

Unit 354 Board Meeting
January 7, 2009
Scottsdale House

Members present: Lesley Davis, JoAnn Lowe, Rod Bias, George Drake, Marianne Spanier, Janet Newman, Barb Bunnell, Bob Welch, Jamie Rubenstein, Angie Ulrey, Page Tomkinson, Charlie Kelley, Kim Corbin, and Harriett Motley, and Susan Sneed.

Kim Corbin called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.. The minutes for the October 22 board meeting were accepted as amended. The minutes of the Annual Membership Meeting of December 7 were approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report: JoAnn presented Leon's information. The Doubletree has not billed us for the recent sectional. We have an \$11,000 balance in the check book but at least \$6500 in bills from Doubletree are expected. JoAnn reminded us that all board reimbursements must have a receipt.

Tournament Report: Lesley reported that we budgeted for 350 tables and actually had 460. We should show a good profit. JoAnn reported on comments from the tournament. The positive and negative comments balance each other out. There are both positive and negative comments about the same situations. JoAnn said there will be a break at the President Day's Sectional for players to find their own quick lunch, in lieu of the unit selling sandwiches. Set up will begin at 5:00 on Thursday Feb. 12. Board members signed up for tournament jobs.

Lesley suggested that we have a promotional item to hand out to advertise for the next year's regional tournament (like a pen). Charles reminded us that the kokopelli order needs to go in now.

Election of Officers: Elected as the officers for 2009 were Janet Newman, President; Barb Bunnell, Vice-President; Kim Corbin, treasurer; and Angie Ulrey, secretary.

Lesley Davis has resigned to assume her new position on the District 17 Board. Harriett Motley will replace her position effective January 24.

A discussion ensued about meeting time and place for the next year. It was decided we would meet on Monday late afternoon/early evening and spread our meetings around at various clubs and the Scottsdale House.

Job Assignments: Assignments for board jobs for 2009 include the following:

Tournament chairs: JoAnn Lowe, Janet Newman, Charlie Kelley

Regional chair: Janet Newman

Web Master: Susan Sneed, Lesley Davis

Shuffle, Deal, Play: Jamie Rubenstein, Barbara Bunnell

Judiciary: George Drake, Harriet Motley, Rod Bias

Membership: Bob Welch

Distribution of SDP: Bob Welch

Hospitality for Regional: Barb Bunnell, JoAnn Lowe

Charity: Page Tomkinson

Partnership: Page, Harriet Motley

Education: Rod Bias

Publicity for Regional: George Drake

Club Liaison: Rod Bias

Computer Specialist: Barbara Bunnell

Unit wide games chairman, NAP chairman: Angie Ulrey

Future Sectionals: The Doubletree can't match our present rate since we don't rent many rooms from them for the sectional. Leon has investigated Grand Canyon University where we will need to rent chairs from Sloans and have to use their caterer. Charlie, JoAnn, Marianne, and Harriett will look further into the facility. We also need to talk to Glendale about President's Day for 2010.

Novice Report: Rod reported that 173 kids have participated in the youth bridge effort at Dysart . Some of the children will be coming to our President's Day Tournament. At Dysart, Rod reports a good teacher contact who is really helping the program. We will introduce kids in attendance Saturday at the tournament and announce those going to nationals in Washington D.C. The program at El Mirage is developing more slowly.

Rod explained that a PR team has been making phone calls to non-life masters to encourage their attendance at the tournaments. He would also like to see a unit supported mentor program in place to encourage new players. He also suggests a 49er or 199er tournament once or twice a year. Such a tournament could be run at a club or two.

SDP: Jamie announced the next deadline as March 16 for the April issue.

Membership Directory: Barbara reported that Staples will print the directories with a coil spine. Lesley moved to approve additional funds of \$1000 for printing.

Judiciary: George led the discussion of two letters recently received from members to the board. He will send letters of response to the complainants.

Membership and Flyers: Bob has sent out the flyers for the Feb. tourney.

Charity: no report

By-Laws Change: George has recently read through our by-laws and finds section 9 cumbersome and out of sync with the district by-laws. He proposes changing section 9. A discussion ensued how to initiate this change. At our next meeting, we need a motion to have a special meeting for the entire membership (probably at the May tournament) to secure a vote. He suggests the new wording be as follows: "Article 9: These by-laws may be amended at any meeting of the board by a 2/3 vote of those present and voting, provided the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular board meetings, or has been made a part of the agenda of the meeting and has been submitted in writing to each member of the board at least 30 days prior to the meeting."

Player of the Year: Player of the Year will be announced at the February tournament.

2013 Tournament Contract: Kim will verify contract with the Casino for the 2013 Regional.

Next meeting: Monday, March 2, 4:30 p.m., Scottsdale House, no dinner hour included.