

Minutes of Annual Meeting
ACBL District 1
September 1, 2020
(via ZOOM)

Present:

Jean La Traverse	President	jlatraverse@videotron.ca
Leo Weniger	District Director	leowen@eastlink.ca
George Retek	Director Emeritus	gbridgeretek@gmail.com
Rob Williams	Treasurer	rob.williams@ns.sympatico.ca
Hugues Boisvert	Vice President	hugues.boisvert@hec.ca
Heather Peckett	Secretary	bridgecat@rogers.com
Connie Bartlett	Unit 230	cobartle@gmail.com
Herve Chatagnier	Unit 152	hervechatagnier@gmail.com
Sandra MacPherson	Unit 194	smacpherson67@gmail.com
Tim Edwards-Davies	Unit 192	time-d@rogers.com
Linda Tuff	Unit 194	ltuff@hotmail.com
Jim Kirby	Unit 194	jamesandbrendakirby@gmail.com
Christine Bourbeau	Unit 151	christine1.bourbeau@gmail.com
Mark Lacroix	Tourn. Coordinator	mark@u2candoit.club
Kathie Macnab	GNT Coordinator	kmacnab@eastlink.ca
Robert Guerard	NAP Coordinator	rguerard@me.com
Louise Mascolo	Webmaster	mascolo.louise@gmail.com

	Action
<p>1. Call to Order and Welcome J. La Traverse welcomed the delegates.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes The Minutes of the 2019 AGM were reviewed. It was moved by G. Retek and seconded by H. Boisvert that the Minutes be approved. Carried.</p>	
<p>3. Treasurer's Report R. Williams presented financial statements for 2019. The NABC Fund has approximately \$62,700.</p> <p>The Grass Roots Fund has \$12,700 but \$1,700 is committed to Units for various I/N endeavours. It was moved by H. Boisvert and seconded by L. Tuff that the financial statements be adopted as presented. Carried.</p>	

4. District Director's Report

Beginning in 2021, there will be one Regional ACBL Director in charge of Districts 1 and 2. Elections will be held by Unit executives in the same manner as is done now. Administrative arrangements for our Eastern area will not change.

ACBL finances are good due to online participation.

A review of master points awarded for Gold Point events is underway.

Temporary Memberships will be replaced by 4-month Guest Memberships.

Kibitzers will soon not be allowed for ACBL online play.

The tournaments scheduled for January/February 2021 have been canceled.

The 2025 Memphis NABC has not been approved.

Revenue generated online during this Covid-19 period has been 80% more than expected.

Comments:

Monies generated by the Virtual clubs have supported the participating clubs greatly. The ACBL also setup up games entitled "Support Your Club" to provide support to clubs.

In the Maritimes, two clubs have opened during the last few weeks. In Unit 151, one club has opened and another is expected to open soon.

H. Peckett will send information on "Opening Protocols" developed by a club in Unit 192 to H. Chatagnier.

H. Peckett

5. Executive Committee Reports

J. La Traverse summarized the decisions taken at the meetings held in January, March and April 2020. The major discussion at these meetings revolved around deciding on the best way to distribute the levies collected for the Montreal NABC. The decision was taken to try and cover the \$6 exchange rate difference between the US\$ and Can\$ for Regional events and to subsidize the I/N events by \$3 for all Canadian payers in these events. At this time no additional levies will be imposed and all monies collected for the 2020 NABC will be maintained for a rescheduled NABC in Montreal.

Although the Funds were originally collected to subsidize room rates, the District approved the change of purpose to redirect the funds to

<p>subsidize table fees.</p> <p>Depending on how this pandemic unfolds the District Executive will decide at the next AGM whether the funds should be recommitted to a future NABC or not.</p>	
<p>6. District Website/Webmaster</p> <p>Louise Mascolo took over responsibility of the website after the previous webmaster resigned in March, 2020. The website needs to be restructured if it is to be useful. There is little traffic on the site and the translation of most documents is done by Google Translate- a very poor option. S. MacPherson wondered what information would attract players to the site.</p> <p>Decision taken: That we move forward on a Communication Strategy for the website. Once established, it will determine the content of the website, which must be available in both English and French.</p> <p>L. Mascolo will continue to be the liaison and would like to be involved in the development of the Strategy.</p>	<p>L. Mascolo</p> <p>R. Williams</p>
<p>7. Grass Roots Funds</p> <p>We currently have \$12,700 in Grass Roots Funds. If there are NAP and GNT events in 2021, the District will continue to support each of the NAP and GNT (B and C flights) events with \$1,600 of funding.</p> <p>Last year the District allocated \$3,000 to support Unit initiatives- to a maximum of \$500 for each Unit- in support of new player development. \$1,700 was spent in 2019. It was moved by J. La Traverse and seconded by H. Peckett that the current level of funding be provided for 2020 for projects identified by November 30, 2020, and that this level be raised to \$750 for all 2021 projects identified by October 30, 2021. Carried.</p> <p>An “approval” committee consisting of K. Macnab, G. Retek and J. La Traverse will receive funding requests from Units.</p> <p>K. Macnab received assurance that there would be funds available to provide NAP and GNT subsidies.</p>	<p>K. Macnab</p> <p>G. Retek</p> <p>J. La Traverse</p>
<p>8. Rescheduling of Montreal NABC</p> <p>The local committee wants to reschedule, but it will be 8-20 months before the ACBL will consider our request. At the moment Montreal may not get scheduled before 2027.</p>	<p>J. La Traverse</p>

