

**METROPOLITAN BRIDGE UNIT, INC.**  
**Quarterly Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**April 22, 2018**

Lynda Straker called the meeting to order at 3:42 PM.

**Roll Call –Present:** Lynda Straker, Jean DeVeaux, Janice McBean, Sharon Fox, Martha Hewitt, Errol Grant, John Demos, Marion Mercer, Lois Wright, Valerie Brooks, Betty Sherrill, and representatives from the following clubs: Astro, Bayview, Brooklynites, Co-op City, Cosmo, JetSetters, Leisure, Mount Vernon, Springfield, Triangle, Twilight, and Westbury.

**Good and Welfare -** *Good and Welfare Report - For MBU, Inc. Annual Meeting April 22, 2018*  
*Prepared by: Lois M. Wright – Email address: [Ladytul2@netzero.net](mailto:Ladytul2@netzero.net)*

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>CLUB</u></b>	<b><u>REASON</u></b>
<b><u>January 2018</u></b>		
<i>Family of Gertrude Alston-Collins</i>	<i>Westbury</i>	<i>Sympathy Card</i>
<i>Barbara Wingate</i>	<i>Cosmopolitan</i>	<i>Get Well</i>
<i>Paul Watford</i>	<i>Twilight</i>	<i>Get Well</i>
<i>Donna Woo</i>	<i>Bayview</i>	<i>Get Well</i>
<i>Lori Blackman</i>	<i>Co-Op City</i>	<i>Get Well</i>
<i>Mary Luter</i>	<i>Springfield</i>	<i>Get Well</i>
<b><u>February 2018</u></b>		
<i>Dr. Errol Grant</i>	<i>Westbury</i>	<i>Get Well</i>
<i>Marjorie Davis</i>	<i>Jetsetters</i>	<i>Get Well</i>
<i>Karen Carter</i>	<i>Springfield</i>	<i>Get Well</i>
<i>Gloria Allen</i>	<i>Westbury</i>	<i>Get Well</i>
<i>The Family of Mrs. Matilda Coulthurst</i>		<i>Sympathy Card</i>
<i>Sandy Tate (Wife)</i>	<i>Twilight</i>	<i>Sympathy-Passing of Arthur Tate (Member)</i>
<i>Raye Liverpool</i>	<i>Twilight</i>	<i>Get Well</i>
<b><u>March 2018</u></b>		
<i>Kenneth Thomas</i>	<i>Twilight</i>	<i>Get Well</i>
<i>Philippe Gerdes</i>	<i>Cosmopolitan</i>	<i>Get Well</i>
<i>Sandra Surita</i>	<i>Springfield</i>	<i>Sympathy-Passing of Mother</i>
<i>Jane Harris</i>	<i>Jetsetters</i>	<i>Get Well</i>
<i>Devora Sconiers</i>	<i>Jetsetters</i>	<i>Get Well</i>
<i>Family of Dr. Gloria Allen</i>	<i>Westbury</i>	<i>Sympathy Card</i>

**April 2018**

*Jerry Cunningham*

*Astro*

*Sympathy-Passing of Brother*

**Memorial Services were held for:**

*Mrs. Gertrude Alston-Collins, Westbury, Mr. Arthur Tate, Twilight, Dr. Gloria Allen, Westbury*

**The Family of Arthur Tony Tate sent the following “With Deep Appreciation Card”:**

*“Perhaps you sent a lovely card. Perhaps you were not there at all, but just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you so much what the part”.*

*Information added at the meeting: Card sent to the family of Roberta Wyche; specifics of Roberta Wyche’s funeral service announced; thank you card from Jane Harris.*

**Invocation** – Given by Dr. Errol Grant.

**Minutes** – Minutes of the January 28, 2018 annual membership meeting were reviewed by the membership.

MOTION: Accept minutes from the 01/28/18 annual membership meeting (Denise Thompson/E. F. Reed).

MOTION PASSED.

**Correspondence** –

- Thank you letter from Marjorie Davis / congratulatory letter to Lynda Straker
- Announcement from Ithaca College recognizing Dr. Gloria Hobbs with honorary degree

**President’s Report** – Presented by Lynda Straker

Greetings MBU family,

We are off to an excellent start in our goal to increase our membership. The first step is publicizing the MBU, telling people we are here and describing how to gain access to what we have to offer. To meet this objective, our Publicity/Public Information Committee has done a great job creating the MBU website, [www.mbuinc.org](http://www.mbuinc.org). The second step is to enable communication via the internet and social media, another goal of the Publicity/Public Information Committee. The third step is for people to engage with us face to face in new players classes or simply just by coming to a game and watching us play. But the prize, the reason for all of this activity, is for people to join the MBU. Only by adding new members will we be able to sustain our clubs and our Unit.

