



**Long Beach Unit 557**

**Board Minutes**

*February 23, 2016*

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 11:03 a.m. by Rob Preece, President.

All members were present except Cliff Goodrich and Kevin Lane.

The secretary presented the minutes. Betty Jackson moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Dalia Hernandez. The minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Betty Jackson, Treasurer, reports a current bank balance of \$16,375.03. In addition, there is \$180.00 in petty cash. The grand total is \$16,555.83. The recent unit game gained a profit for this event. Betty also gave a brief report regarding ALACBU's financial status. Rob submitted a check to Kevin Lane for the recently purchased air conditioner. Rob states the conditioner is available as needed for future unit games.

**2016 Election:** The secretarial position remains open. Rob asked for nominations. At this time there are no candidates for the secretarial position. Rosalie volunteered to continue as acting secretary.

**Hospitality Report:** Renee Hoffman, Chairperson, will send condolence and get well cards to members and/or families. Renee requires the I/O report. Fern suggests she contact Kevin Lane for this report.

**Sectional/Unit Game:** Rob reminded the board members that the next unit game will be held this Sunday, February 27, 2016. All board members are asked to attend and to encourage players to participate. MariAnn Satin reports the Director for this game is Cliff Goodrich. Cliff is scheduled as Director for all unit games except the month of March. MariAnn is currently negotiating with Brandon Shuemaker to fill in as Director in March. Fern will provide a cake for refreshments. Rob states Kevin Lane will be responsible for the boards.

Rob reports that Kevin has not been able to schedule a date for the 499er sectional because of a conflict with other scheduled tournament dates. At this time, the proposed March 499 sectional game is postponed.

Janet Logan made a motion that the unit schedule a sectional game between the dates of December 26 – December 31, 2016. Ralph Brunson seconded the motion.

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A discussion ensued. Rob explained that Unit 557 traditionally hosted a sectional game on Veterans Day. The sectional was scheduled for two to four days. Betty states that local hotels would agree to allow a convention and there are no reservations during this time frame. Betty also mentions that sectional participants are usually players attempting to gain silver master points. Generally speaking, players seeking gold master points may not have an interest in participating in a sectional game. These facts could affect sectional games attendance. Attendance affects the financial status and must be considered. For these reasons, Betty suggests that the motion be tabled until next month for further consideration. Janet agreed. Rob suggested that Janet discuss this issue with Kevin. Janet also agrees with Rob's suggestion. She asked if the unit has ever considered hosting a regional game. She further suggests that perhaps a regional game could be hosted in lieu of a sectional game. MariAnn asked what areas have had successful regional games. Betty and Diane mentioned a few games that were successful.

Rob mentions that hosting a regional game is an interesting concept. However, there are ramifications regarding hosting a regional game and should be researched. He appointed Janet and the Tournament Committee to acquire specifics for this endeavor.

**Award/Unit Game:** Fern Dunbar, Chairperson, reports that last year there were three places for the Ace of Clubs awards and one place for the Minney/McKinney award. She proposes that the awards be presented in April. She explained how "free games" were awarded. The topic of duplicate awards was clarified. The board discussed issues such as the time of the presentations, dessert refreshments versus lunch, decorations, number of awards for each category and the event fee. It was decided that awards will be presented during the break. Dessert will be served and the fee remains at \$8.00.

Renee asked if the unit wanted old license plate frames that were previously awarded. Fern states that the old license plate frames could be recycled if they were in good condition. Renee also volunteered to take photographs of the honorees at the awards unit game.

**I/N Coordinator:** Rob reports that Kevin, Dalia, Rob and Sharon Biderman continue to substitute for Bob Mault's bridge classes in his absence. Sharon, Dalia, Renee, Janet, Rob, Kevin and Jane Reid have also volunteered to conduct the recent and successful two over one classes. Sharon has also arranged a Learn Bridge in a Day event scheduled for April 3, 2016. This event will begin at 9:45 am – 2:45 pm. The fee is \$20.00. A student manual and luncheon will be provided. Rob asks that all board members help in advertising this event.

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**Old Business:** Rob mentions that local clubs be informed that CPR classes are available for new directors. Betty states that directors could arrange for this class on their own time and a reimbursement will be made.

**New Business:** Dalia brought up a discussion regarding bridge mates. She suggests that the unit purchase bridge mates for the LBBC. Diane Sachs mentions that bridge mates are sold twenty in a box. The approximate cost is \$3,000.00. She asked if the LBBC's computers are adaptable to bridge mates programs. Dalia says that any computer issues could be rectified. Rob asked Dalia to research purchasing bridge mates with Marcus.

Marcus has experience on purchasing bridge mates. Rob will postpone discussion until Dalia can complete the research.

**Name Tags:** Betty states that name tags will be ordered for new board members. Rosalie will post sign- up sheets for members interested in purchasing a name tag.

**ALACBU –** Diane reports that the Los Angeles regional game was presented in a new venue. The changes were positively accepted. The hotel arrangements were satisfactory and hotel representatives invited the ALACBU back for future events. Diane made a suggestion to support the ALACBU. She suggests that business be solicited to place a business logo on pencils. Regional games use approximately four to five hundred pencils in a tournament. Sales of “pencil logos” to business could supplement the finances of these events. MariAnn volunteered to assist in this suggestion. Janet suggested purchasing tee shirts imprinted with business advertisements. The tee shirts could be worn by caddies working at the tournaments.

Rosalie displayed several antique bridge artifacts that were donated by Darlene Harrison. Darlene is a bridge member at the LBBC. Betty and Diane mentioned that Michael Marcucci would be interested in this donation. Rosalie will contact Mr. Marcucci and arrange to donate the items for historical interest.

**Adjournment:** Rob adjourned the meeting at 12:05 pm.

**Next Meeting:** March 22, 2016

**Respectfully Submitted:**

Rosalie Storc, Secretary

