

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING OF  
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
THE UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION  
WEDNESDAY, OCT. 3, 2012  
7:30 PM EDT  
BY CONFERENCE CALL**

Directors Present: Cheri Bjerkan, Joan Gerard, George Jacobs, Ralph Katz,  
Sylvia Moss, Howard Weinstein

Others Present: Marty Harris, Jan Martel, Barbara Nudelman, Joe Stokes

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Joan Gerard, president, at 7:35 pm EDT.

**II. ATTENDANCE: ESTABLISH QUORUM**

The president noted that at least a majority of the directors were present at the meeting, thus establishing a quorum for the purpose of transacting business by the Board.

**III. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:40 pm EDT and invited Marty Harris, Jan Martel, Barbara Nudelman & Joe Stokes to attend the meeting. The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:01 EDT.

**IV. BYLAWS AMENDMENT**

The Board briefly discussed the proposed Bylaws Amendment regarding Resident Members and determined to continue discussion by email.

**V. DRUG USAGE**

George read an email from one of the members of the Buffett Cup local committees regarding drug use at the Buffett Cup, complaining about the public consumption of marijuana.

USBF is sending teams to the SportAccord tournament in December. Should we take a position on public consumption of forbidden substances?

George suggested that we send a letter to all USBF members asking them to make sure that they are always putting our best face forward in public tournaments.

## **VI. BUFFETT CUP**

George further reported that at the Buffett Cup he was asked whether USBF would be able to take over running the Buffett Cup. Some of the European players may receive sponsorship for playing in the Buffett Cup. US players do not receive any compensation for competing in the Buffett cup.

Buffett Cup budget was \$150,000, of which they spent less than \$100,000. Bob Hamman contributed the full amount to sponsor the Buffett Cup.

If USBF took over the Buffett Cup in the United States, we would have to raise money to support it. In addition we would have to find someone to improve the website and the communication about how the scoring works. We would also have to choose the US team, probably using the procedure we've used for the SportAccord teams this year and last year.

George proposed that the USBF look into joining forces with the Buffett Cup. Joan appointed George, Jan, Joan & anyone else who might be interested to investigate.

## **VII. ACBL**

George moved that we invite the CEO of the ACBL to attend our next regular Board meeting. Ralph seconded. The motion passed. Joan will invite Robert to attend the next regular Board meeting.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm EDT

## **IX. NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

George Jacobs submitted the Nominating Committee report by email on September 25<sup>th</sup>. The Nominating Committee nominated Cheri Bjerkan, Bob Katz & Howard Weinstein for the three Board vacancies next year. Jan posted the information about the nominations and the fact that petition candidates could be nominated until October 26<sup>th</sup>.