During March of this year, Lois Francis, Christian Baxter, Janice McBean and I attended a Women's Expo held at the SQPA Beacon Community School @ JHS8, 108-35 167th Street, Jamaica, NY. We interacted with approximately 50 people and 9 people expressed an interest in learning bridge. Annetta has followed up with them and we have their contact information. We need all of our members to be alert to these kinds of events so we can put our name and contact information out in the public arena so any interested people can get in touch with us.

The JetSetter Club is starting a New Player’s Class and the MBU is sponsoring a class for new players beginning June 2, 2018 at the Bridge Home from 10 am to 12 pm. Spread the word and try to get at least one person you know to join one or both of these classes.

We have a number of excellent bridge instructors in our Unit and we should be taking advantage of the lessons they offer. Now that we have a dealing machine and hand records, I'm hoping we'll be able to incorporate a discussion of boards, contracts, leads and play of the hand in our lessons. In order to compete in special games and/or tournaments, we need instruction in all facets of the game. Even if you don't travel, duplicate bridge is a competitive game and an occasional win feels pretty good.

We congratulate all of our winners and participants at the recent Spring National and I hope all of you are planning on attending the Eastern Sectional in May. We need your support as much as we need new players. Your participation in special games and tournaments helps the MBU to thrive.

See you at the tables,



**Financial Secretary Report** – Presented by Sharon Fox

METROPOLITAN  
BRIDGE UNIT

**Quarterly Financial  
Secretary Report**

January 1, 2018—March 31, 2018

INCOME

MBU Dues 2018	\$2,030.00
Entertainment Tax 2017	\$826.00
Entertainment Tax 2018	\$622.00
Good and Welfare 2018 (from clubs \$40)(Mt.Vernon, Twilight, Triangle)	\$120.00
AAA refund on awards	\$26.06
AAA replacement check payable to MBU	\$10.00
Twilight Bidding Box Rental 3/15/18	\$20.00
Twilight Bidding Box Rental 12/7/17	\$20.00
Twilight HHH game 3/12/18	\$135.40
1/28/18 annual meeting 50/50 profit	\$31.00
1/28/18 annual meeting income	(includes \$640.00\$67 scrip) (and \$140 director's fee)
TOTAL INCOME	\$4,480.46

EXPENSES

Memorial gifts (Gertrude Collins, Cynthia Blanchard, Trumilla Stone)	\$150.00
Good & Welfare— postage—Lois Wright	\$25.00
Designated officers' stipends	\$1,350.00
Staples for community outreach (freedom writer's expo)	\$50.71
Web and Logo fees	\$290.69
2018 ABA Spring Journal Ad	\$75.00
12/21/17 MBU hospitality M. Mercer	\$25.04
1/28/18 Bridge Home Rental Fee	\$75.00
1/28/18 MBU meeting copies	\$49.00
1/28 MBU hospitality M. Mercer	\$22.61
1/28/18 Bridge Home Fee	\$64.00
1/28/18 ABA Sanction Fee	\$86.40
1/28/18 Directors Fee/Tolls	\$140.00
AAA Resorts Casino	\$500.00
AAA Resorts Casino	\$1,936.30
AAA refund on room (Doris White)	\$111.70
AAA 2017 Sanction Fee to ABA	\$1,456.00
AAA copy expense	\$9.58
AAA tip expense	\$80.00
AAA auction expense	\$181.33
AAA Director room expense	\$162.62
AAA decoration expense	\$96.90
AAA Asst Director expense	\$635.00
AAA Grade "A" sanction use to N.Jersey Bridge Unit	\$300.00
12/17/17 nationwide sanction fee to ABA	\$161.60
ATM error 1/2/18	\$50.00
2/15/18 Bridge Home rental fee for MBU Exec. Board meeting	\$25.00
Consumer—January 2018	\$503.17
Consumer—March 2018	\$279.60
TOTAL EXPENSES	**includes 1/28/18 director's fee (\$140) \$8,892.25**
INCOME OVER EXPENSES	*** \$4,411.79
	*** deficit due to 2017 "AAA" income reflected in 2017 fourth quarter report and December 2017 "AAA" expenses incurred in January 2018

Respectfully submitted by  
Sharon Fox, Interim Financial  
Secretary

**Quarterly Treasurer  
Report**

January 1, 2018 to March 31, 2018

JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.

Checking  
Account

Opening Balance	\$	14,514.46	
Deposits			\$4,361.46
Total	\$	18,875.92	

\*\*Checks paid/fees \$8,752.25

Closing Balance	\$	10,123.67
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\*\*Checks paid/misc. expenses

