

MINUTES

District 6 Board of Directors Meeting Reston, VA

July 11, 2015

Those Present:

Officers:	President Vice President Secretary Treasurer	Don Berman Richard Deyerle Julie Marquette Ron Spieker
Unit Presidents	Barry Fratkin (proxy for Unit 109), Ron Alldaffer (Unit 110), Lynn Jones (proxy for unit 135), David Butler (proxy for Unit 139), Ellen Cherniavsky (Unit 147), Ron Kral (Unit 218), Rich Rio (Unit 231)	
Other Voting Members	Margot Hennings (District 6 Representative to the ACBL Board of Directors), Steve Robinson (D6 Board of Directors First Alternate), Shawn Stringer (D6 Board of Directors Second Alternate) Barb Doran (D6 Representative to the ACBL Board of Governors), Will Williams (D6 Representative to the ACBL Board of Governors), Fred King (D6 Representative to the ACBL Board of Governors)	
Non-Voting Members	Bill Cole (D6 Grass Roots Coordinator), Lucy McCoy (D6 Tournament Coordinator and Managing Editor of TableTALK, Nancy Lowry (D6 Finance Chair), Jane Farthing (Williamsburg Regional TC), Mark Dahl (D6 Recorder), Amanda Carter (Reston Regional TC), Barry Fratkin (Richmond Sectional TC), Susan MacLaughlin (nominated for D6 Secretary)	
Guests	Chris Moll (MABC Vice President and Treasurer), Donna Rogall (TableTALK Creative Designer and Editor), Robert Hartman (ACBL CEO), Sylvia Hardin (ACBL Senior Director of Field Operations), Mitch Hodus (ACBL CIO)	
Welcome	Don Berman welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. Don introduced Robert Hartman, Sylvia Hardin and Mitch Hodus.	
President's Report	Don noted that the Reston tournament is currently up 200 tables. He thanked Amanda Carter, the Reston tournament chair, for a job well done.	
Secretary	Minutes from the Richmond meeting were approved as submitted.	
Treasurer	Ron Spieker reported that D6 has received \$147,700 in distributions from MABC to date. That is the amount that was agreed to be dispersed, leaving monies in the MABC treasury for 2015 operating expenses. Additional monies may be dispersed at a later date. The Treasurer's report was accepted.	

MABC Report Fred King (in his position as MABC President) stated that at the annual MABC meeting in Gatlinburg it was decided that the main functions of the MABC would be advertising and supplies. For the next two years, the annual meetings will be in Raleigh (2016) and Richmond (2017).

District Director: No report--deferred to leave time for discussion of issues identified by the ACBL CEO and Senior Director of Field Operations as important to discuss with the Board in person at our D6 Reston Regional.

Committee Reports:

Regional Management: Shawn Stringer said that the final report from Richmond was approved. The hotel at the Chesapeake tournament will offer a 3% credit to our master account if we "go green", with specific requirements to meet.

District Tournament Coordinator: Lucy McCoy said that the MBA still needs a site for their 2016 tournaments. Starting in 2016, we need to increase our I/N strats for D6 sectional and regional tournaments up to 0-500 NLM.

Educational Foundation: Ron Spieker stated that the Educational Foundation has received final approval as a 501(3)(C) charity. Learn Bridge in a Day (LBIAD) at the Reston tournament on July 6 is the first sponsored event of the D6 Educational Foundation. Margot Hennings in her role as LBIAD Administrator gave a brief report on the outcome of the Reston LBIAD, stating that there were 88 participants in the five-hour Beginners course in the afternoon and 8 participants (with 7 of them agreeing to support the District in future LBIAD efforts in return for the \$50-apiece subsidy) in the Instructor Accreditation course that same night. A substantial grant was applied for and received from the ACBL Education Foundation that paid for instructor Patty Tucker's course and logistics fees (her flight from Atlanta, hotel room, meals, etc.) and up to \$500 in matching expenses incurred by the District for the Beginners course. Once all LBIAD expenses and subsidies are accounted for (including applying for the ACBL Cooperative Advertising reimbursement), the D6 Education Foundation will net approximately \$600. There are strict follow-up reporting requirements as part of the terms of the grant and this information will provide a great opportunity for clubs and teachers and unit coordinators to encourage potential new players to participate in supervised play and beginners games.

