

SOMBA Board Meeting

DATE/PLACE: April 11, 2012, Unitarian Church

PRESENT: Mary Bennett [E], Posh Gulati [P], Jane Hall [P], Gail Hanson [E], Jerome Hasenjager [P, Steve Jacob [E], Barbara Jur [P], Marilyn Lindow [P], Scott Miller [P], Jim Phillips [P], Ginny Poulter [P], [Satish Shah [E], Henry Shevitz [E], Kathy Twomey [E], and Marianne Varion [P]

GUESTS: Bill Landrum

AGENDA: SEE ATTACHED

- 1) **Posh called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.**
- 2) **Approval of Minutes:** Posh distributed copies of the board minutes. After a review and discussion of the minutes, Ginny made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Kathy., and unanimously approved by the board.
- 3) **Treasurer's Report:** No treasurer's report was presented at the meeting. Jerry stated that the Unit received a membership payment of \$1075.00 from the ACBL. He also indicated that he will check on income/expenditures for the Valentine Sectional and other transactions and email a report to Posh. This report will then be forwarded to the board members for approval
- 4) **Past Tournaments: Valentine Sectional.** Attendance was down slightly from last year, but the Unit broke even cost-wise. There were no major complaints, and Posh complimented the good team work of board members assisting with the tournament. (Actual attendance numbers/revenues/expenses to be detailed in the treasurer's report.)
- 5) **Upcoming Tournaments/Events:**

The **Wolverine Regional (Golden Jubilee)** is scheduled for May 7 – 12, 2012, at the Costick Center. Fliers have been distributed. The following was discussed regarding this tournament:

- 1 Marilyn will purchase 3 red banners with gold trim and lettering that read:
SOMBA "50 & Proud"
- 2 Purchased new banner for 0 – 299ers. (Old banner read 0 – 199ers).
- 3 Posh suggested that a 18" by 24" poster stating SOMBA's mission statement for the next 50 years, signed by all the current board members, be posted on an easel.
- 4 Marilyn will purchase balloons. They will be festive but, due to cost concerns,

they will not be imprinted with the SOMBA logo.

- 5 Partnership cards have been drafted and awaiting final approval.
- 6 Mary Bennett is in charge of the partnership desk. Jim will serve as primary back-up, followed by Marianne, then Posh.
- 7 Jim stated that the flyer for the Wolverine Regional listed an incorrect email and phone number for him. Posh stated that the numbers/email addresses were taken from the SOMBA website and that it's each board member's responsibility to assure that the personal information posted there is correct. Please notify Bill of any errors/corrections.
- 8 There will be a separate desk for 0 – 299ers, identified with a poster. 40 additional regional trophies have been purchased (20 in stock). Event winners will have a choice of a trophy or a water bottle with the SOMBA logo on it. Marilyn will purchase flowers/decorations for the desk.
- 9 Marilyn and Kathy will be in charge of registration table layout, set-up and coverage. The following items have been purchased as registration gifts: 1000 convention card holders (red, green and purple), smiley face stickers, rainbow pencils with the SOMBA logo, and decks of cards with SOMBA logo. Each registrant will receive a sticker, pencil and his/her choice of a convention card holder or a deck of cards (as supplies last). Registration cards will be alphabetized in a file box to avoid duplicate registrations (and duplicate registration gifts!). Two gift cards will be awarded each session (14 sessions), Monday through Friday, based on drawings of table numbers/sections. Two cash prizes will be awarded on Saturday, based on 2 drawing of tickets issued to players when they paid their entry fees for bridge events at the tournament. (Must be present to win.)
- 10 Registration desk will be open 45 minutes before game time and close 10 minutes before game time.
- 11 Posh stated that he has received emails from the Costick Center indicating that the Center is in the business of selling food on-site. Ginny and Scott agreed to contact the Center as a courtesy to obtain more information. This should not impact SOMBA's distribution of snacks and coffee at the Regional.
- 12 Posh gave Jerry a bill for the playing cards to be distributed as registration gifts.
- 13 Posh asked that board members remind club directors to make announcements about the Regional Tournament – highlighting the 50th Jubilee celebration, daily raffles, free lunch, cash prizes, etc.