290.69	web fees		
782.77	jan/mar 2018 Consumer costs		
25.00	Good and Welfare Postage		
75.00	2018 ABA Spring Journal Ad		
300.00	N.Jersey Bridge Unit (2017 Grade A sanction use)		
50.71	staples supplies for community outreach (freedom writers expo)		
150.00	memorial gifts (see quarterly financial secretary report)		
500.00	2017 Resorts Casino		
1456.00	2017 AAA sanction fee		
25.04	2017 AAA hospitality		
9.58	2017 AAA flyer and calendar copies		
50.00	12/29/17 atm deposit error		
80.00	2017 AAA tips		
181.33	2017 AAA auction		
96.90	2017 AAA decoration		
1936.30	2017 Resorts Casino		
162.62	2017 AAA director's room		
161.60	12/8/17 ABA nationwide sanction fee		
635.00	2017 AAA asst. director fee	\$86.40	01/28/18 ABA sanction fee
200.00	2018 MBU Treas. stipend	\$64.00	01/28/18 bridge home fee
100.00	2018 MBU Asst. Sec. stipend	\$49.00	01/28/18 mbu copy costs
100.00	2018 MBU VP stipend	\$25.00	02/15/18 mbu bridge home

200.00 2018 MBU Secretary stipend  
 200.00 2018 MBU Pt. Coord. stipend  
 200.00 2018 MBU Tour. Chair stipend  
 111.70 2017 AAA room refund  
 \$250.00 2018 MBU president stipend  
 \$100.00 2018 MBU hospitality stipend  
 \$75.00 01//28/18 MBU bridge home rental fee  
 \$22.61 01/28/18 MBU game hospitality

exec. board  
 meeting rental  
 fee

Respectfully Submitted by Sharon  
 Fox

**Entertainment Tax:** Presented by Sharon Fox

	January	February	March
Club Name			
Astro	68/1247	88/1247	37/1247
Bayview			
Brooklynites	no game	26/1073	
Coop City	66/324	88/328	25/330
Cosmo	returned		
DBC/Mt. Vernon			
Jet Setters	87/386	107/392	
Leisure	34/1263	36/1263	30/1263
Springfield	84/3882	135/3882	
Triangle	44/1178		
Twilight	26/1437	56/1437	20/1437
Westbury	32/157	60/157	no game

**Point Coordinator Report** – Report presented by Martha Hewitt. City points are due 05/8/2018.

**Sectional Representative Report** – Clubs should check their rosters and make sure their membership is current.

**Website/Facebook** - Presented by Rita Thompson

A display of the new MBU website was presented to the membership. [www.MBUINC.org](http://www.MBUINC.org)  
 The MBU Facebook page was launched 4/15/18. Please ‘like’ us on Facebook.  
 Metropolitan Bridge Unit = Facebook name

**Property** – Presented by Jean DeVeaux

John Demos and Jean DeVeaux completed an inventory of our supplies.  
 One dealing machine  
 Three sets of Bridgmates: (2 containing 16 units; 1 containing 24 units)  
 20 sets of board; 3 incomplete; 1 has no cards

Action needed: Purchase table markers A-B-C; buy 12 boxes of cards

Issues: What does ES pay for and what does MBU pay for? What is the policy for rental of MBU bidding boxes?

**Constitution**- Dr. Errol Grant explained the ES voting process.

**Scholarship** – Presented by Valerie Brooks.

Just wanted to let you know that applications are now available on our beautiful new MBU Website. I have paper applications with me today as well.

Be sure the applicants you give them to understand they are due to the committee by July 15, 2018.

We would appreciate any suggestions or comments from the membership. We only ask that you submit them in writing so that the entire committee can address them.

We also welcome anyone who wishes to join the committee.

Special thanks to my fellow committee members Ms. Eliza Brann, Ms. Raye Liverpool, and Ms. Edna Moses.

Respectfully submitted,  
Valerie Brooks, Chairperson

**Scholarship Requirement:** The minimum requirement for eligibility is having completed at least three semesters of their continuing education towards a four-year degree by June 2018.

**Tournament Report** – No report.

**Consumer Report** – Presented by Gladys Smith. Next Consumer due 5/1/18.

**Hospitality Report** – Marion Mercer reported the following collation schedule:

October Meeting: Co-op City, JetSetters  
TBA: Westbury, Mt. Vernon

**December 2018 AAA**- Presented by Betty Sherrill

Dates: 12/3 – 12/6/18  
Place: Resorts Hotel & Casino, Atlantic City, NY  
Theme: Uniquely New York  
Colors: Black, Red, Silver

**New Players Committee**- No report.

**Unfinished Business** – None

### **New Business –**

- ‘Bridge Education Games’ as fund raisers – topic postponed for detailed investigation
- Minne Goka requested someone sit with her and a small group and explain bridge stratification at the national level.
- Lynda Straker explained that the new MBU website cost \$450/year and previously the membership approved \$300. MOTION: Increase website amount from \$300 to \$450. MOTION APPROVED.
- New Players Class – MOTION(T. Hamilton/M. Hagans): MBU pay for Bridge Home space rental to conduct a bridge class beginning 6/2/18. MOTION APPROVED.
- Directors: MOTION: MBU assume the cost of each directors’ meeting held at the Bridge Home. MOTION PASSED.
- Eastern Section Supplies: John Demos will alternate billing between the MBU and ES for supplies.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS-**

- ABA Handbook: Errol Grant has an ABA Handbook if anyone needs it for review.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by Janice McBean, MBU Secretary