

The Canberra Bridge Club Inc.

President Stephen Fischer
Secretary Pam Crichton
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MINUTES

Monday 11 February 2013 at 5.30pm

Attendance:

Stephen Fischer (President), Peter Giles, Andrew Kettle, Pam Crichton, Ruth Gallagher, Di Hawke, Ann Pettigrew, Sebastian Yuen, Tony Marker, Neil Garvey, Jodi Tutty, Niek Van Vucht, Rowan Bergin and Lesley Gunson (Manager).

Apologies:

1. 1.

MOTION: That the Minutes of 3 December 2012 be accepted as a true record of the meeting. MOVED Peter Giles SECONDED Ann Pettigrew

CARRIED

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

2.1 Air conditioner

Temperatures of up to 41C have created problems. The system is now running for two hours before sessions (2½ on Saturday); fans have been placed around the edge of the room, overhead would be not helpful; there is already good insulation; system should be purging hot air between 5am and 7am. For a period in the past someone used to leave the windows open at night and shut them in the morning, not always feasible. \$4000-5000 has been spent on maintenance. The club is awaiting a person who will undertake an independent assessment.

2.2 The following relates to the Action Items from the previous meeting.

1. 1. Stephen has spoken with Stephen Mendick and Marianne Bookallil about requirements for the first aid kit and important medical equipment which should be kept at the Club. They believe the most important items while waiting for an ambulance are a defibrillator and oxygen. A defibrillator would cost about \$2000. There would be ongoing costs for the batteries and pads, also for any medications in the first aid kit. Stephen Fischer will get details on this. It was suggested that the proceeds of the Trivia night could be used to buy a defibrillator. It may be possible to obtain an ACT government grant for this purpose, perhaps in association with Seniors week. Andrew Kettle to check on details of previous grants to give guidance on how to do this. A grant may also be helpful if we need to replace the chair at the stairs (not working, possibly an electrical fault) – it may be possible to replace it with a lifter; a ramp needs too much space. Peter Murer has donated a wheelchair, which is being kept in the

library.

2. The ABF does not have any requirements in regard to a club's first aid equipment.

1. 3. Mobility Matters has said that no one ergonomic chair will suit everyone's needs. The person who came thought our chairs were suitable. Their chairs cost from \$400 to \$650.

1. 4. Upholstery of chairs: the business next door to Recon Office Furniture would now charge \$110 per chair. It may be possible to buy fabric and use a staple gun to do it ourselves. According to their written quotation, a new chair would cost \$280 or \$408 (we need 16). We are on Recon's list for second-hand ones. The Department of Defence may be getting rid of some chairs. Pam Crichton and Neil Garvey to pursue this.

1. 5. Housekeeping jobs: Val has sought volunteers and has someone who will help with the Library. Perhaps we could ask for other volunteers for specific jobs, also in the newsletter.

1. 6. Sebastian Yuen will have a draft on matters in relation to the Strategic Plan in a couple of weeks. The club could do more in relation to intermediate players. It is thought that nationwide events have only attracted 3 or 4 more pairs to Friday night. Would Jeanette Grahame (Wednesday) or Rick (Monday) think it appropriate to run them on those nights. No quarterly newsletter yet. Sebastian will talk to John Yoon (who is managing ANU bridge) about transport for youth players. The planned rearrangement of the office would be hard to fit in at present – a fairly big change for moderate benefit. Jodi Tutty and Ann Pettigrew offered to help Sebastian on web design. He has approached Canberra web design companies, not all are interested. An online payment facility is not a priority but an online entry facility is. Table etiquette is an important issue – if complaints are made to a director about poor behaviour he/she should let the Recorder know, so the directors need Peter Grant's email address.

1. 3. **MANAGERS REPORT**

1. 3.1 The Managers provided a written report to the Committee prior to the meeting. Lesley highlighted some issues.

- ◦ It is in the club's financial interest to stay with ActewAGL as our energy provider.
- ◦ The managers are grateful to the directors who have taken over in Sean's absences and during Peter Murer's illness.

1. 4. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

4.1 A written report was submitted. In the first seven months of 2012-2013 table money is down 2½% due to lower numbers on Tuesday and Thursday nights in November and December; not a crisis at this stage. Stephen Fischer will provide up-to-date table numbers if they are available. Subscriptions are up by 3 %, probably due to the increased rate.

