



Bridge - The Game That Gives Back

**ACBL CHARITY FOUNDATION
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NOVEMBER 26, 2022**

Present: President Nancy Strohmer, Vice President Jackie Zayac, Treasurer Russ Jones, Trustees Cindy Shoemaker and Jim Sternberg

Also Present: Secretary Sabrina Goley and newly elected 2024 Trustee Jennifer O'Neill

President Nancy Strohmer called the meeting to order at 8:30a.m. MST on Saturday, November 26, 2022. A quorum was present.

MINUTES

The minutes of the March 12 regular meeting were approved. The minutes of the October 6 and November 3 special meetings were approved.

Carried

TREASURER'S REPORT

Russ Jones presented the Treasurer's report in Attachment A.

OLD BUSINESS

Grant Freeze and Financial Policy: Russ discussed the current grant policy which permits the CF to award up to 105% of the amount of funds received by the CF in the previous calendar year. He supports that policy because the organization cannot project the amount of revenue it will receive from year to year. Cindy added that the virtual games week in 2021 brought in a little under \$48K; however, the virtual games are decreasing. Further, the BOD and Management are aligned to support a robust return of face-to-face games; therefore, the incentives are going to the face-to-face clubs.

Russ suggested that a decision to increase the percentage with no insight into the projected revenue is risky. Grants for 2022 were suspended with the exception of the commitment to award



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\$60K for the CF Membership and Trustee grants. For 2023, Russ believes that it is premature to reinstate those grants that are currently suspended; however, he is in favor of committing to the CF Membership and Trustee grants as they did in 2022. He suggested waiting to lift the suspension until the CF has the revenue amountsthat will be received from the Charity Games.

Cindy recommended clear communication regarding the policy and the reasoning for the continuation of the suspension be provided to the membership.

Russ presented a motion to approve the continuation of the Trustee and CF Membership grants in 2023 and to continue the suspension of the Charity of the Year and external grants at this time.

Carried unanimously

Website Updates: Cindy has had great success working with September. She reviewed the possibility of adding a donate button to the website and due to cost, it was decided that the CF would not proceed at this time. Cindy requested that September provide Google analytics to review who is going to the website and what areas they are viewing.

Google Doc: Sabrina stated that everything was updated. Improvement feedback is welcomed.

Name Tags: Cindy worked with marketing to prepare the design and then sent it to the Trustees for feedback. The Trustees approved; marketing will proceed on getting them ordered.

Communications: Cindy reported that in addition to the articles in the Bridge Bulletin about those organizations receiving grants at each NABC, marketing has agreed to give CF its own identity in the Speakeasy. The Bridge Bulletin will also provide space for the CF message. Cindy shared the importance of communicating the CF message from the top down which includes clear and consistent communication to the districts and units as well. She added that Management has been very supportive in providing the Charity Foundation opportunities to share CF's message.

NEW BUSINESS

The motion for the Bylaws amendment before the CF membership was withdrawn but still thoroughly discussed during the Annual Membership Meeting. The Trustees will review the concerns and suggestions provided by the membership and determine whether they will submit an amendment at a future meeting. Russ suggested that the Trustees consider including bridge-



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related grants with the exclusion of non-ACBL bridge related events in a future amendment. Cindy recommended providing clear rationale and history as part of the motion. All agreed that any future motion should be disseminated further in advance.

Russ reported that the cost of the CF audit is expected to increase with the new firm that ACBL has chosen and because of the way the costs are distributed among the ACBL, Educational Foundation and the Charity Foundation. After an analysis of the current cost of the audit and the expected increase, Russ requested quotes from other organizations.

Russ presented a motion for the CF to move its 990 filings and audit to Landmark, one of the top 100 CPA firms in the country, for a maximum of \$10,000 beginning in 2023.

Carried unanimously

Cindy provided feedback obtained from the CF membership. She suggested creating a committee to consider fresh ideas and provide communication on the following:

- How is the CF going to be structured short-term, mid-term, long-term.
- Is the CF going to change the structure on how grants are provided with the \$30,000 rotation.

Jackie suggested waiting until the Trustees have a better understanding of its projected revenue. Cindy stressed the importance of being future minded and communicating a structured plan to the membership. She believes it would give more credibility to the CF and it would bridge more cooperation and unity with the membership. Russ added that a refocus on types of grants awarded should be considered during a reevaluation and Nancy agreed. He suggested providing a presentation that can be used at district and unit meetings highlighting the past donations and the CF message. All agreed that it was important to review fresh ideas and determine the future structure of the Foundation. Jackie will schedule additional meetings with the Trustees to continue the discussion.

OFFICERS

The Trustees thanked Jim for his service as a Trustee and Nancy for serving as President. Jennifer was welcomed to the group as the 2024 newly elected Trustee.



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Nancy called for nominations for President. Both Cindy and Jackie were nominated; however, Cindy respectfully declined. There were no additional nominations; therefore, Jackie was elected by acclamation.

Jackie called for nominations for Vice President. Cindy was nominated and accepted. There were no additional nominations; therefore, Cindy was elected by acclamation.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m. MST.