

Western Section - Open Meeting
Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada
November 21, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Charles Townsel, at 9:20 a.m. VP Townsel gave the opening inspiration. VP Townsel asked for the roll call of officers. Secretary Simms called the roll. Officers present, VP Townsel, Secretary Ida Simms, and Treasurer Gloria Lee Ray; Parliamentarian Marietta Scott; and Sgt at Arms, Alberta Smith. Secretary Simms asked the Sgt at Arms, Ms. Smith for a count of the members present. Ms. Smith reported that at that time there were fifty (50) members present. Secretary Simms advised VP Townsel, in light of Ms. Smith's report, that a quorum was present. VP Townsel stated that he was suspending the Agenda in order to let the Election Committee Chairperson, Ms. Virginia Fanning, inform the membership of the names of the candidates who are running for the offices of Vice President, Secretary, and Financial-Secretary/Treasurer for the Western Section.

Ms. Fanning reported that Ms. Agnes Snowden and Mr. Charles Townsel are running for the office of Vice President; Ms. Diane Marbury and Ms. Ida Simms are running for the office of Secretary; and Ms. Rita Coleman and Ms. Gloria Lee Ray are running for the office of Financial-Secretary/Treasurer.

Ms. Fanning asked for additional nominations from the floor for the office of Vice President, there were none and Mr. Heman Smith moved to close nominations for the office of Vice President. The Body 2nd and the motion carried. Ms. Fanning asked for additional nominations from the floor for the office of Secretary, there were none and Mr. Heman Smith moved to close nominations for the office of Secretary. The Body 2nd and the motion carried. Ms. Fanning asked for additional nominations from the floor for the office of Financial-Secretary/Treasurer, there were none and Mr. Heman Smith moved to close nominations for the office Financial-Secretary/Treasurer. The Body 2nd and the motion carried.

Ms. Fanning reported that although the voting had begun at the polling place set up in the downstairs lobby, due to many complaints by the membership of the location of the polling place, the Election Committee decided to close down that polling place and moved the polling place and the ballot box to the Top of the Riv meeting room, where the meeting is currently being held, and placed a notice downstairs directing members to the Top of the Riv in order to cast their ballot. She also reported that members will be allowed to vote until 11:00 a.m., at which time no other ballots will be accepted. VP Townsel thanked Ms. Fanning and stated that he will proceed with the meeting until such time as the Election Committee completed its count of the on-site and the absentee ballots.

VP Townsel asked for the minutes from the previous meeting, held June 6, 2009. Secretary Simms stated that the minutes were mailed to all of the Club Presidents and the Unit Presidents and without objection asked that the minutes be approved. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Ms. Lee Ray stated that the report covers the period May 2009 to November 12, 2009. Income during this period was \$8,068.00. Expense during this period was \$9,841.03, for a loss of \$1,773.03. The checking account balance as 10/20/09 is \$970.30. Ms. Lee Ray moved that her report be accepted as presented. Ms. Shirley Lee and Mr. Heman Smith 2nd. There was discussion regarding the report, and all issues were clarified. The members voted to approve the previous motion.

Committee Reports

Tournament Committee/Convention Mgr. Report – Ms. Harley Wyatt reported that it is a good tournament. There were 82 tables yesterday and she expects the table count will remain about the same for the remainder of the tournament. She stated that Ms. Gertrude Wright and Mr. Lomie Shannon, Tournament Co-Chairpersons are volunteers. She further stated that Committee Chairpersons receive staff rated rooms; Ms. Patricia Banks, Web Master, and Mr. Andrew Echols, Head Director, received Comp rooms. The Caddy Mistress, Ms. Joe Crenshaw is ill and could not attend, however Ms. Rita Coleman is filling as Caddy Mistress. She further stated that we have to pay 20% of our proceeds to ABA National for the tournament. Ms. Wyatt concluded her report. Ms. Gertrude Wright thanked everyone for cooperating with her, as Tournament Committee Co-Chairperson over the past two years. She enjoyed working as Co-Chairperson with Mr. Shannon. VP Townsel thanked Ms. Wyatt and Ms. Wright. He also added that all of the supplies at this tournament are rented from the Las Vegas ACBL.

VP Townsel reported that the dates of the 2010 Spring Tournament to be held in Phoenix, AZ, at the Radisson Hotel, have been changed from what is listed in the recent Western Que, May 27th- 31st, 2010, to June 3rd – June 7th, 2010. He also stated that the dates of the 2010 Fall Tournament to be held in Las Vegas, NV, at the Riviera Casino and Hotel remain the same as listed in the Western Que, November 11th -15th, 2010.

Audit Committee Report - Ms. Harriett Motley stated that she reviewed the 2007 and 2008 financial records. Her review of the records revealed that everything is proper and that all of those records are in order. She further stated that there is adequate and proper backup documentation for all checks drawn on the account, and that all entries are properly documented. She stated that the Clubs could give more support to the Section by attending the Spring and Fall Tournaments, thereby increasing attendance at the tournaments thus increasing tournament revenue. Ms. Motley stated that she recommends that the Organization suspend

giving Scrip to tournament winners in all flights, because Scrip can only be used within the organization and cannot be used to pay expenses. She stated that as, the ABA National Treasurer, she is going to take this recommendation to the ABA National to see if National will accept and implement it. She concluded her report and moved that it be accepted. Ms. Simms 2nd. There was discussion, all issues were clarified, and the motion carried.