5. **SUB COMMITTEES**

1. 5.1 Membership and Promotion

Jodi Tutty is working on a framework to help guide player improvement at CBC. She encouraged anyone with ideas to speak to her or Val Holbrook. It is envisaged that we should provide members with a list with descriptions of the various sessions of bridge, websites with bridge books, ways of improving your bridge and so on. We need some events to encourage players from one level to another, and perhaps into Tuesday and Thursday nights. Tony Marker commended the mentoring scheme run by Val Holbrook last year. Jodi to bring a draft framework to the March meeting.

5.2 Tournament & Calendar

Niek Van Vucht said that BFACT comments had led to 3 minor changes in the Calendar: the men's and women's pairs have become a BFact event, as has the seniors' pairs on Wednesdays, and The Graded pairs at the time of the ANC have now become a Handicap pairs event. These changes need to go into the Calendar on the web.

3. 5.3 Employment & Contracts

5.31 Nothing to report

5.4 House

5.41 Neil Garvey reported that he and Val had met with energy efficiency people. They recommended that the tubes be replaced with LED lights, first doing a sample replacement to see how well it works. We would save 90% in running costs. We would have to spend \$10000 to receive the \$5000 back, and their books close on 30 June 2013. Andrew Kettle thought it may take the club 10-20 years to recoup the cost and that the initial setup cost might drop sharply in the near future. Tony Marker raised concerns about whether one end is live on the LED whereas the neon circuit is closed. Lesley to ask Val for information on the return of the energy people.

42. 5.42 Neil reported that the feet stops have been put on tables where necessary

42. 5.43 Neil said that he will provide a list for upgrading things in the clubrooms. Retiling and repainting the women's toilets is one possible item.

44.5.44 No date yet for a working bee to clean out the storage area underneath the building.

5.5 Congress and Social

5.51 Peter Giles provided a written report and asked for comment to the next meeting on the future of the Friday night Christmas party (another night, no night party, someone else to run it); the format of the Southern Tablelands teams; the food arrangements for the Spring Congress (light lunch Saturday and Sunday perhaps). We need a convenor for the Spring Congress.

5.52 Jodi Tutty reported that the Trivia night Saturday 9 February 2013 raised \$2250, including the raffle proceeds. Thank yous to donors of prizes to be made by letter (Pam Crichton) and in the newsletter.

5.6 BFACT Representative.

5.61 Stephen Fischer reported that David Beauchamp will teach in Canberra in late June and Joan Butts will run a 'Train the Trainer' course here in September.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

In: Email from Jill Cromer (30/11/2012) re selection of ACT pairs for Grand National Pairs event. It is unclear to committee members how pairs who had not participated in the local event had been able to play in the final. It is possible that the national organiser had done this. As Jill points out, this event will not be run again but the committee shares her concern about appropriate selection when we run trials for an event. Pam to reply.

Email from Odette Mayne on the timing of drinks on Friday nights. The committee had tried having drinks at the beginning of the night in an earlier period and that had not seemed popular at the time. Pam to reply.

Request from Peter Murer: MOTION Moved (Pam Crichton) seconded (Neil Garvey) that Peter Murer's request for his fees to be waived due to hardship be accepted. Carried.

Out:

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Two items (commemoration of club members who have died, and 'Ask the Director' segment in newsletter) held over to the next meeting due to pressure of time (beginners' class commencing at 7pm).

8. NEXT MEETING

Monday 11 March 2013 at 5.30pm in the Clubrooms.

Meeting closed at 6.58pm.

ACTION ITEMS and Members responsible

Action item 1: independent assessment of air conditioner (Neil)

Action Item 2: Details of cost of defibrillator. (Stephen).

Action Item 3: Put together list of items from the Strategic Plan which could be implemented quickly and circulate to Committee. (Sebastian)

Action Item 4: information on our previous grant applications (Andrew)

Action Item 5: Develop a list of things which could be done to improve the upper

room. (Neil)

Action Item 6: date for working bee (Neil)

Action item 7: draft framework for information and pathways for members (Jodi)

Action item 8: current table numbers (Stephen)

Action item 9: further information on energy efficiency (Val/Neil)

Action item 10: chairs Dept of Defence (Neil/Pam)

Action item 11: comments on Friday night Christmas party, Southern Tablelands Teams and Spring Congress (whole committee)

Action item 12: update Calendar on web (Niek)

Action item 12: best night for nationwide events – discuss with directors (Niek)