<p>9. Update on GNTs Kathie is working on how to run the event on line. The District is allowed to send 1 team for each of the A and Super flights.</p> <p>If each “Area” holds a final event for the B and C flights, and if we have more than 8 teams participate, each Area can send a team to the Finals. Kathie will send a draft to the District on the proposed schedule in order that the District can have representation in Providence.</p>	<p>K. Macnab</p>
<p>10. Update on NAPs The District qualifiers for Columbus (2020) will be given the opportunity to attend the Finals in St Louis. J. La Traverse and R. Guerard will work together on notifying the 2020 qualifiers.</p>	<p>J. La Traverse R. Guerard</p>
<p>11. Schedule and Sanctions for 21-22-23 Tournaments.</p> <p>The calendar needs updating.</p> <p>Quebec needs to know if they can have their regularly scheduled spot for 2021 as they need to sign their Hotel contract by November 1, 2020.</p> <p>Will the District be able to reschedule the 2020 regionals into 2021? Moncton has been designated to hold the 2021 CanAT.</p> <p>L. Weniger will ask if we can hold an additional regional in 2021 due to the problems with our split regional schedules.</p> <p>M. Lacroix should contact each Unit to determine if they can host their 2020 regionals in 2021.</p> <p>L. Tuff, M. Lacroix and T Edwards-Davies will form a committee to recommend a schedule for regionals for the next 3 years.</p>	<p>M. Lacroix L. Weniger L. Tuff T. Edwards-Davies</p>
<p>12. Doug Heron Award Congratulations to Unit 194 who is the recipient due its 4% increase in membership.</p>	

<p>13. GR and CLW Winners</p> <p>On behalf of the District selection committee, T. Edwards-Davies announced that Patti McCabe from Unit 192 was selected to receive the George Retek Trophy. Patti serves as the Unit 192 treasurer, promotes duplicate bridge by teaching and being a willing partner for everyone.</p> <p>H. Peckett announced the selection of G. Retek for the CLW trophy. George was a District Director for 33 years and during that time was ACBL President in 2002. He also served on several committees. He was instrumental in getting the Spring NABC to Montreal in 1985 and the Word Championships to Montreal in 2002. George was also the Treasurer of the 2020 NABC committee and is currently the District Recorder and Director Emeritus. George exemplifies the high ethical standards demonstrated by the 3 National Directors in whose names the trophy is given. For more on George's accomplishments, check out the Montreal Bridge League website at https://www.bridgemontreal.ca/en/about/montreal-bridge-league/</p> <p>H. Chatagnier will replace H. Peckett on the Selection Committee for a 3-year term. L. Weniger and T. Edwards-Davies are the other members.</p>	<p>L. Weniger T. Edwards-Davies H. Chatagnier</p>
<p>14. District Charity Game</p> <p>The John McAdam District-Wide Charity Game will be held on Thursday afternoon November 4, 2021.</p> <p>J. La Traverse will organize and get the sanction for the 2021 game. No game will be held in 2020.</p>	<p>J. La Traverse</p>
<p>15. Award for Lifetime Service</p> <p>The Host District of each NABC is entitled to honour an individual for exemplary lifetime service. L. Weniger, after consulting Unit Presidents and the District Executive, is to present Jean Castonguay with this award. This presentation will be done via ZOOM. The ACBL President, Head of the Goodwill Committee, District and Unit Executives and others from the Montreal Unit will be invited to attend.</p>	<p>L. Weniger</p>
<p>16. Unit Meeting/Elections Under Covid 19</p> <p>J. La Traverse will send Guidance that he has received on the conducting of Unit and District business.</p>	

17. Election and Appointment of Officers

Leo expressed our sincere appreciation to J. La Traverse and to H. Boisvert who have chosen not to stand for election for their positions of President and Vice President respectively.

J. La Traverse served as Treasurer for 5 years and 3 years as President. He has been on the Board of Governors for 12 years.

H. Boisvert served as treasurer for 2 years and as Vice President for 1 year.

J. La Traverse will continue to support the District where needed in NAP and Grass Roots endeavours, assist on committees and lead discussions on the rescheduling of the Montreal NABC.

L. Weniger presented the report of the Nominating Committee regarding the election of the District Executive. Each individual confirmed his/her willingness to serve and was elected. Officers and committee chairpersons for the 2020-21 year will be as follows:

President	Rob Williams
Past President	Jean La Traverse
Vice-President	Sandra MacPherson
Secretary	Heather Peckett
Treasurer	Rob Williams
Special Events/Tournament Coord.	Mark Lacroix
Charity	Mark Lacroix
Discipline	Peter Clark
Recorder	George Retek
Appeals	Zygmunt Marcinski
Education and Membership	Kathie Macnab
NAP Coordinator	Robert Guerard
GNT Coordinator	Kathie Macnab
Website Coordinator	Louise Mascolo

18. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned. 2021 meeting will take place in Montreal during the CANAM.