



**Unit 557 Board Meeting  
September 19, 2023**

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

**Call to Order:** Lillian called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** Alan moved and Dalia seconded approval of the minutes, which were updated to remove Dalia and Melanie as attendees because they could not attend. The motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report**

Jenny reported:

- The ending balance for August was \$13,148.07.
- Income from the Unit Game was \$29 more than expenses. These numbers are favorable because we are spending more money on refreshments and our purpose is to provide a service, not make a profit. This is the best we've done since pre-COVID days.

**Hospitality Report**

- Nancy sent a card to Larry Slutsky, who had hip surgery
- Nancy will send one to Lois Mullin, who is having knee surgery after an accident.
- Hank Dunbar had hip surgery but was back so fast that she didn't have time to send him a card.

**Long Beach Bridge Center**

Chuck reported:

- An anonymous donor gave the club \$500 to be used for special projects.
- \$200 of the donation was spent on the front door, which now says Long Beach Bridge Center and is painted ACBL yellow.

- Chuck reported that there will be a night game offering some gold points on Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, for the ACBL International Fund.
- Ardis Laine is the director for today's game and will be subbing while Alan Flower is gone.
- Chuck noted that the club is no longer losing money and thus will be paying the extra fees for special games instead of charging players for them.
- Chuck suggested setting up a committee to plan snacks for players during the games.
- Lillian reminded the board that ALL board members need to stay and help clean up after the unit game. It was suggested she make a reminder announcement at the game.
- Chuck checked with the ACBL to learn what penalty should be assessed on a player who insulted our director. The penalty was deducting one board from the score.
- The tables we are storing for ALACBU are in the back room.
- Lillian hasn't seen the final financial statement from the regional tournament, so we don't know yet if the card fees covered the costs.

### **Bridge Brigade Update**

- There was a discussion about establishing a NLM mentor program.
- A previous program for NLM players ran on Monday nights, but Lillian was doubtful that people today will come back at night.
- Bonnie has been advocating for an additional NLM game. She was asked to take an informal poll of NLM members to establish a day for an afternoon bridge game.
- We will be trying for 4 tables of NLM players with less than 750 points.
- The September 27<sup>th</sup> evening game needs to be publicized on Pianola.

### **Leisure World Report**

Judy reported:

- There were only 12 days of play, averaging 6.91 tables, an improvement over July.
- Sadly, the club manager Stan Johnson had a stroke. It will be difficult to replace him. People are pitching in to help.
- Judy has taken sectional flyers for team games to Leisure World, and some people are forming teams to participate.

### **New Business**

- There was a discussion of the upcoming sectional tournament.
- Lillian noted that the registration fee of \$12 is at the low end of card fees.
- Leo reported that the directors' operational handbook was being updated by Jo Melis.
- Sean Lui is the only current director who is qualified for silver point tournaments.
- Rob Preece had a good turnout for a special event of NLM team games.
- Dalia suggested that he play a team game during his Monday morning class.

- Dalia suggested getting 3–4 experienced players, one at each table, to help and make it manageable for Rob.
- A good experience in class could motivate people to attend the team games on the third Sunday of the month.
- Lillian suggested that Sean be encouraged not to use Bridgemates so that participants can learn how team games are scored at tournaments.

**Unit Game:**

- Director: Sean Lui
- Boards: Lillian
- Food: Judy with cookies, and ice cream provided by the unit
- Money: Lillian and Melanie
- Change: Judy

**Sectional Tournament: November 4<sup>th</sup> -5<sup>th</sup>**

**Adjournment:** Leo moved and Melanie seconded adjournment at 11:52. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Leventhal, secretary.