

LONG BEACH UNIT 557

BOARD MINUTES

February 17, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 10:43 am by Rob Preece, President.

The following members were present: Colleen Bilas, Phyllis Greenstein, Fern Dunbar, Dalia Hernandez, Kevin Lane, Doreen Mays, Rob Preece, Diane Sachs, MariAnn Satin and Rosalie Storc.

Also present: Larry Slutsky

Absentee members: Ralph Brunson, Cliff Goodrich and Betty Jackson.

The secretary presented the January minutes. Kevin Lane moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Dalia Hernandez. The motion was carried and the minutes were approved.

Rob requested board members ACBL numbers which are required for the Unit Officers List.

TREASURER'S REPORT: In Betty Jackson's absence, Rob delivered the treasurer's report. Currently, the bank balance is \$14,193.05. The unit game balance is \$432.95 including ALACBU expenses.

HOSPITALITY/CORRESPONDENCE REPORT: Phyllis Greenstein, Chairperson, sent one get well greeting card this month. Rob inquired if a greeting letter exists that welcomes new members. Rosalie will review files for an existing welcome letter. Rob will write a new letter if one is not available. Rob states it is important to send new members a welcome letter which could include an invitation to a future unit game. Phyllis will contact the LBBC manager to see if the club would participate in guest games for new members.

UNIT GAME – MARCH 1, 2015: Sanctions are in place for this game. Kevin suggests that we assure that the boards are ready and in place. Fern reports that the luncheon has been pre-paid and arranged. Rob will verify director assignment with Brandon. Fern also reported that plans are in place for the awards luncheon which will be held during the May unit game. Invitations will be sent in March. She also reports that the unit provides various awards such as license plate holders and award plaques. Fern also explained each category award. Phyllis asked why third place awards have been eliminated. Fern and Diane explained that the board decided to have only first and second place awards based on financial expenses. Kevin mentioned that the board provide ideas to utilize unit money. Phyllis made a motion that a third place award be reinstated in 2016. The motion was seconded by Doreen. Rob suggests we table the motion and put the motion on next month's agenda. He further suggests that an idea list of "things we can do to spend money" be discussed and decided. The board agrees to table the motion until more concrete, responsible spending ideas are agreed.

SECTIONAL: Kevin has secured a sanction for a one day 499er sectional game. It is anticipated that the game be held on Sunday – Memorial Day weekend. South Bay usually runs a full sectional during the Memorial Day weekend, but will not schedule one this year. Kevin contacted South Bay to ensure that

continuing 499er sectional games will not conflict with their game schedules. Rob mentioned that this game will be a "break even" financial event. Kevin moved that we schedule 499er sectional games contingent upon South Bays plans for sectional games. Diane approves the motion and Dalia seconded. The motion was called to a vote and accepted.

OLD BUSINESS: Diane Sachs reports that the new directory is near completion with the exception of a few corrections. Fern will provide some information. Ralph Brunson will be informed.

NEW BUSINESS:

I/N COORDINATOR REPORT: Rob and Dalia have held meetings discussing ways and means of encouraging new players to advance in duplicate play. Rob spoke briefly of past events the unit has sponsored. Namely, Hank Dunbar's Tuesday afternoon free class, Bridge in a Day, high school bridge classes and mentor/mentee programs. Rob and Dalia also spoke of a variety of ideas to continue assisting beginner players and non-life players aspiring towards life master. They suggest two separate programs. They are asking the unit to support a beginner player program and another for the NLM player. Other suggestions are a smaller scale Learn Bridge in a Day and/or an Easy Bridge program. For future life masters, perhaps a team could be arranged with life masters. This arrangement could help future life masters participate in games that award gold points. Gold points are required in order to attain life master status. Information on ways to acquire gold points should also be provided. The North American Pairs and Grand National tournament games award gold points.

Currently, car pool arrangements are being made to assist players traveling to tournament games. A signup sheet has been posted. Rosalie suggested that if drivers are not available, perhaps a professional driver and/or van could be provided. The board also discussed introducing more team games and providing free games as an incentive to increase player participation. Larry suggests rotating games to keep the events more interesting. Rob discussed with Bob Mault the possibility of a monthly Pro/Am game in conjunction with the Bridge Plus games. Bob is supportive and agrees to Rob's suggestion. Bob also agreed to teach an Easy Bridge class at Leisure world. Doreen suggests a survey be provided new players to obtain their feedback.

Rosalie presented an idea for a fund-raiser. She proposes a unit sponsored silent auction event. She briefly discussed how this could be arranged and benefits that could result. Kevin encourages the board to come up with ideas. Rob suggested that a silent auction event be tabled until the LBBC manager be contacted regarding sharing responsibilities.

ADJOURNMENT: Rob moved to adjourn, seconded by MariAnn.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 am.

NEXT MEETING: March 17, 2015

RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED:

Rosalie Storc, Secretary