

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Larry Alexander-President/Treasurer
Cary Rodgers- Vice President
Judy Knox –Secretary

Cecile Skaggs
Tom Dixon- absent
Ed Davis

The meeting was called to order by Larry Alexander at 10:30am. The minutes previously emailed by Judy Knox were approved. Ed Davis stated that the August minutes said that he had put down a \$5,000 deposit, but his credit card did not get charged. Since the statement was accurate at the time of the Board meeting, no corrections will be made to the August minutes.

Treasurer's Report – Larry Alexander

The Treasurer's report will be put "on hold" until the next meeting. Larry is taking over from Al Stone and Al has been out of town. Larry could not get access to the account until Al got back to give him the password. Larry is waiting to get the password from Al and should get it today.

Old Business

Tunica Regional- Ed Davis, Tournament Chair

Nice tournament, but down 42 tables from last year. 1814 total tables in 2013. Ed made budget cuts in anticipation of the table shortage and our income was not down very significantly. Ed does not have final figures because Sam's Town bill has not been finalized. Ed thinks we will get about \$7,000 and the District will get \$7,000 after all expenses have been paid.

A discussion was entered into regarding why we were down by 42 tables. Mick will take over the chairmanship of the Tunica Tournament from Ed for next year. Ed has too many personal things going on to do the Tournament justice.

Mick came in to talk about the Tunica Regional for next year. Mick has been a Tournament Chair before for other districts.

Mick won't make any changes. He will negotiate with Sam's Town on week end room charge and maybe change some start times.

Mick will concentrate on bumping up attendance and especially week end attendance. There was a lot of discussion regarding the increase in the week end room rates and the low attendance and the scheduling. Mick said he knows all the problems and will concentrate on them.

New Business

Sectionals- Can we do 2 more sectionals at the bridge club? We are allowed 2 more sectionals per year. There was discussion regarding having local sectionals at the bridge club. Maybe on Holidays. Mick said that this can be done. We are definitely considering having local sectionals at the MAL Bridge club in the future.

GNT – Cecile Skaggs

Flight C- 0-500, Flight B – 2500, Flight A – 6000. New master point limits. Money that was raised from Grass Roots games allowed the District to send more people to the finals. Russ, who is in charge of GNT is encouraging Grass Roots games in sectionals and Grass Roots games for a period of 4 consecutive days to fund the GNT and NAP finals. We should have Grass roots games at sectionals to help raise money for the District to send people to GNT and NAP finals. Larry asked "Can we find 4 consecutive days to have grass roots games similar to STAC week?" The open GNT is going to be held on line in January, 2014. The District is going to decide in January which week we will have the Grass roots games. We can pick our games. Cecile will continue to promote GNT in Memphis. District to decide when we will have the 4-day Grass Roots games in Memphis. It will be announced at that time.

Annual Meeting- December 7, 2013

We will elect 6 Board Members this year. We will have the Annual Meeting on December 7, 2013. Cecile Skaggs, Tom Dixon and Carey Rodgers are running for re-election this year. The president appoints the chair of the nominating committee and the chair picks 2 board members and 2 non-members. The nominating committee selects a slate of candidates to run for the current board of directors. Larry appointed Judy Knox as chair of the nominating committee. She will select 4 other people to be on the nominating committee. We will handle absentee ballots the same as we have always done. Instructions for this will be in the letter that is sent out to announce the elections and the party. Absentee ballots will be delivered to Judy Knox, Larry Alexander or Mick McGuire or any club director at the MA Light man Bridge Club. Absentee Ballots are due 48 hours before voting takes place at 12 noon on Saturday, November 7, 2013. Need to send out annual meeting letters on Nov. 2, 2013 at the next Board meeting at 10:30am.

Issues for the Unit 144 Meeting in December:

- + Approve By Law Changes
- + Approve Minutes from last meeting
- + Read Deceased Members List
- + Thank everyone for their efforts during the year.
- + We need to make sure we have everything ready and available for the meeting.

We need to have pictures of everybody who is running for the Unit Board put in the Newsletter for November. We will tell Paul Linxwiler to be sure to put pictures of the Slate in the MAL newsletter in November. There was a lot of discussion regarding hiring the Parliamentarian to attend the Unit 144 meeting in December. We all agreed we will ask him to attend the Unit meeting in December 7, 2013. A quorum for the Unit 144 meetings is 25 people.

Judy will email everybody with names of the nominating committee and the slate. We need to have the new by-laws done by October 30, 2013. The Slate for people running for the Unit Board will be ready by October 30 or before.

- Cecile Skaggs, Cary Rodgers and Tom Dixon are all up for re-election this year. Judy Knox, Larry Alexander and Ed Davis will not run for re-election until next year. Cary Rodgers and Cecile Skaggs are running for re-election. Tom Dixon will not run for the Unit Board again.

The MA Lightman Board has taken over the 3rd Saturday for their meetings at the Club. Larry suggested we have our Board meetings on the Second Saturdays. We will have the next Unit 144 Board meeting on November 2, 2013 at 10:30 am.

December 7, 2013 will be the date of our next Annual Meeting. Letters need to be out by November 7, 2013. We will meet to stuff envelopes with the Unit 144 Slate and Christmas party/annual meeting announcements.

Judy Knox made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Larry Alexander. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Knox

Judy Knox, Secretary Unit 144