

**MINUTES**  
**DISTRICT 6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**  
Saturday, February 25, 2012  
Williamsburg, Virginia

**Those present:**

<b>Officers:</b>	President	Bill Cole
	Vice President	Tom Dow
	Secretary	Melinda Dow acting as Secretary for Judy Passerini
	Treasurer	Ron Spieker

**Unit Presidents:** Tom Dow (Unit 110 Proxy); Susan Bowles (Unit 146 Proxy); Ellen Mendelson (Unit 135); Bob Klein (Unit 231); Don Berman (Unit 147)

**MABC Officers/  
Reps and  
Voting Members**

Susan Bowles, Leland Nettles, Tom Dow, George Lewis, Don Berman, Ron Spieker, Margot Hennings, Bill Cole, Shawn Stringer, Richard Deyerle, Barbara Doran, Lynn Jones, Gloria Halstead, Fred King, Steve Robinson, Bob Klein, Patricia Wilson

**Non-Voting  
Members**

Millard Nachtwey (District Tournament Director), Carol Guy (Charity), Gloria Halstead (Policies & Procedures)

**Guests**

Eldon Clayman

**Officers Reports**

**President**

Bill Cole called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and requested introductions of those present. Bill emphasized that Unit Presidents who are unable to attend the meetings should e-mail the Secretary to let her know who will attend as Proxy.

**Secretary**

It was noted that several requested corrections had not been made to the minutes from the last meeting. Steve Robinson moved that approval of the minutes be tabled to the next meeting. Tom Dow seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

**Vice-President**

Tom Dow reported on the Regional Committee and stated we currently have 11 Regionals and it would probably be 2016 or 2017 before another could be considered. It will take coordination between District 6 and District 7 to decide on location/date. Millard said a slot would be available in 2016 because of the Nationals. Bill said it was



discussed in Virginia Beach that we would wait and see turnout for Charlottesville and Cambridge before making a decision.

#### **Treasurer**

Ron Spieker presented the Treasurer's Report and said the District is doing well, and the next major expense will be the North American Pairs stipend. All IRS forms have been filed as required.

#### **MABC report**

Fred King reported that we are continuing to try and improve playing cards and any that are not acceptable should be reported to the Director. We have found someone who can make the 30x30 tables but they do have some drawbacks, mainly the weight. Fifty of them have been purchased and hopefully will be ready for Gatlinburg.

#### **District Director Report**

Margot Hennings reported that Patty Tucker from Atlanta is extremely active in junior bridge and advised in December that she had put together a university class in Lexington at Washington and Lee. Leland Nettles said the program was entitled "How to Learn to Play Bridge in One Day". They had about 26 to enroll and 12 showed up for the class. They also advertised to the community at large and they had about 40 people register for that. From the Washington and Lee program, only 3 or 4 have returned to complete the course. All were seniors and if they have the program again they want to target underclassmen. The community outreach group was very successful.

Fred King stated there will also be a free workshop in Gatlinburg for those who are interested in starting a similar program.

Margot said we have a fabulous new CEO, Robert Hartman, who is energetic and focused on several new programs. He is bringing all 8 of the field representatives in to visit the new headquarters and hall of fame. This will be the first time to bring the group together and many have never visited there.

Our new ACBL president, Sharon Anderson will be visiting a lot of different regionals and will be in Bethesda for the tournament this year. She wants to create some focus groups and all who attend should speak to her to voice any concerns they might have. Robert Hartman will also be visiting the September MBA sectional and will be in Gatlinburg for the youth program. Margot said there has also been discussion about juniors and at what level of play should they receive subsidies. The original motion had a cap at 500 master points and felt that was too low. Margot suggested it be raised, and for anyone in that category who is being paid as a professional would be excluded.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Tournament Coordinator**

Millard Natchwey said the 2012 dates are all set and we are starting on 2013. An e-mail will be sent to the Secretary with current 2013 dates for distribution to the various units, and we're at a point where we should be actively sanctioning those tournaments.



## Finance

Shawn Stringer had no report, but did state that we were in pretty good condition financially and any questions or concerns should be sent to her.

## Grand National Teams

Lynn Jones said there are currently 18 to 20 pre-registered teams participating and everything is in place for the tournament to begin. (\*NOTE\*) The GNT ended with 74 teams.

## North American Pairs

Barbara Doran said she has been the NAP district coordinator for quite some time and presented a brief history of the North vs South locations. Originally, these events alternated between the north and south, but seems that we lost players (and money) every time we went to the south. At one point we decided to put the open event (in which over 90% of the players are from the DC-Baltimore area) in the north and split-site the O-2000 and NLM events in both the north and south. The O-2000 event has lost players and we can no longer field a two-day event in the south. After considerable discussion with Richard Deyerley, Chuck Sadowski, Bill Cole and Paul Anderson it was decided to hold the O-2000 in the north only (over 75% of last year's entry played at the north site) and put energy into the NLM in the south to build a large event that hopefully, will graduate many into the O-2000 category. The NLM will remain split site. (\*NOTE\*) After trying to organize for a NLM event, the Richmond folks decided they couldn't handle it and all flights will be in the North this year.

At the recommendation of Barbara, Carol Guy moved that the O-2000 flight of the 2012-2013 North American Pairs shall be held at the "northern" site only. This shall continue until such time as either Unit 109 or 110 feels they can viably host the event. The NLM Flight will be "the split site", held in both the "northern" and "southern" sites. Richard Deyerley seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

## Goodwill

Carol Guy said she would be happy to continue chairing the Charity and Goodwill Committees. Carol said she needs to know more about what the job entails and also would need information in advance regarding nominations, receptions, etc.

## Webmaster

Don said there is a link on our website to the recent News Week Article about bridge for those who are interested. Don also reported on recent Junior tournaments and our players representing the United States did very well.

## Policies and Procedures

Gloria Halstead said she is in the process of writing up our long-standing policies which is pretty much in final draft form. After Margot and Millard put their final touches on them they should be ready to mail out in an e-mail attachment. Also she is starting to work on job descriptions and asked for information from board members.

## Miscellaneous

Bill Cole congratulated Tom and Melinda for a well-run tournament. Attendance is expected to be about 2200 tables. Millard said the O-300 category had twice as many players as from the tournament 2 years ago. Bill said it's worth noting that the MABC is breaking records in all tournaments and the last 7 have shown considerable increases in



attendance. The tournament chairs, directors and MABC staff do an outstanding job in putting our regionals together.

Tom Dow said that after hearing a presentation from Ron Kral about personalized letters to NLM, he decided to do a mailing to all NLM's in Virginia, inviting them to our tournament. We sent out 3200 letters and probably received about 50 back when they registered, but the tournament is obviously very bottom-heavy. There's no way of knowing if the letter is what brought them to the tournament, but several people commented on the letter and how much they appreciated the invitation.

Carol Guy said she sent a group e-mail to Unit Presidents about charity games in March and sanctions have already been obtained.

Bill said the next meeting will be either at Bethesda or Hunt Valley, but everyone would be notified.

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 11:50.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Melinda Dow*

Acting Secretary for Judy Passerini