Unit 144-TN Bridge Association Board of Director's Minutes March 1, 2014

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT/*ABSENT

Larry Alexander-President *Ed Davis- vice President Judy Knox –Secretary Linda Thompson- Treasurer
*Bill Demetriou
Cecile Skaggs

The meeting was called to order by Larry Alexander at 10:30AM. The minutes previously emailed by Judy Knox were approved.

Treasurer's Report - Linda Thompson

Checking Account Balance \$3,000.00 Savings Account Balance \$23,900.00

Linda discussed the point that was brought up regarding the financial requirements by ACBL for Units in lieu of a certified audit report. We can form an audit committee made up of Unit members independent of Linda Thompson. Linda made a motion to set up a committee to review the Unit 144 financials and bank statements in compliance with the ACBL requirements. The motion was seconded by Judy Knox and the motion passed. Linda will form an audit committee to look into the financial statements of Unit 144 in compliance with the ACBL requirements at the end of the 2014 year.

There was much discussion regarding the assets owned by the Unit versus the M.A. Lightman Bridge Club. It was determined that we cannot and should not do anything regarding this issue until the current Law Suit against the Unit and the Club is settled and that could be sometime in 2015.

GNT - Cecile Skaggs

Cecile is in charge of setting up the GNT team games last year and this year. She put it on the web site and made visits to several novice games. Cecile made fliers and gave them out to everyone. Last year we had 12 tables and this year, we had 10. We were well represented by all A, B and C flight teams. Cecile was concerned that the attendance was down from last year. Judy Knox pointed out that there was no mention in the fliers or web page about the gold points that were awarded. If the Gold points were mentioned, there would probably have been 15 or more tables. Mick told Cecile that this is not an MA Lightman function. It is a unit function. Mick said he would continue to run it if the Unit board wanted him to.

We do have special games called Grass Roots Fund games which support NAP and GNT games. Every year the district gives money to the NAP and GNT district winners to help for expenses to go to the National tournaments. Cecile is having a hard time getting these games on the calendar. The Lightman Board needs to be informed and they need to tell Mick to take care of this or at least have him to work with Cecile to get it done.

Larry suggested that we check in to having the GNT and NAP games at the Pickering Center or Bert Ferguson. That way it would not seem to be an M.A. Lightman function. All games in the Unit would work together and we would also have bigger attendance. Cecile is going to investigate moving the GNT and NAP games to be held at Pickering or Bert Ferguson for 2015.

New Business

A discussion was made regarding the fact that we need to have more communication between the Unit and the MAL Club Boards. A motion was made by Cecile that Larry should speak to Bill Frazee about appointing a Board Member once a month sit in on the MAL Board meetings and Bill should appoint an MAL Board Member to sit in on the Unit Board meetings once a month. Second by Linda Thompson. The motion passed.

More New Business

Larry said we are wasting time and money by not having more sectionals. We need to have a sectional in March and October in addition to the 2 that we are already having. We should check in to having them at some other place other than Lightman bridge club. We would have a larger attendance than having it at Lightman. Larry is thinking about having one in October this year. We are sanctioned to have 4 sectionals per year. We only have 2 right now. The biggest concern about having the sectionals here is that we might have to turn people away. We don't have enough room here at the MAL Club. Bert Ferguson would be able to accommodate a lot more people. We can furnish the tables. They have enough chairs. We can do a 3 day sectional. There was much discussion regarding having a Non- Life Master Regional (0-750 points) to give gold points.

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There was a lot of discussion regarding a date for the Sectional, possibly the weekend of Halloween. October 30. We need space for at least 40 tables. Judy is going to ask Bert Ferguson if we can have a tournament there and what the price would be. We are doing 2 major sectionals in Jan. and July. We want to add 2 more minor sectionals in May and October. Judy is going to talk to Russ about the Non- Life Master Regional.

Larry got an email from someone who wants us to re-start the Paris Landing tournament. The reason it was killed in the first place is because they are so hard to deal with. They want to charge us for everything. It got so expensive that it was losing money. Tony Green contacted Larry about the contact in Paris Landing. They want to give us some money to try to get the Tournament started there again. Judy Knox made a motion for Larry to talk to the people and try to see if we can get Paris landing set up again. Motion passed.

The next Board Meeting will be April 26, 2014 at 10:30 am. Cecile made a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 1pm.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Knox Judy Knox, Secretary Unit 144