

ACBL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes: SPRING GENERAL MEETING

March 24, 2024

Doug Couchman, Chair of the Advisory Council, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm EDT on Sunday, March 24, 2024. A quorum was present.

OPENING REMARKS: Chair Couchman opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees, including in particular the new Council members. He reminded AC members that they should be spreading the word to the membership about what is happening with the League.

MINUTES: With a spelling change, the minutes of the December 2023 Fall General Meeting of the Advisory Council were approved.

ACBL PRESIDENT'S REPORT: ACBL President Margot Hennings delivered her report. She complimented Louisville as an NABC site. She informed the council that the Board would be convening several task forces and that the Advisory Council and others would have the opportunity to contribute their input.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Executive Director Bronia Jenkins presented management's report. She answered several questions from League members, including the following:

The "5/5/5" program and what Units need to do (asked by Chair Couchman): The League will be sending out guidebooks, and providing a link.

Questions about EDGAR (asked by Martin Hirschman, AC Anti-cheating Committee Chair): Explained, and deferred some questions to a later presentation by Board A&C Committee Chair Larry Sealy.

NABCs asked about geographic balance for NABC sites (Hugh McSheffrey): Balance difficult; a Board task force will be addressing this issue.

Other questions about online and club play from Steve Gaynor, Mark Lachapelle, Jason Furman, and Vangie Smith were addressed.

LITIGATION REPORT: Executive Director Bronia Jenkins presented the litigation report:

The Marcus case has been settled.

The Gary Hann case has been settled, under confidential terms.

Nicolas Hammond has countersued the EDGAR Foundation and named ACBL as a codefendant; EDGAR is handling the defense.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Director of Finance Jennifer Webster presented the financial report and answered questions thereon.

CHAIR'S REPORT: Chair Couchman reported on actions taken by the Board at their most recent meeting.

MOTION REGARDING LIFE MASTERS (permitted out of agenda order to accommodate schedules): Goodwill Committee Chair Lamya Agelidis moved that all members who have attained the rank of Life Master be welcomed as Life Masters with all privileges attached thereto. Passed by acclamation.

EDGAR REPORT: Larry Sealy, Board of Directors member and Chair of the Appeals and Charges Committee, delivered a report on progress to date with EDGAR. He answered several questions from the membership.

MOTIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION: Jay Apfelbaum moved for reconsideration of 241-GV03 (regarding Life Membership), seconded by Martin Hirschman. After discussion, the motion failed, 9 – 11.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: A motion to require Bridge Base Online to change their club game schedule was discussed, but not made in light of management action.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 pm.