New Players Report – No report

Staff Development Report – Ms. Gloria Webb reported that she held a director's training session on Thursday morning and that the ABA National Head Director, Ms. Mary Duncan, assisted with the training. Ten (10) directors attended. Ms. Webb stated that she is making a recommendation that National implement a viable training program to give Level III Directors an opportunity to be promoted to Level IV, etc. She concluded her report and moved that it be accepted. Ms. Simms 2nd. Motion carried.

Hospitality Report – No report

Merit Awards & Life Membership Report – Ms. Emma Collier reported that Ms. Bernice Clemons received the Life Membership award and Ms. Rita Robinson received the Merit Award. She concluded her report and moved that it be accepted. Ms. Gertrude Wright 2nd. Motion carried. (Report attached)

Constitution & By-Laws Report – No report

Appeals & Ethics Committee – Mr. Robert Friend congratulated all players and staff for the wonderful way in which all are following the new laws. He stated that players need to pay closer attention to “Alerts”. In doing so, players will become more familiar with the various conventions, etc. and there will be fewer delays in the game. He concluded his report and moved that it be accepted. Ms. Gertrude Wright 2nd. Motion carried.

Publicity Report – No Report

ABA/ACBL Liaison Report – Ms. Doris Ayers stated that she attended ACBL's Bridge Week (July 3-12) at the Pasadena Hilton Hotel and circulated flyers announcing Western Section's Fall Tournament. She continues to send e-mail messages informing ACBL of Western Section Tournament dates. Ms. Ayers circulated a flyer with a draft proposed plan that was formed at the ABA/ACBL meeting held in Memphis at the ABA Summer National. The goal of the plan is to increase participation at the games in both organizations. She concluded her report and moved that it be accepted. Ms. Gertrude Wright 2nd. There was discussion, all issues were clarified. (Report and draft Proposed Plan attached). Motion carried.

Caddie Mistress Report – No Report

Web Master Report – Ms. Patricia Banks reported that she has changed the WS Home Page on the web site in an effort to make it more user friendly. She stated that she keeps the web site updated, and there is space for information for all of the clubs to report news of their club activities. She asked all of the Club Presidents to send the Club's news, including game results, to her, either by e-mail or "snail" mail and she will put it on the web site. She concluded her report and moved that it be accepted. Ms. Gertrude Wright 2nd. Motion carried. (Report attached). Mr. Robert Olsen suggested that the Web Master see if the ACBL will put a link on their web site to the ABA Web site.

Vice President stated that the Aztec DBC in San Diego will hold their annual Grade A Week end February 12–15, 2010 and he asked the Western Section members to support this event.

VP Townsel asked Ms. Diane Marbury to give a report on the Anita Troy Tribute Luncheon. Ms. Marbury stated that the Luncheon was well attended, that approximately 75 persons attended. She also stated that she had collected and given approximately \$2,575.00 to the Financial-Secretary Treasurer, toward the luncheon expenses. She concluded her report and moved that the report be accepted. There was a second and the motion carried. Ms. Gloria Lee Ray stated that she needed to meet with Ms. Marbury to recount the money that was given to her, because the amount that she received was less than the amount that Ms. Marbury stated in her report. Ms. Marbury agreed to meet with Ms. Lee Ray after the meeting. Ms. Ida Simms asked VP Townsel if there was a profit to the Western Section from the luncheon. VP Townsel stated that there was no profit, and that factually, the money collected was not enough to cover the complete cost of the luncheon because of the tax and gratuity that had to be added. He stated further, that the WS will not have to pay the difference in what is owed and what was collected, because he, personally, will pay the difference to cover the tax and gratuity.

New Business – None

VP Townsel again reiterated that the Section still has financial problems and that he would like for the members to suggest ways of raising money for the treasury. There was much discussion regarding raising funds, formulating a budget and staying within the budget, appointing a Ways & Means Committee, cut unnecessary expenditures, Clubs & Units holding fund raisers for the Section, etc. Ms. Pat Banks moved that the VP appoint a Ways & Means Committee Chairperson. Ms. Diane Marbury 2nd. It was suggested and the membership agreed that at least one person from each Club will serve on this Committee. The motion carried.

VP Townsel suspended further business and adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m. pending the report from the Election Committee regarding the results of the election.

At 11:45 a.m. VP Townsel stated that the Election Committee Chairperson informed him that she is ready to report the results of the election, therefore he resumed the meeting to hear the report.

The Election Committee Chairperson, Ms. Virginia Fanning, reported that for the Office of Vice President, Ms. Agnes Snowden received 105 votes and Mr. Charles Townsel received 104 votes, therefore the Election Committee declared Ms. Agnes Snowden wins the Office of Vice President and will take office January 1, 2010; for the Office of Secretary, Ms. Ida Simms received 111 votes and Ms. Diane Marbury received 96 votes, therefore the Election Committee declared Ms. Ida Simms wins the Office of Secretary and will take office January 1, 2010; for the Office of Financial-Secretary/Treasurer, Ms. Gloria Lee Ray received 118 votes and Ms. Rita Coleman received 92 votes, therefore the Election Committee declared Ms. Gloria Lee Ray wins the Office of Financial-Secretary/Treasurer and will take office January 1, 2010.

Ms. Fanning thanked her committee for working with her and for carrying out the responsibilities of the committee. The committee members are: Ms. Gloria Parker, Ms. Rita Robinson, and Mr. Lomie Shannon, filling in for Ms. Joe Crenshaw.

VP Townsel thanked the Election Committee and thanked the Western Section members for supporting the tournament. He adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

IDA E. SIMMS
Secretary,
Western Section - ABA