



Unit 557 Board Minutes
February 21, 2023

Call to Order: Lillian, president, 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

Approval of Prior Minutes: Alan moved to approve the January minutes. Joey seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Jenny reported:

- The ACBL rebate of \$1,201.96 based on club membership brought our balance up to \$14,540.14.
- The January Unit game loss was \$42.71. She anticipates that the unit game loss will increase when Free Plays are awarded for the Ace of Clubs, Mini-McKenney, and online winners next month.

Hospitality Report: Nancy reported that:

- Two Get Well cards were sent to Paul Pettler and Mony Barkol.
- It was suggested that we send cards to Janet Logan and Nancy Toussaint, who is already back at the club. A “we missed you, welcome back” card was suggested for Nancy.

Long Beach Bridge/Bridge Brigade Update

- Sharon reported that Hank Dunbar would be offering Bridge 1 (Mondays) and Bridge 2 (Tuesdays) beginning the week of April 3rd. Fern added that the projected turnout for these classes is good.
- Fern, Rob Preece, and Sharon will continue with Supervised Play on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays.
- Lillian indicated that she and Dalia had been discussing a conventions class composed of individual sessions that could stand alone. This would make it possible to take a class without making a commitment to the whole series. NOTE: Since the February 21st meeting, Dalia has scheduled a class on Monday nights beginning March 13th. This class will offer a 30-45 minute lesson followed by 12-15 boards of ACBL-sanctioned play.
- Steve Ramos expressed a willingness/interest in repeating his Eddie Kantor class for intermediate-level players. Doing so would require the acquisition of a projector. Hank and Leo are working on this, and Steve indicated he might have some contacts for them to pursue.

Leisure World Report: Judy reported that:

- January had 15 days of play totaling 94 tables, with an average of 6.2 tables per session, slightly higher than December's 5.9.
- Leisure World is offering four days of bridge a week, but games can be cancelled when Leisure World needs the facilities as it has preference over the bridge club.
- There were no COVID outbreaks in January.

February 26th Unit Game

- Director: Sean Lui
- Boards: Lillian
- Food: Linda will purchase cookies at Costco.
- Card Fees: Judy will continue to circulate with change prior to the start of the game. Lillian and Melanie Smothers will tabulate the fees collected via the envelopes.

ALACBU

- Dalia is resigning her seat on the Board of the ALACBU. Lillian remains one of the two unit representatives. Someone needs to volunteer to assume the remaining position, which involves attending three-four Zoom meetings a year.

Awards: Fern reported that:

- Free Play awards will be distributed in March for the 2022 Ace of Clubs, Mini-McKenney, and online winners.
- Winners will be acknowledged in the March Table Talk and at the March unit game.
- Expenses of \$168 expenses have been submitted for updating the plaques that have been returned to the wall.
- License Plate holders are distributed as unit members achieve a Life Master+ status.

Pianola

- Chuck has requested that the Pianola licensing fee of \$600 be shared among the club, the unit, and Bridge Brigade.
- Jenny moved and Leo seconded a motion that the unit provides 1/3 of the Pianola fee. The motion passed unanimously.
- Sharon noted that there are two Pianolas, one for ACBL “marketing” and one for the club. In the past, several people have made manual entries into our local Pianola database but it and the unit directory, which has been maintained by Jenny, are not in sync.
- Additionally, the club needs to maintain a membership list as a requirement of a 501c7 organization.
- Rita volunteered to help integrate and thereafter maintain the Pianola database. This involves adding new members from the In-and-Out Reports as well as updating contact information that has changed.
- A subcommittee of Rita, Jenny, Lillian, and Ardie Laine will work out the details of this. Lillian will display a “master” copy of the unit directory where changes in contact information may be noted.

Online Directory and Privacy Policy

The possible publication of an Online Directory of members has raised the issue of personal privacy.

- Jenny recently published an updated Unit 557 Directory, but some members didn't supply and/or correct their data. Also, there are people listed who are no longer active.
- An initial proposal was to post the directory on our website, but this has raised serious concerns about privacy.
- Dalia pointed out that ACBL postings of club board members' contact information have resulted in those people receiving emails from

scammers. Some people have been taken in by the scams and given them money. Rita added that a directory of our unit officers was online but she got rid of it.

As part of this issue, Leo put together a Privacy Policy and Terms of Use, which were distributed via email for review prior to this meeting.

- Alan commented that Leo did a super job in putting together the policy but questioned if it should be the club's and not the unit's policy.
- Leo explained that organizations are required to notify people about what personal data is being collected and what is being done with it. He added that a lot of the wording in this draft was taken from ACBL's policy.
- The unit is chartered under the ACBL; we are an extension of the ACBL. Our privacy policy should be ACBL's so we may not even need a separate one.

After discussion, it was decided to defer action on the online directory for six months in order to address the security issues. Leo and Lillian will further research to see if the unit needs a separate Privacy Policy/Terms of Use or if it is covered under ACBL's.

New Business

A subcommittee of Joey, Nancy, Dalia, and Rob has been discussing how to integrate new members into the club and unit:

- Many people have taken multiple classes from Hank and Rob, but they aren't comfortable playing in the big room.
- Nancy and Joey suggested that a friendly night game might be offered to newer players. Rob has agreed to direct that game, which would be initially operated under a unit sanction and transitioned to the club if/when it's deemed successful. There was a discussion regarding offering limited beer/wine. Several board members expressed concern about doing so. This idea was tabled for now.
- Dalia noted that the club has layers of members depending on when they joined, what classes they have taken and with whom, and the experiences they have had. She suggested a short class combined with playing in the evening.

Reimbursement: On February 28, 2023, an email motion was made by Rita, seconded by Joey, and unanimously approved to reimburse Lillian \$19.83 for expenses for decorations for the Celebrate Sharon day.

July Regional Tournament

Judy suggested that we help defray expenses by donating candy for Hospitality's use at the regional tournament. Alan moved and Ann seconded that we buy 16 bags of Costco Candy, eight hard and eight soft (more expensive) and donate them to the regional tournament. This was approved unanimously.

Adjournment: Alan moved and Linda seconded a motion to adjourn at 12:02 p.m. It was approved unanimously.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at 11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Leventhal, Secretary.