

SOMBA BOARD MEETING AGENDA- 9/12/17 Tuesday

5:45 ARRIVAL/6:00 pm BUFFET DINNER

IROQUOIS CLUB-43248 N. WOODWARD (EAST SIDE JUST NORTH OF SQ LK)

6:30 pm START BUSINESS MEETING

Board members in attendance: Dave F., Lori, Jane, Jerry, Kathy, Scott, Bill, Tony, Lynn, Dave C., Naresh, and Deepak (call in); **Guests:** Dolores, Shirley, Tai, Dave B., Judy B., Jane, and Susan Woodrow.

1. **Dave F.** called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. **Susan Woodrow** of Michigan Youth Bridge LLC presented her **Bridge Youth Camp 2018** to the SOMBA Board for support. The plan is to have 56 kids (10-15 years old) attend a week long day camp from July 15-21 in 2018 at YMCA Camp OHIYESA in Holly, MI. She has lined up several teachers and will need 8-10 teacher's aides, an R.N., and other volunteers to pull it off. This Youth Bridge Camp is similar to one in Illinois that the ACBL Educational Foundation supported with a stipend of \$18K. Susan has submitted a similar proposal to ACBL at the Toronto NABC for support. The total budget is around \$38K, and students will be charged \$400 for the entire camp, which includes food and lodging, etc. Up to 17 scholarships are budgeted, and donations are accepted by this 401c.3 organization. For additional information, contact Susan directly at suzywoodrow@hotmail.com. **SOMBA Board Action: Assist by disseminating information on the Michigan Youth Bridge Camp to all SOMBA/MBA clubs, and encourage members to promote and volunteer at this unique camp.**
3. **Dave F.** Asked for approval of the minutes of the last board meeting. It was **unanimously approved.**
4. **Jerry** submitted the balance sheet and the P&L summary. The total asset is at \$111K. SOMBA had a surplus of \$5,800 in 2016 but had a deficit of \$6,600 in 2017 due to a 10% drop in table count and 15% increased expenses (tables and room rental fees). The joint sectional with MBA netted \$577 for each unit in 2017. MBA will be running the 2018 sectional, and Bob Ondo will need some volunteers from SOMBA to help at the Bridge Connection. **The Treasurer's report was accepted.**
5. **Lori** (PR chair) reported that Satish took the tournament flyers to Birmingham Unitarian Church and the Bridge Connection for distribution to the clubs at those

locations. A cover letter will accompany future flyers requesting club directors/owners support for the event.

6. **Membership committee** (Sook) continues to send welcome letters to new members with a free play voucher. The **Bridge the Gap event** brought in 2 new members. Scott circulated the new ACBL CEO's letter from the August Bulletin challenging each of the 168,000 members to bring in a new member. Thus SOMBA's Springtacular and other events should be promoted more to attract new players and members. The Bridge Connection is agreeable to host the events on Friday/Saturday. ***Dave F. will follow-up with Grant.***
7. **Bill** distributed the approved SOMBA tournament schedule all the way out to 2021. Discussion on the dates for the 6/10/2021 sectional is deferred. Dave F mentioned the 2021 Valentine Sectional will end on Valentines Day and rather than attempt to reschedule we should just plan to end early that day.
8. **Goodwill Committee**(Lakshmi) will send a letter to a SOMBA member who earned an upgrade rank to LM, SML and beyond with a free play. All club directors will be informed of the rank upgrades and should announce them at the club games.
9. **Dave F.** mentioned that the by- law revisions are a work in progress.
10. **Naresh** suggested supplies need to be updated, and some junk will be discarded. ACBL books are now offered to winners of newcomer games in lieu of trophies.
11. **Scott will update the list of SOMBA club page**(e.g. Mary Smith's game is gone, Tai has taken over the Thursday game). Some clarification on Jim Perna's game?
12. On Tournaments, **Dave F.** indicated that
 - a. ZERO TOLERANCE must be enforced, and the zero tolerance policy should be posted at each club and tournament.
 - b. The partnership request slips are helpful.
 - c. MBA is promoting bracketed KO team events. The flyer should be available at clubs to encourage attendance at the Regionals.
 - d. Flighted events at 500MPs may replace the 299ers events. ***Lynn will look into it and make a recommendation.***
 - e. Spooktacular is all set according to Kathy. Menu changes for lunch will be considered.
 - f. ***Posh and Dave C will manage the Apple Cider sectional.***

13. OLD BUSINESS

- a. At the April board meeting there was a misunderstanding of missing photos taken by Marilyn Nathanson at the Valentine Sectional in that the photos had not been received at that time. Proper communications had

failed due to Internet Drop Box and spam mail issues. The photos were eventually recovered, and **the SOMBA board sincerely apologizes to Marilyn for the inferences that she had not delivered on her commitment and the anguish we caused her.**

- b.** SOMBA is seeking a new Treasurer as Jerry will assume the duty as Equipment manager. Satish will take over as President effective Jan 1, 2018. ***Dave F. will approach people to replace Jerry.***
- c.** SOMBA's bidding boxes must be delivered to and picked up from the Costik Center prior to the Regional tournament, preferably in good condition. Bridgemates must also be returned for every SOMBA tournament. Two bridgemates were lost at the Bridge Connection this year. The Dealing machine and boards/table cards will not be used by any club unless for STaC or beginner games.

14. NEW BUSINESS

- a.** **Dave F.** moved that a retroactive reimbursement of \$300 by SOMBA to Somba member Brenda Bryant as a stipend for her expenses at the International Championship event in Paris this year. ***The SOMBA board approved the motion with one NO vote.***
- b.** **Latika** submitted her resignation as a Somba Board member. It was respectfully accepted. ***Dave F. will approach several individuals to finish the 3-yr team.***
- c.** **New ACBL rules** for 2018 was brought up. The major one was the Elimination of the STOP card in 2018. Our understanding was that clubs should start practicing without the use of the STOP card by maintaining the tempo of bidding for the rest of 2017. The STOP card will still be used in all tournaments for the rest of 2017. ***Dave F. will ask Jonathan F. for clarification and to lead a possible meeting with area directors for universal understanding.***

CLOSED DOOR ISSUES (IF ANY)

NEXT MEETING?? LIKEY TO BE **JANUARY 9 OR 11 2018** – With officer elections a key agenda item