



Unit 557 Board Meeting
August 22, 2023

Members Present: Leo Dittmore, Joey DuRee, Fern Dunbar, Jenny Ernest, Judy Jones, Nancy Imbery, Chuck Laine, Linda Leventhal, Alan Olschwang, Ann Peacock, Lillian Slater, Melanie Smothers, Rita Vanlierop

Call to Order: Lillian called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: After the correction of a date in the July minutes, Alan made and Fern seconded a motion to approve the corrected July minutes. All voted in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Jenny reported:

- For the first time since February 2020, we had a profit in a unit game—a \$2 net profit with 48 players.
- August's ending balance was \$13,062.16. Due to Jenny's vacation, unit game receipts were not deposited during the month so they will be included in the September report.

Hospitality Report: Nancy reported:

- A Get Well card was sent to Larry Slutsky who is recovering from hip surgery.
- She will send a Get Well to Lois Mullin who is having knee surgery after a car accident.

Long Beach Bridge Center: Chuck reported:

- Congratulations to Baum Harris and Sandra Schlosser who recently married.
- ALACBU owns folding chairs and bidding boxes for its regional bridge tournaments. Last year they were stored in the home of Kevin Lane, a member.
- The chairs needed a storage alternative, so Chuck was asked if we could store them. Chuck agreed to use some of the space in our back room.
- After discussion of an appropriate fee, it was decided to ask ALACBU to pay a \$100/month lease.

- Chuck indicated that he would use the income to pay a director to open an additional Sunday.
- Jenny suggested we should reevaluate and possibly renegotiate our generous rental amount with ALACBU after the district is financially stable.
- The Chinese University Alumni Association's annual game here was a big success. Next year we will use one of our unit sanctions to upgrade its status.

Bridge Brigade Update

- At a previous meeting, we were asked if we'd like to participate for a fee in a documentary on bridge. Dalia investigated the offer and determined that it was a scam.
- Dalia's Monday online class is going strong.
- Rob and Hank's ongoing classes are attracting many members.
- Rob is working hard with less experienced members to build an appetite and competency for team games.
- Everyone is encouraged to come to the team games on the third Sunday of each month.
- Libby Tigner and Cherene Birkholz are planning to honor our Bridge Brigade teachers during our October unit game.

Dalia questioned how we could get more people to attend NLM games.

- The only ongoing NLM game is Friday afternoon. There are usually 4-5 tables.
- Fern said that most people taking the morning classes are not attending the Monday afternoon 199er game that was scheduled per a student's request.
- The club tried attracting people to a Thursday NLM game with ice cream, but it didn't work.

A mentor-mentee game with NLM students playing with a mentor like in the Pro/Am game was suggested.

- It was suggested that we get the mentors to sign up ahead of time and then ask Bridge 2 and 3 people in the class to sign up to play with these experienced people.
- Such a game should have a limit, e.g., 8 weeks of play. Larry Slutsky implemented a similar mentor-mentee program when he was at Long Beach Bridge.
- We will focus on this again at our next meeting.

Leisure World Report

- There were 13 days of play in July with an average of 6.3 tables. Some days were cancelled because other Leisure World events were given priority.
- Leisure World had excellent attendance with 14 tables when it provided lunch at a game on a Friday.
- Judy Jones, representing Leisure World, has resigned from the Leisure World Executive Board. She will continue to serve on Unit 557's board.

Unit Game: September 24th

- Director: Sean Lui
- Boards: Lillian
- Food: Joey will purchase cookies to be served with ice cream previously purchased.
- Money: Lillian and Melanie
- Change: Judy

Sectional Game: November 4th -5th

- The Long Beach Unit is hosting a Sectional game on this weekend.
- We have received approval/sanctions for this event from ACBL.
- Sean will be the director.
- Joey volunteered to be the contact for the partnership desk. Nancy offered to help her.
- Lillian asked for approval to print the flyer publicizing the event, recommending that we make 100 high-quality copies at a commercial printer.
- Linda volunteered to make 100 colored copies on her home printer. The unit offered to buy replacement color toner but Linda donated hers. Thank you, Linda.
- Alan moved to produce these flyers for \$50. Leo amended the motion by adding that we distribute the flyer via Pianola and other media. This passed unanimously.

Leo moved and Judy seconded the motion to adjourn at 11:55 a.m. It passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Leventhal, Secretary.

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