

Columbia Bridge Club  
Board Meeting held @ Capital Senior Center  
December 1, 2008

Attending: Chris Webb, Bob Webb, Jim Chianelli, Karen Coulter, Janice Ripley, Bernetha Henry, Tom Gabriel, Mike Bitonti, Sam Robison, Carol Clemenz, Joel Levy, Ellen Oliver and Leck Mason.

Also in attendance: Dick Coulter, Dode DeFiori, and Patrick Lauterbach

C. Webb called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

**Secretary:** Minutes of the November meeting were approved. Chianelli moved to accept the report with second by Coulter. Carried.

**Treasurer:** No report since meeting fell on the first of the month. Financial statement will be available by end of the week once all bills for November have been received and paid.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

OPEN HOUSE was a big success. Thanks to all who worked hard to make that event happen. There were 58 guests in attendance, seven joined CBC that evening, approximately 12 enrolled in beginner class for January and many others interested in classes. Flyers were on hand announcing all education that will resume in January and follow-up will be made with those interested approximately two weeks before classes begin. Ripley reported that follow-up letters were sent to every guest, new member packets were sent, and thank you notes were sent to DeFiori and Lawton for their great efforts with the catering that night. Consistent follow-up will continue using the database of guests' names and addresses.

CYPRESS STREET: Property is now listed by Coldwell Banker United. Mr. Ed Garrison, realtor in charge, is aggressively marketing the property for a quick sale. It is zoned as commercial, and that zoning is transferable. C. Webb had a copy of the contract for board members to review. The listing is for six months and will expire on 5/29/09.

PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGE: The vote will take place at the holiday party on 12/3/08. The change would eliminate the term "associate member" and thereby allow any member in good standing with paid dues to vote.

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY: Bitonti recently met with directors to discuss the policy presented by Lewis Cromer at last month's meeting. There are two parts to the policy: the actual disciplinary actions and the process whereby the sanctions are imparted. Bitonti distributed a modification of Cromer's plan to all board members. It included the two parts: proposed progressive discipline policy (event sanctions) and long-term sanction process. The ethics committee will be comprised of the President, first VP, and 2<sup>nd</sup> VP (Webb, Levy, and Oliver). However, if the committee recommends suspension or expulsion of a player as fitting punishment, then a special meeting of the entire board will be called for final decision. This follows policy outlined in our by-laws (Article IV, Section 2, Paragraph (a)1). After some discussion and

“tweaking” of said policy, there was a motion to accept (motion by Levy with second by Chianelli). Motion carried. Bitonti will e-mail revised copy to Lauterbach for inclusion in next T&T. Policy is effective 1/1/09; however, directors are to make players aware of sanctions in December in order for them to become familiar with this policy.

GNT: DeFiori reported changes in the GNT schedule for 2009. There will no longer be a semi-final. Players will qualify at the club level. In order to qualify for district finals, a pair must qualify at the club level by earning 50% of the victory points. We will hold two 2 session events on January 31 and March 14, and two one session events on Friday, Feb. 13 and Saturday, April 18. All events will be open, but we can run “side” C sections if there are at least three teams for that section.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Levy gave a presentation for the purpose of requesting that all games held at our club be changed to open games. After extensive discussion, a motion was made (Coulter; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mason) to “flip” the Thursday games. This would make the PM game 0-1000, and the 12:30 game an open game. One of Levy’s concerns was that older members of our club who cannot play in limited games are unable to drive at night. This proposed change would be for a three month trial period. After more discussion the motion was amended to state that the first Thursday night of each month would be the 8 is enough team game – this allows “A” players to be part of a team with “B” and “C” players and therefore that first Thursday of the month would not be limited to 0-1000. This motion was passed with 6 in favor and 5 against.

Next meeting: Monday, January 26, 2009 @ 5:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned @ 6:55 PM.

Submitted December 4, 2008

Janice J. Ripley, secretary

To be posted @ club without objection

**ADDENDUM:** 12/5/08 The motion that was passed at Monday night’s board meeting regarding changes to master point limits for the Thursday 12:30 and 7:00 PM games has been changed. After more discussion this week among the board members, the changes that will take place effective 1/1/09 are as follows:

12:30 OPEN GAME with “side” 0-500 game provided there are sufficient tables.

7:00 OPEN GAME with the first Thurs. night of each month being an “8 is enough” team game. These changes will be in effect for a three month trial period (Jan, Feb and March). All board members were contacted and unanimously voted to adopt these new parameters in place of the decision made on 12/1/08.