

CORNHUSKER UNIT 241 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting Minutes

January 17th, 2009

Present: Justin Graver, Jeff Buckwalter, Darlene Rischling, Robert Wolfe,
Elise Parish, Tim English, Leng Hua

Next meeting: February 28@ 9:30 Omaha Bridge Studio

I. Officer Reports:

President:

Vice President:

Treasurer:

Great Western C.D. \$13,865.98

Great Western checking \$ 1,750.41

Great Western money market \$ 12,144.83

Jan Loftin, via email, notified Elise of a price increase of about \$1000 for cost of the MAC. Larry Adams will be contacted to see if he will volunteer to audit the 2008 finance

II. Committee Reports

A. Tournaments

Flyers for 2008 tournament have been mailed. Sectional info is up on the website. ACBL will be contacted in about a week to send tourney information.

All tournaments need to be scheduled through 2017 for District Tournament Director. The regional has not been scheduled for that year. Justin volunteered to handle tourney duties at the spring sectional since Tim will be unavailable after Thursday.

If there are any suggestions for different game formats, they should be brought up at the next meeting in order to change for the Fall tournament.

B. Education

Beveridge—28 students, Cheryl Gorman, teacher. 28 students—Grade 8--40 minute period Barbara Kushner volunteer During school day-replacing math on period each week. Difficult situation physically—crowded room, desks rather than tables, poor facility for using Power Point. Students are inattentive. Passive resistance. Cheryl is doing all she can do.

King Science Center—Leif Erickson teacher—after school—after two classes, attendance diminished to 1, the sponsor wanted an opportunity regroup. This class probably will not materialize—waiting to hear the results of regroup effort. Excellent sponsor.

Marrs Magnet Center—Has two classes—during the school day—of fifth grade students in mini bridge—44 students. Tournament will be February 4, a.m. by Elise Parish. Class was taught by the Marrs Gifted and Talented teacher—Karen Ramaeker—Carol Phillips trained her. No cost to us. Lots of building support.

Marrs Magnet Center—Will be starting an elementary after school class for grades 5 and 6, February 27 through April 2. Two teaching staff members will teach the class—Karen Ramaeker and Katie Buck. Karen is a teacher trained by Carol Phillips. Katie has been a volunteer in the teaching situation. They will alternate days. After school sponsor is a real energetic, full of ideas to boost attendance kind of person. Supportive staff and administration.

Marrs Magnet Center—Staci Latham, G 6 pre algebra teacher, has asked for a bridge class during her class period 9:10—10:40—starting in late March.—18 students. Darlene will be contacting her in February. Darlene have not identified a teacher as yet.

McMillan Magnet Center—completed first semester club. Will have two classes during school day starting in February—taught by Liz Figueroa (G7) and Darlene Rischling (G8) Approximately 45 students. Excellent physical facilities and staff support.

Mercy High School—after school club—one hour. 30 students—high school girls. Taught by GK and Rebecca Rhoads. Going very well—students are very excited about bridge and involved with the game. Supportive administration and staff.

Nathan Hale Middle School—4 during the school day classes-- 1.5 hrs in length—2 are grade 7, 2 are grade 8. Approximately 60 students are involved. Jerry Wendling teacher, Ann Francis volunteer. The teacher reports that Jerry is well liked by students and lessons are “fantastic.” Desks instead of tables but the room is large and the teacher does Power Point with facility. Classroom teacher holds the students accountable for information and for responding. Very supportive staff and administration.

South—this class may disappear. Alice Craig moved to Arizona, the sponsor moved to TAC. My Email to the Decathlon teacher has gone unanswered.

Underwood Hills Focus School==12 students in after school club taught by Bill Chapo with Sharon Gathmman and Kathy Lippold assisting. One G3— rest 4 and 5. Minibridge. Have had 2 weeks. Bill is enthusiastic. One hour period of time

Westside Middle School—During School day class taught by Diane Zipay. She is very excited about class—24 gifted students and off to a very positive start. Linda Grubb—volunteer. Good facilities. Different concept—Students miss a regular class to attend bridge so it is spread throughout the semester and is on different days of week. 90 minute periods—1:45—3:15. Very supportive administration.

Darlene has been visiting all the sites to collect information about what is working and what to avoid for future classes. Thus far I have been at Beveridge, Mercy, Nathan Hale, and Underwood Hills.

Darlene continues to make duplimate boards and design specific lesson boards for classes—upon request. This effort is worthwhile and we are beginning to have a “library” of resources for teachers.

Darlene has received more trophy donations from Unit members. She has removed the old "labels" and is having new ones saying BRIDGE WINNER made to replace the old. These are given to students who win individual school competitions. Bridge in the schools could use more trophy donations—looking to the future.

Ruth Scott volunteered the use of the Studio for a Saturday Youth Tournament for Omaha students as long as we are able to put the Saturday p.m. in the small room. Darlene would like to be able to do this if she can find the time and energy—would like to delegate this. Any volunteers?? Earlier the committee talked about having a tournament at McMillan and Darlene believes the Mayor's office would provide transportation. This would occur after school.

C. Mentoring

The 2009 mentoring program should begin in February. There was some discussion on setting levels for mentee/mentors. It was decided to allow individuals to decide if they wanted to be a mentor or mentee. The unit will pay \$2 of any entry fee. No re-issues of coupons will be made during the program.

D. Publicity

E. Membership

F. Regional

G. Website/IT

Reports are showing we have around 180 unique visitors on the new site. New sectional page has been added. There are a few more files to upload to the library. A new Bridge in the Schools page has been added. We will try to crop the pictures to reduce the amount of space being used by images.

III. Unfinished Business

H. Unit Party

Westside has sent an email requested dates if we are planning to use their site.

I. Duplimate

January 31st is still the final date for Darlene to provide boards on behalf of the unit. Freda still needs to be trained and because of scheduling conflicts, Darlene will work with on her own. Dave/Claudia Coles can make their own boards. Joan has had a session. Ben is making a duplimate manual that shows step by step instructions on how to make boards. The unit (Darlene) will continue to provide papers, toner, and supplies for the machines.

IV. New Business

J. Election of Officers.

President.

Justin Graver by Buckwalter (2nd Parish).
Jeff Buckwalter by Wolfe (2nd Graver)
Graver elected 6-0

Vice-President.

Robert Wolfe by Buckwalter (2nd English).
Elected by acclamation.

Secretary.

Jeff Buckwalter by Parish (2nd Rischling)
Leng Hua by Graver (2nd Buckwalter)
Buckwalter elected 6-0

Treasurer

Elise Parish by Rischling (2nd Hua)
Elected by acclamation.

K. Appointments.

Web Master - Jeff Buckwalter
Tournaments – Tim English
Publicity – Leng Hua
Regional – Cookie Hoberman
Education – Darlene Rischling
Membership and Newcomer – Barb Kushner

L. Unit Allocations.

Unit allocations have increased. Jeff Buckwalter will distribute to clubs in a similar manner as last year.