

Hartford Bridge Club
Board of Trustees' Meeting
February 26, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm. Present: Ben Bishop, David Brandwein, Rick Thibodeau (via Zoom), Susan Seckinger, Ausra Geaski, Rob Stilman (via Zoon), Diane Tracy, Ann Hughes, Linda Starr, Donna Feir(via Zoom), and John Dinius.

President: Ben welcomed Zoom meeting attendees. This was the first Zoom and in-person combined meeting for the HBC Board. This will probably become standard to allow snowbirds to participate as officers and Trustees, as well as to support Donna during her convalescence. A special Zoom visit from Susan Migual was pushed to the head of the agenda.

Secretary's Report: No minutes from the January meetings were available for approval.

Treasurer's Report: January 2025: The cash balance is \$113,507.87. The net equity is \$93,842.14. Net operating income for the month of January was (\$1,627.29) (Loss for the month).

Manager's Report: Donna reported we have 317 members. This number is over the projected 300 planned in our budget. Donna also reported that for the month of January, we received approximately \$400.00 from ACBL Clubhouse games for the month of January.

Old Business:

- Quick discussion on overall operations since Donna's injuries. Overall consensus: Linda and the other game directors have stepped up and all is working smoothly.
- Coffee machine replacement working, but occasionally popping the GFI Breakers. Ben repaired the old machine; it is available in the stock room.
- Spruce up – discussion about refastening table beverage holders and bidding boxes. About 11 tables have been fixed to date.
- Ann Hughes working diligently to increase new player lessons.
- Many bridgemates still need to be updated; more apps need to be moved to the new CPU.

New Business:

- Susan M, President of the New England Bridge Association, led a discussion about the new ACBL Clubhouse Community and the process for online players to affiliate with HBC. Significant discussion continued after Susan ended her zoom call. General consensus was "wait and see if this is beneficial to HBC."
- ACBL Clubhouse mgt. would like feedback on the new online BBO options, and HBC's assessment of the program on our operation. ACBL's goal from this new Community is to improve financial support of F2F clubs, since they are the feeder system for duplicate bridge in the US and Canada.
- Ben agreed to do a writeup discussing the ACBL Clubhouse online games and their advantages to HBC in a President's newsletter. The newsletter went out the week of March 10.

Next Meeting: tentative, March 19 @1:30

Meeting adjourned 3:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Ben Bishop for Ann Lorand