

September 14, 2013
Atlanta Airport Crowne Plaza
Atlanta, GA

The Southern Section of the American Bridge Association was called to order by SVP Birnell Hatcher. The agenda was accepted with the addition of the Tournament Report. Richard Banks moved that the agenda be approved with this addition. The motion was seconded and approved by the body.

Invocation was given by Richard Banks. Minutes of the January Sectional meeting were read. These corrections were made: "The Eastern Section does old two Sectional meetings, yearly." Secondly, "Vincent Rice of Florida has been promoted as a Director." These two corrections were made. Shirley Williams moved that these corrections be made to the minutes and that they be accepted. The motion was accepted by Larry Chanay and approved by the body.

SVP Hatcher stated that the ABA website has been updated. She advised the body that if problems persist, to call Gloria Christler. Further, the SVP stated that Chrystal Wright is in charge of the After School Bridge Program. Currently there are three active programs in Atlanta. These programs are held at boys' and girls' clubs in cities. Sylvia Christian is training youth in Tampa. Eric Shelton wanted to know if there is a way to "loosen requirements/restrictions." President George Hudson stated that the money is not being used. He asked Eric for a brief overview and to state what is needed. When that is provided, he will get it done. Currently, Regina Edwards is in charge of Bridge Education. Previously, the ABA administration has matched the Southern Section's grant of \$250 for Bridge Education.

SVP Hatcher distributed her report. Emma Fountain stated that in the future, members will be registered via e-mail. National Secretary, Willetta Phipps informed the body that ALL club secretaries will get information regarding membership and that she will work with each in order for him/her to understand the process.

Richard Banks, Treasurer, distributed his report. Willetta Phipps moved that his report be accepted. The motion was seconded by Johnnie Saunders. Motion carried by voice vote. Anderson Williams, Tournament Chair distributed his report and explained the rationale for the recommendation. Eric Shelton stated that it was a great rationale; as one great tournament is better than two. Larry Chanay noted that there is a need to discuss an Awards Luncheon for a few who attend or for hospitality for all. Johnnie Saunders expressed the need to explore other cities for the MLK Tournament. She also stated that "little" people attend and enjoy the Awards luncheons. Elizabeth Alexander will explore the possibility of looking into Tunica. Larry Chanay moved that we do not hold a tournament in Florida in 2014. Eric Shelton seconded the motion. The motion was carried by voice vote. This supplement was added to the motion by Chanay, "The Tournament Committee will consult with Elizabeth about Tunica before a decision is made." Shirley Williams moved that the report be accepted and that the Committee will make a decision about the site. Seconded by Olivia Green. Motion carried by voice vote.

Leatrice Bell, Chair Life Membership/Merit Award announced that Anderson Williams was the recipient of the Life Membership Award and that Eric Shelton was the recipient of the Merit Award for 2013. She reminded the body that we need to participate by submitting nominees for these awards by December 2014. Olivia Green revisited the criteria for Scholarships. She noted that preference is given to the children of members of the ABA. Currently, there are no openings. Staff Development Chair, Shirley Williams presented Rationale/Proposal for training Directors. She noted that Tolliver of Memphis was in training. Gwen Middlebrooks, Liaison ABA/ACBL presented a report highlighting discussions held at that meeting. Rosetta Boyd questioned the discrepancies in point awards. President Hudson stated that a discussion regarding this issue is on the agenda

Effective January 2014, all sanctioned games must be transmitted using TSS. Richard Banks stated that there are several ACBL clubs in Tampa. He suggested that the ABA sponsor a team to compete in a World Class Team. ABA has done it in the past and can do in the future. Financing is 100%.

Bernadine Rice was not present to give a report on the Constitution and By-Laws. However, you may e-mail comments/suggestions to her. Secretary Knowlton recommended that the SS purchase new cards and boards for next tournament in January.

Announcements: Minnie Wiley—Chattanooga; Cheryl Ransom—Birmingham; Eric Shelton—Atlanta.

Adjournment

Submitted by Edith V. Knowlton, Secretary
Birnell Hatcher, S.S.V.P.