



**Unit 557 Board Meeting
January 17, 2023**

Call to Order: Lillian called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

Members Present: Sharon Biederman, Leo Dittimore, Joey DuRee, Fern Dunbar, Jenny Ernest, Dalia Hernandez, Nancy Imbery, Judy Jones, Chuck Laine, Linda Leventhal, Alan Olschwang, Ann Peacock, Lillian Slater, Rita Vanlierop

Minutes: Alan made a motion to approve the prior minutes. The motion was seconded by Jenny and unanimously approved.

New Members: Joey DuRee, Nancy Imbery, and Ann Peacock were welcomed to the Board. Bonnie Shok has resigned her position of Hospitality with thanks from the unit for all her service. Nancy volunteered to assume the Hospitality position.

Election of Officers: Alan nominated the following slate of officers, which was seconded by Chuck and unanimously approved by the board.

- President Lillian Slater
- Vice President Leo Dittimore
- Treasurer Jenny Ernest
- Secretary Linda Leventhal

Note: Former Vice President Chuck Laine has replaced Sharon Biederman as the Bridge Center's Manager.

Treasurer's Report

- Jenny reported that the December Unit Game had 62 participants, the greatest number of attendees last year.
- Due to the cost of holiday food, it still incurred a deficit of \$72. However, the party and game were well received.
- This is a trivial amount compared to our relatively healthy December ending balance of \$13,673.34.
- ACBL rebated \$1,201 to us for our membership.

Long Beach Bridge/Bridge Brigade Update

- Bridge 1 & 2 are underway and have collected \$1,272 for its classes.
- ACBL's approach to generate new players from a list provided by them was not very successful with only two of the 50 people Hank Dunbar called enrolling. NOTE: In a subsequent conversation with Hank, he is not discouraged by this approach as he has contacts for future classes.
- Rob's classes will alternate between Play of the Hand and Defense although he taking a break this quarter but still teaching at Leisure World.
- Rob gives mini-lessons at the beginning of supervised play on Mondays.

Leisure World Report

- Judy reported attendance at Leisure World games, average tables in November were 7.6, December 5.9, and so far in January up to 8.6.
- December averages were likely low because of the holiday season.

January 23rd Unit Game

- Director: Sean Lui
- Boards: Lillian will make the boards.
- Fees: Lillian and Melanie Smothers will tally the money collected. Judy will circulate with change prior to the game.
- Refreshments: Linda will buy Costco cookies.
- Lillian stressed that it was important to encourage Leisure World players, members of our unit, to participate in these joint games.

New Business

Unit Game Fees:

- After discussion, it was decided to simplify the collection of fees at the unit games by raising the price to an even \$10.
- At the same time, the 199'er section will be changed to 499'er for \$5, hopefully building the size of this section instead of requiring its players to play in the Open when turnout is low.
- A Pianola email notice will be sent outlining these changes.
- A motion was made by Alan, seconded by Judy, and unanimously approved to raise the fees to \$10 and \$5 respectively while changing the 199 section to 499.

Unit Sanctions: Unit sanctions are games that award extra points.

- Unit 557 gets 24 sanctions a year from ACBL.
- Lillian has applied for the unit's 12 unit games: January 22, February 26, March 26, April 23, May 21 (changed due to holiday), June 25, July 23, August 27, September 24, October 22, November 19, December 17.
- After discussion, it was decided to award the remaining sanctions proportionally 2:1, LBBC: Leisure World, based on their respective days of operation. Accordingly, Long Beach Bridge Center gets 8 sanctions while Leisure World gets 4.
- Judy Jones provided Leisure World's dates to Lillian.
- In order to increase accessibility and attendance during the holiday season, the November game will be on the 19th and the December game on the 17th, before the holiday weekends.

ALACBU: In view of its budget constraints, Lillian suggested that the unit make a donation to ALACBU to help defray the costs of the Pro-Am and Hospitality.

- After discussion, it was decided to not do so until the district is more complete and consistent in its budgeting.

Adjournment: The motion to adjourn was unanimously approved at 11:45 a.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Linda Leventhal, Secretary