Regional Rotation: Fred King said that Brian Boyce (Norfolk Regional TC) is currently in negotiations with the Cavalier Hotel in Virginia Beach for 2018.

Advertising & Communications: Margot Hennings said she is working on a system to make sure sectional flyers are distributed to other sectionals and regionals. She hopes to have a possible "system" to propose in Hunt Valley.

Finance: No report.

Grass Roots: Barb Doran (D6 NAP Coordinator) reported that the D6 Executive Committee approved a southern site for the NLM and 0-2500 NAPs. She asked the unit presidents to make sure their NAP coordinators get the word out about the upcoming NAP qualifying games, and that they encourage club owners/managers to hold qualifying games and ensure players know the date and locations of the D6 NAP Finals. The Finals will be held September 19-20th. Bill Cole (D6 Grass Roots Coordinator) asked that

the Conditions of Contest for the GNTs be approved. Motion passed. Don Berman mentioned that one of the units from D4 will join one of our STaCs and that the MBA can join one of the D4 STaCs.

TableTALK: Don Berman introduced Donna Rogall, the Editor of TableTALK. The next issue of TableTALK will be the first issue covering three months—August, September, and October—as voted on in Richmond. A quarterly publication of TableTALK will continue throughout 2016. Don said that we will revisit at a later date the issue of TableTALK going online only in 2017. In the meantime, starting with the previous June/July issue of TableTALK, all issues will be online through the D6 website.

Appellate/Judiciary: No report.

Goodwill: David Rodney asked for units to get their appointments for their D6 Goodwill Committee members for this year in as soon as possible. This year's D6 Goodwill reception will be held on Friday, November 20 between sessions at the Chesapeake regional in Cambridge, MD.

Webmaster: In his role as Webmaster, Don Berman stated that he is trying to automate the website so that other people besides himself will be able to enter information.

Recorder: Mark Dahl mentioned his talk he gives at regionals on "Table Manners". He is also available to give the talk at sectionals.

State of the League: Robert Hartman (ACBL CEO) thanked Don Berman for his four years of service as President of District 6. Robert spoke at length about the current and future issues and concerns that the ACBL is working on. Many members are particularly concerned about membership recruitment and retention and Robert addressed those issues as well as technology concerns and entertained questions following his presentation. Robert thanked everyone from D6 for their hard work.

Sylvia Hardin (ACBL Senior Director of Field Operations) stated that the ACBL's goal is to have skilled, qualified tournament directors locally situated. A training program entitled "Tournament Director University" (TDU) was rolled out experimentally a year and a half ago. TDU is now being put in place to train newer directors on how to advance to become Directors-in-Charge of Sectionals, and to train more experienced directors on how to advance to become Directors-in-Charge of Regionals. This year, the program will be expanded to include training and re-certification of club directors. All programs will include not only technical training (movements, the laws, etc.) but also computer training for familiarity with ACBLScore, and all-important customer service training. There is a new supervisory structure in place, with the number of Field Supervisors increased from eight to twelve so that there is the ability to have better communication with the directors in the field and a quicker response to concerns from both the director-employees and the sponsors (units, districts). Field supervisors will also go through extensive training.

Old Business:

D6 Bylaws: Motion passed to delay the vote on weighted voting until Hunt Valley. All voting members were encouraged to provide Don potential scenarios for a new voting structure within the next several weeks.

NABC: Margot Hennings (NABC TC) and Shawn Stringer are working together to get sponsorships for naming rights from the local community. Susan Bowles (NABC co-chair) would like to have a military

honoree day. There will be an article in the upcoming issue of TableTALK highlighting sponsorship opportunities and all unit representatives were encouraged to spread the word amongst their local bridge players to consider sponsoring an event at next Summer's NABC.

Regional Cafeteria Plan: No report.

New Business:

Nomination Committee Appointments: Will Williams stated that the current slate of nominees up for election in Hunt Valley is Shawn Stringer for President, Rick Deyerle and Mike Zane for Vice President, Ron Spieker for Treasurer and Susan McLaughlin for Secretary.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 am and both voting and non-voting members of the District were asked to stay for a brief Executive Session.

The next meeting is between sessions (dinner) in Hunt Valley on Saturday, August 22.