

**Richmond Bridge Association  
Board Meeting  
October 25, 2021 5pm**

The Board of the Richmond Bridge Association met October 25, 2021 via a Zoom conference call. President Anne Atwood reviewed our mission statement that the purpose of the RBA is to preserve, promote, and stimulate interest in duplicate bridge.

Members Present: Anne Atwood, Ruth Miles, Tom Kasvin, Barry Fratkin, Linda MacCleave, Landon Woody, Debra Gardner, Peter Martin, Francis Terminella, Ed Kinlaw, Karen Hamlett

The minutes from the May 24 and July 26 board meetings, held by Zoom conference call, and the October 18 meeting, an email vote on a motion, were approved.

The October 18 minutes covered a motion from Linda MacCleave to increase the point limitations on Friendly Bridge games to 750 NLM on Sunday afternoon and Tuesday evening games, and an increase to 200 points for the Sunday evening game. The vote was taken by email and the motion passed. A board member requested the vote tally on that motion. The motion passed with 8 affirmative votes. There were no negative votes.

## **Reports**

**Mentoring Program:** The Mentoring program continues with their Thursday evening games. The committee will be meeting soon.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Tom Kasvin reviewed the Financial Statements he provided to board members. The fiscal year for the RBA is July through June. He compared first quarter (July – September) numbers for 2020 and 2021. Tom notified Anne Atwood in June that he will not continue as Treasurer after the end of his current term, May 31, 2022.

**Friendly Bridge Report:** Linda MacCleave submitted her monthly report prior to the meeting. She noted that the fees for face-to-face games do not cover the expenses for those games, but the online game fees exceed expenses. Non-Life Masters with fewer than 750 points are now able to play in the Friendly Bridge games at the Bridge Center.

The Bridge Center and Friendly Bridge share 15% of the entry fees our players pay for Southeast Bridge Club Consortium games. Barry Fratkin has negotiated with the Knoxville SEBCC personnel and that amount will increase to 25%, retroactive to July.

**Education Foundation:** Debra Gardner reported that the ACBL's BridgeWhiz program to teach bridge to students in grades 4-12 has started, with 2052 students in North American and 48 in the UK. District 6 has 11% of the students.

**Christmas Mother Game:** We plan to hold the Christmas Mother game on December 4 at the Faison Center. Landon Woody will invite a Christmas Mother to come and speak at the game.

**January and March Sectionals:** We plan to hold the January sectional in Richmond at the Faison Center. A decision on the March Sectional scheduled for Fredericksburg will be made by mid-January.

**Longest Day Game:** We plan to hold the Longest Day games in June 2022 at the Faison Center.

### **Bridge in 2022 and Beyond:**

Discussion followed about the future of face-to-face bridge, specifically in Richmond. Our lease with the Bridge Center ends in January. Questions discussed included will the Bridge Center continue to operate in 2022? Should the RBA consider investing in the Bridge Center?

Barry Fratkin made a motion that the RBA sponsor an open game at the Bridge Center on Sunday afternoons. The game would be at the same time as the current Friendly Bridge 0-750 NLM game, but a separate game and the motion included a stipulation that the two games would never be combined. The motion was seconded, and discussion followed. The motion passed.

Anne Atwood announced that a separate meeting will be scheduled with Anne, Barry, Tom, Ed and any others who wish to participate to continue discussion and planning for the future of bridge in our area.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Hamlett, RBA Secretary

### **10/31/2021 Update**

Friendly Bridge requested that their Tuesday evening game be changed from a face-to-face game to an online game. Votes were requested via email. The motion passed with 9 affirmative votes.

### **11/07/2021 Update**

President Anne Atwood polled Board members for input regarding sharing profits from the new Sunday afternoon Open game with The Bridge Center. Eight email votes affirming support for sharing profits were received. The details need to be worked out. Chris D'Ambra has resigned from the Board. Martha Mullen has been appointed to the Board and will chair the Mentoring Committee.