

Unit 157 Board of Directors Meeting
May 24, 2008
Birmingham, AL

Attending: Len Block, Frank Galloway, Keith Henderson, Don Kemp, Ann Lilly, Aaron Maryanow, Bill Parrish, Kris Oliver, and Herb Stappenbeck,

The meeting was called to order by Unit 157 President, Kris Oliver. Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Aaron Maryanow presented the treasurer's report, which showed the GNT fund now in the red. Aaron was given approval to write checks to the District representatives toward their expenses in the amount of \$200 without board approval. Don Kemp was asked to keep track of his actual expenses to attend the District 10 meetings. This is so the reimbursement amount can be reviewed. It has not been reviewed or updated for several years.

Related to this, Len Block reported that he has applied for the sanction for the multi-site Super Championship scheduled for August. This was proposed at the May meeting as a GNT fundraiser. Len asked for further direction on how to proceed. Keith Henderson offered several points that needed to be addressed.

Frank Galloway reported that the Birmingham Fall Sectional has been rescheduled for November 20-23 at the present site. The sanction application process has begun. Frank also reported that he is nearing an agreement with the Cahaba Grand (former HealthSouth facility) as a site to hold the August 2009 regional. Discussion included the fact that the Pelham site would be too small, as well as being more expensive. The Grand has reservations on a couple of issues, but Frank believes that these can be negotiated. Don Kemp suggested that the site be fixed as soon as possible, that this would help in Birmingham's campaign to stay on a cycle of 2 splits and 1 full in a 6-year rotation.

Don Kemp reported that Proposal 2, which puts Birmingham with 2 splits and 1 full regional in a 6-year cycle, passed narrowly at the District 10 meeting in Hot Springs. He also said that there was on-going discussion, spear-headed by a Nashville member, that the sites be shifted. This issue will be addressed again at the District 10 meeting in Biloxi, Feb. 2009. One of Birmingham's weak points in the discussion of regional sites is that profit has never been the primary goal. Keith believes that we need to focus more on profit to maintain our current status. Kris added that having regionals in this area of District 10 enables area players to play for gold points without incurring the expenses of travel.

Herb Stappenbeck presented the recommendation of the By-Laws committee that Article 8 of the by-laws be re-worded in such a way that the president may appoint delegates and committee chairs at his or her discretion. This will have to be voted on by the membership and the re-worded article is to be presented to the board at the October meeting in Anniston. The committee will continue to review the by-laws with respect to any other needed changes.

Len Block presented the following dates for the 2009 tournament schedule:

March 12 – 15 Birmingham Spring
April 9 – 11 Shelby County 299er
May 1 – 3 Montgomery
June 12 – 14 Birmingham 299er
August 3 – 9 Birmingham Regional
October 9 – 11 Anniston
October 29 – November 1 Proposed Birmingham Fall
November 12 – 15 Proposed Birmingham Fall
December 3 – 5 Shelby County Winter 299er

In new business, Stella Rainey and Sandy Smith are collaborating on a seminar to teach bridge teachers how to teach bridge. They requested \$300 for supplies and expenses. The seminar is to be scheduled in the fall. A motion was passed to approve these funds.

The next Unit Board meeting will be held at the Oxford/Anniston tournament in Oxford, AL, on Saturday, October 11.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Lilly,
Acting Unit 157 Secretary