

NEW SOUTH WALES BRIDGE ASSOCIATION - COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday 16 February 2007

Present: Alex Yezerksi, Kim Morrison, Ken Storr, Warren Lazer, Bruce Neill, Judy Mott, Kim Neale, David Beauchamp

Apologies: Julian Foster

1 Opening

The Chairman opened the meeting at 6.02 pm.

2 Confirmation of Minutes of 10 January

Motion: *That the Minutes for 10th January meeting be accepted as a true and accurate record of that meeting subject to the following changes: Judy Mott to be noted as Present; Under Agenda Item 4, the second Action Item is assigned to KN and the fourth to BN.*

Moved Ken Storr
Seconded Warren Lazer

The motion was carried.

3 Carried over Tasks from Previous Meetings

Councillor	Action Item	Current Status
JM	Organise next working bee	Ongoing
KN	To run past the Hon Solicitor requirements covering State Gov't regulations relating to adult supervision of minors in organised activity	Ongoing
BN	To liaise with LF re procedure for psych register. Who, what and why procedures for the use of the register.	Ongoing
BN	To determine penalties for pairs not using psyche register.	Ongoing
KM	Speak to Ed Barnes re doing some work e.g. running supervised sessions at the NSWBA Ed is interested and the task is passed to DB as part of the teaching portfolio.	Done
JM	Organise purchase of new table cloths	Ongoing
WL	To advise whether the new FABC constitution has been adopted	Done
AY & JF	To make recommendations regarding salary increases to be put to Council at the next meeting	Current
AY	To appoint a Councillor to liaise with the Youth Bridge Coordinator	Done

4 Special Business

No special business was raised.

5 Correspondence

- Request for Affiliation Fee relief from a club whose numbers have recently dropped.
The current procedure is that numbers are tallied only once a year and the fees paid in arrears based on these numbers. This benefits a club while it's growing as it is then charged for fewer members than it actually has. Conversely, when club numbers deteriorate it is adversely affected. Given that things tend to even out over a club's lifetime, Council was disinclined to change the current procedure and grant relief.
- Advertising/Marketing Grant from ABF.
The NSWBA needs to carefully consider the strings attached to this grant. It is unclear how the \$3000 is to be distributed amongst our 150-odd affiliated clubs. The effort involved does not appear to be commensurate with the potential benefit. KN to review with ABF Treasurer.
- Proposal from Peppertree Financial Services to use our premises to hold a financial planning seminar on March 21. Council set a combined fee of \$500 for a one page ad in the NSWBA newsletter and hire of the premises for the night.
- The ABF is providing a 2 year subscription to Australian Bridge magazine to all affiliated clubs. Noted.

6 Chairman's Report

The Chairman's report was tabled. In brief:

- The Wagga Roadshow has been postponed to a date to be determined. The original Feb 10/11 date clashed with a red point event in Orange.
- The building's Body Corporate Executive Committee on Jan 24 agreed to keep the foyer doors unlocked until 7:30pm at night in return for us alarming our fire stair doors.
- Quotes have been sought from two air conditioning contractors to install a supplementary chiller unit in the plant room behind the lifts.

7 Treasurer's Report.

The Treasurer's full report was tabled after the meeting. As JF was absent, it was decided to postpone discussion till the next meeting.

8 Committee Reports

FABC

- Special General Meeting was held on February 3rd with not many people in attendance (as expected). The constitution was adopted.

Youth

- Youth Finals Director required 5 May. Mathew McManus usually volunteers his services. KM to confirm Mathew's availability.
- April 21 youth event at NSWBA. Peter Gill and William Jenner O'Shea in charge. DB to attend and ensure all goes smoothly.
- William to be confirmed as Youth Coordinator – DB to liaise with him.

Rules & Ethics, Appeals, Teaching

- BN preparing an article on expectations to be run in next months newsletter
- Zero tolerance policy was advocated

Promotion and Directors

- Email address list almost up to date. Controls to be put in place to ensure list is used appropriately
- KM to contact clubs to promote extra events
- People are now better informed. However, KM still wants to address the Tuesday session as a good place to start to improve numbers.
- KM looking for replacement directors for Matt McManus in May/June.

House

The House Report was tabled. In brief:

- Coffee machine: Coffee machine to be serviced and arrangements are being discussed to have Jenny (and others) go on a Barista course.
- Tablecloths: Cathy Mill did not bring samples to Canberra and has since advised she is looking for a new place to make the tablecloths. Judy is also investigating other options in Sydney.
- Clean-up: The Body Corporate wishes rubbish only to be placed in the garage when a date is confirmed for pickup.
- Judy spoke to Therese Tully while at the Gold Coast Congress recently and discussed asking Lavazza to be an Australia wide sponsor. JM arranging with a local contact.

Tournament

The Tournament committee Report was tabled. In brief:

- Good increase in ITS Stage I entries compared to last year
- Metropolitan GNOT information has been sent out (Tony Musgrove)
- Paul Lavings is donating \$25 book voucher for best restricted prize in the Individual. Paul is also looking for other opportunities to advertise.
- Summer Teams Congress only attracted 17 tables – probably affected by the ABF decision to introduce the Seniors/Womens Last Train at the Summer Festival.

Library

- Council discussed buying new books for the library. A budget of \$500 was set. DB to oversee.

Sponsorship

No Report was tabled.

9 General Business

- NSW Delegate to ABF:
Only one application has been received. Bruce Neill was appointed.
- Staff salary review:
Deferred till next meeting.
- Spam protection for website:
This service is available, at a charge, from our ISP. Council accepted our web master's recommendation that we try it out for a year.
- FABC merger timetable:
A sub committee needs to be setup to determine how this can best be effected. This committee is to operate under FABC stewardship with Waren Lazer as chair, and Ken Storr and two NSWBA Councillors as its foundation members. Neville Moses is to be invited to join the committee as well.
- Spring Nationals:
The Convenors' Report and finalised accounts were tabled. Dates for 2007 are October 24 until 1 November and Hakoah has been booked. This is the last year we will be able to use Hakoah and there was some discussion on new venues and the possibility of taking the event outside of Sydney. These options will be looked into for the 2008 Congress.

10 Action Items from February Meeting

Councillor	Action Item
JM/KN	Secure Lavazza as a major sponsor
AY & JF	To make recommendations regarding salary increases to be put to Council at the next meeting.
KN	Review ABF Advertising/Marketing Grant with Keiran Crowe-Mai
KN	Advise applicant of council decision with regard to affiliation fee relief.
AY	Advise office of fee for the Financial Planning Seminar on 21 st March. Office to coordinate.
KM	Replacement directors for MM during May/June.
DB	Purchase new books for the library. Budget \$500.
WL	Setup and chair FABC Merger sub committee.

10 Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Friday March 16th at 6pm.

The meeting was closed at 8:25 pm.