- 14 Posh to talk with MBA regarding sharing of bidding boxes at tournaments.
- 15 Bill indicated that ads for the Wolverine Regional Golden Jubilee will be posted on BBO in Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Ontario, Canada. Samples of the proposed ads were distributed/reviewed at the meeting.
- 16 Scott raised concerns about the lecture schedule and set-up. Discussed need for a microphone, lectern, flip chart and blackboard. Lectures will be held in the side room, with a sign posted in the main room indicating lecture location. Lecture schedule has not been submitted to the board. Posh to follow-up with Henry and Mike.
- 17 Jim suggested that volunteers assisting with set-up for the tournament receive 2 free plays at the tournament as compensation for time, gas, etc. General support for the idea.
- 18 Posh requested that all board members be present and appropriately dressed for a group photo at one session of the tournament.
- 19 Ed Antos is asking \$150.00 per bulletin plus free plays and cost of printing (approximately \$500.00 for the tournament). The board approved the printing of 5 daily bulletins within a budget of \$1000.00 - \$1200.00. Jim will contact Ed to discuss the terms. Bill to give Jim Ed's phone number.
- 20 Kelly has not been contacted about taking photos at the tournament during the afternoons and evenings. Posh to give Jerry Kelly's email address. If Kelly is unavailable, Jerry to contact Mike G. to see if he knows of someone who could take the photos.
- 21 Al Tushman has indicated his intent to complete updates to the SOMBA website. Bill will post pictures (create a picture album) from tournament on the web page in addition to results.

The **Spooktacular Tournament for I/N players** is scheduled for October 26 & 27 at the Unitarian Church. Co-chairs Marilyn L. and Kathy T. will be submitting tournament details and job assignments for volunteers.

GNT: N/A

6) District Reports: N/A

7) Old/New Business.

- 1 Jim indicated that he replaced damaged bidding cards in 16 bidding boxes with plastic coated cards, and needs to order more replacement cards. The plastic coated cards will last longer and be easier to clean. Jim also stated that he cleaned all the bidding boxes in the storage area, and that they look pretty good. He also discussed the need for a SOMBA stamp to permanently mark the bidding boxes instead of taping or gluing a tag on each box. This stamp can also be used on other equipment. No motion was required as this is part of general maintenance of equipment.

- 2 Jane returned a box of bidding boxes loaned to her for a new-comer game.
- 3 Jim stated that volunteers are taking stuff in and out of storage area without signing the materials out or back in when returned. There is a sign-in/sign-out form in the storage area, which may need to be posted in a more conspicuous location. Please sign all materials in and out of the storage unit. Jim to inform the board of the number of keys, as well as the names of persons holding those keys, to the storage unit.
- 4 Jim requested that the minutes reflect a special thanks to Satish for his coverage of the storage unit in his absence. Jim stated that Satish followed through “from start to finish”, including pick-up, set-up and returning supplies/equipment to the storage unit. Thanks, Satish.
- 5 Marilyn purchased new storage containers and organized materials in the storage unit.
- 6 A candidate has been identified for this year’s recipient of the Goodwill Award. Barbara will purchase the trophy and arrange for its delivery to the recipient. (To be announced at the Regional)
- 7 Item to be discussed at next meeting: Membership. SOMBA has been one of the largest Unit’s for a long time, with a membership of over 1,250. At last count, this number had dropped to 1050. The board needs to discuss what we’re NOT doing and think about WHY our numbership is falling. Unit memberships have almost doubled on the west side of the state. Losing members affects the future of our Unit and we need to take corrective action – recruiting new members, making phone calls to members who have not renewed their memberships, providing guidelines and support for the membership chair and committee, etc. Bring your ideas and suggestions to the next meeting.

8) Correspondence: N/A

9) Next Meeting: TBA

Meeting adjourned: 6:30 p.m.