



Unit 557 Board Meeting
July 19, 2022

Call to Order: Lillian Slater, President, called the Meeting to order at 11:06

Members Present: Fern Dunbar, Jenny Ernest, Judith Jones, Charles Laine, Linda Leventhal, Alan Olschwang, Lillian Slater, Melanie Smothers, Rita Vanlierop

Members Absent: Sharon Biederman, Leo Dittimore, Dalia Hernandez, Charlotte Roush, Bonnie Shok,

Minutes: Jenny moved to approve the minutes and Melanie seconded the motion. The Minutes were approved with one correction of the June unit game date (the 26th).

Treasurer's Report: Jenny reported that we are still experiencing a deficit spending pattern in the monthly unit games:

- The June game lost \$148 with 44 people in attendance.
- The total loss in 2022 is over \$500 for the 4 unit games. This may improve as fewer Free Play cards are redeemed.
- There was a discussion of the reduced attendance in all bridge clubs and bridge tournaments since the pandemic.
- Tournaments are now considered “successful” if they draw 50% of the pre-pandemic levels.
- The Unit’s checking balance is still in the black at \$13,659.31.
- Stamps were purchased for the first time in three years. Jenny will share them with Bonnie, who buys stamps for cards.
- We received a bill of \$17.99 from Dreamhost, which hosts the acblunit.org and longbeachbridge.com web sites. Jenny moved to pay the bill and Lillian seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

ALACBU:

- Lillian reported that we received an invoice of \$260.80 for the 2020 ALACBU newsletter. They did not bill us during the time the Bridge Club was shut down during the pandemic. It costs them \$400/month to publish the newsletter.
- At the end of 2020, there were 326 paying members, and we are charged 80 cents per member for the District 23 newsletter. Currently we have 277 paying members. (Paying members are ones receiving the Bridge Bulletin per the monthly In-and-Out reports from ACBL.)
- There are three other units in District 23 that are larger than the Long Beach unit, and all are experiencing similar declines in membership.
- District 23 sources of income are the charge for the newsletter, the Long Beach Regional Tournament, and STaC net proceeds. There may be no income from this year's tournament as organizers are just hoping it will break even.
- There have been no other local district regional tournaments this year.
- Lillian stated that we should do what we can to support District 23 to ensure its local July tournament survives.
- Alan moved to pay the invoice and Melanie seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- Lillian and Dalia will be our voting representatives to District 23.

Leisure World:

- The Leisure World club had an average of 7.1 tables during June, down from 8.1 in May. COVID is the main reason for the downturn.
- Dan Frank is the new reservations manager for the Leisure World club. His number is 562-739-6441. His email is dfrankcpa@gmail.com
- Please contact Dan if you want to play at the Leisure World game. There is a limit on the number of non-residents permitted to play in the game.
- There were no 70% games in June in Leisure World.

Unit Game: The next Unit Game is July 26th at 12:30:

- Sean Lui is confirmed as the director.
- Lillian will make the boards.
- Jenny and Fern will handle the open game's check-in and collection of fees.
- Rita will handle the check-in of the 199'er game.
- With Charlotte on hiatus for physical therapy, Linda volunteered to purchase the Costco cookies for refreshment.
- Board members are expected to stay after the game to help with cleanup since the club does not have a cleaning service on Sundays.
- There was a discussion of a suggestion that we change the 199'er game to a NLM one for players who have less than 499 masterpoints and are not Life Masters. If we did so, it would cost \$8, as does the Open. The suggestion was made because there are few such games in the area so attendance might improve. After discussion, the board decided to leave it as is for now.

Bridge Brigade/Long Beach Bridge:

- Summer classes are underway with a good turn turnout.
- There was general agreement that Nancy Toussaint is doing an excellent job running the 499'er NLM game on Friday and that it should continue as it is.

Adjournment: Alan made a motion to adjourn and Judy seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 23, at 11:00 a.m.

Next Unit Game: Sunday, July 24, at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Linda Leventhal