing Rules as follows:

1. Page 1 – Number 6, concerning the Unit Directory that we publish every two years, we are adding “if there is a charge for IT work,...”. Darryl then said that if we use an acronym we should spell it out as “Information Technology” not “IT.” He went on to say that we would not have to hire a professional IT person to do this work as it is secretarial in nature. He suggested we say “if there is a charge for “such” work. After brief discussion consensus was to make the change as Darryl suggested.
2. Page 1 – Number 8 change the work “shall” to “may.” There was brief discussion then consensus was to make this change.
3. Page 1 – Number 8 after “...National’s which is” add “an amount determined by the Unit Board but not to exceed the amount...”
4. Under TOURNAMENT concerning free plays for the Hospitality Chair add “one to three (1-3)” rather than “three (3).” Andra explained that determining whether the Hospitality Chair receives free plays should be at the discretion of the Tournament Chair.
5. Under TOURNAMENT remove the entirety of item #2 concerning the moving of tables, bidding boxes, and so on. Andra explained that since we are holding our tournaments in-house there is no reason for this item to be in our standing rules.

Darryl then made the motion to approve the changes to the Standing Rules as amended. The motion was seconded by Mina and carried.

6. Audit Report for FY 2018 Financials – The Audit report was addressed above in the Treasurer’s Report.
7. Pianola-Unit 164—(Pianola is an e-mail marketing software) Bob reported that Pianola was offered for free through December 2019 but now there is a charge. Terrell said he understands that Steve Moese

purchased several thousand units of this service for the Districts and Units and it is enough for two years. Bob said that ACBL no longer offers this service leaving it up to the Units and clubs. There was no consensus on this issue but Bob will contact Steve Moese and explore it further.

8. Columbus NABC 2020 – Volunteers and Sponsorships – Andra said she sent an email to our members asking them to support this tournament by attending and by volunteering during the event. She has heard back from about four people. The date for the tournament is March 19-29. Andra will coordinate volunteers from our club. Andra said she bought a sponsorship for our Unit and that we are sponsoring one of the knock-out 4 session events. It is called Unit 164 of the Bluegrass Knock-Out.

Andra said she was approached by a club member and asked to replace some of the Unit 164 bidding cards and she did so.

New Business

1. District 11 Board Meeting Reports – Cincinnati, Dayton, and Louisville:
Andra said that Terrell has provided us with three separate reports. Andra summarized the three board meeting reports. She said Steve Moese is the new chairman taking over for Terrell. She then went over the three reports.

District 11 Board Report—Concerning the GNT competition for Flights A, B, and open teams, these will be held in Cincinnati with the C group rotating between the Units interested in doing so. This is an effort to increase participation. After brief discussion strong consensus was that we do want to be in the rotation to host the Flight C Swiss games in Lexington. Terrell then interjected that we need to get a Chair to run this tournament and that the Unit will be responsible for expenses but we also get the proceeds from it. The date can be set by the Unit but the GNT A and B competition is in April. Andra said she will inquire further about this issue.

Andra then turned to the November 9 Unit 164 Representative Report on District 11. She specifically pointed out that the ACBL Board has proposed a decrease in the number of Districts from 25 to 13. She said the number of

Units and clubs will remain the same. The final decision will be made in Columbus and Terrell said it will be difficult for this to pass because no one wants to go off the board. Andra said the issue arose because it is generally agreed that there are too many tournaments. It was mentioned that Unit 164 would be in Region seven.

Andra then mentioned the concept of the "grass roots" pairs game for newer players that is noted in Terrell's November 9 report. The game would cost \$1 more for players but would pay 50% more silver. After discussion it was strongly agreed that this is a good idea. Andra said she would like to do this during this year's May Sectional and/or the NLM Sectional. Andra said she will follow up on this.

Terrell asked the Board members to consider having a third Board meeting between the May and January meetings because there is so much information in the district and other reports that is not getting to the Board members in a timely fashion. After brief discussion in which Ellen said she does not want to schedule a third Board meeting on a regular basis, the decision was to have a third meeting when necessary. It was mentioned that electronic transmission of the district reports may be adequate to keep Board members apprised of District activities.

Bob asked why it is that AJ has not set up a District effort to recognize individuals for Goodwill. After a couple of comments from those in attendance, Terrell said he will say something to AJ. Terrell went on to explain that the ACBL sent out the notices about this program and the District Representative can request that the Units forward nominations of individuals to receive Goodwill awards from the District. Terrell said AJ probably just forgot to address Goodwill.

2. Chair for Sizzlin' Swiss Sectional 2020 – Sondra and Terrell have agreed to be co-Chairs.
3. Chair for Cabin Fever Sectional – January 2021 – Paul Moss and Bob Korten have agreed to be co-Chairs.

4. Nominating Committee -- Melena will chair the Nominating Committee. Andra appointed Pat Matheny and Mike Proctor to sit on this Committee. Andra reported that the Unit President, Vice President, Representative and Director Norma Greely are all going off the Board this July. Andra went on to say that she has spoken with several people who have agreed to serve on the Board and will be on the slate for the following offices: Ken Katen president, Brad Beck, VP, Terrell Holt Unit Representative and Paul Moss and Tom Stanwick-Hay Unit 164 directors.

Other Items for Discussion – Board

Terrell said he wants to give praise to Tom Stanwick-Hays for his successful effort to bring people into the club via OLLI. Andra said she will ask Tom to be Chair of the Education Committee when Darrell goes off the Board.

Terrell also said that the May, 2019 Board meeting minutes states that we have put a moratorium of three years on the funds accumulated over time by Unit 164. He went on to say that there has been positive action as far as getting land for a new building in which to house our club and Sectionals. He said that the reason we can't get the land immediately is because it is tied up in a mortgage which comes due in 2023. He suggested we remove the moratorium. After discussion and a review of the May, 2019 minutes, it became apparent that the intent by the Board members in May was not an absolute moratorium on Unit funds as there was no motion made to do so. It was decided that currently no action by the Board is considered necessary to remove any moratorium.

Sondra brought up NABC stipend for Blaine and Charlie. Andra said we will pay Blaine and Charlie the same amount that the District pays.

Adjourn

Darryl moved for adjournment at 6:10 PM. The motion was seconded and carried.

Unit 164 Board of Director's Meeting
January 18, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Hume, Secretary, Unit 164