

MINUTES

**Board Members
present:**

Steve Goldstein, President
Bill Dani, Treasurer
Sally Tobin, Secretary
Nance Lodge
Jim Weeks

Barbara Hopewell
Bill Berke
David Kane
William Stine

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Steve Goldstein at 9:30 a.m. He welcomed Jim Weeks to the board; Jim will take over the duties held by Gary Delestine.

2. MINUTES:

The minutes of the board meeting held on March 26, 2014, were read. Jim Weeks questioned the mention of next year's Sectional at Mission Hills, as the tournament has now been moved to a different date at the Palm Springs Convention Center. There followed a discussion about the change of dates for next year's Sectional (March 26th-29th) and the fact that there will be a new, conveniently-located parking lot at the Convention Center. Steve stated that the contract has been signed and an initial deposit has been made. A motion was made by Bill Berke to accept the minutes for March 26th, it was seconded by Barbara Hopewell and unanimously approved.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Bill Dani presented the financials for the first quarter, at the end of which we show a net surplus of \$2,863.33. This was partially due to the refund received from the P.S. Convention Center for using different space than had been previously allocated. Bill then pointed out the various transactions that had taken place during the month of April, the largest of which was an initial deposit of \$8,074.19 for next year's Sectional at the Palm Springs Convention Center. The account balance as of April 21, 2014 is 27,877.00, which included a deposit from the ACBL (Membership Share Income) of \$1,021.63 and a deficit of \$332.07 for the Awards Game. Bill noted that he had filed the tax returns at the beginning of the month.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a) **Awards Game Feedback:** The Awards Game was well received. Most players seemed to like having everyone at one place for the presentations. Marie and Jamie seemed to have worked well together, and Bill Dani concurred that he thought everyone seemed happy with the arrangement. Bill did make a comment that he thought we needed to do more advertising for our special games. He mentioned that in the past, the use of flyers had been most effective, and a discussion ensued regarding using this method again. Jim mentioned that perhaps we should introduce a team game or a pro-am event, to encourage more players to the our Unit Games, and there was more discussion about the Unit Games in general

b) Annual Meeting//Sherry McHarg Petition

Steve talked about the ACBL Rules and Regulations and how they do, or do not interact with the Unit's by-laws. There was a request by Nance Lodge that the board go into an Executive Session, and it was agreed to.

After discussion, David Kane suggested that there was good reason to clarify some of the by-laws because they are not as clear as they should be. He made a motion that a Special Committee, to review and improve the current by-laws of Unit 533, be established. The motion was seconded by Bill Dani and approved unanimously. Steve will draft up a letter to our club managers asking for a representative from each club to participate. It was suggested that the first meeting be held by the end of May before people leave for the summer, perhaps, Wednesday, May 21st. There was then a discussion about the location of the meeting. Sun City was offered as a possibility and Bill Dani will look into it. In the meantime, Bill Dani and David Kane will go through the by-laws and red-line the ambiguities that need to be clarified. From this, they will recommend changes for the committee to look at.

c) Web Site Status: Bill Berke stated that he is having no problems with the new web site and has received mostly good reviews. Bill reported that he had been approached by Bob McConnell, about posting online a booklet that he has prepared on Earthquake Preparedness. Bill was given a couple of copies to review, and handed them out to members of the board. Board members found it very informative and very detailed. After consideration, however, the board thought the offer should be declined. It didn't pertain to bridge in any way, and the board's policy is that any announcements on the web site be bridge-related. The Board appreciated all the work Bob went to putting the booklet together, and suggested that Bob offer it up to club directors/managers, and if players were interested in getting a copy, they could get in touch with him.

Bill Berke then presented a list of annual expenses that are being incurred for keeping the domain names open, pointing out the ones that will no longer be used, so this amount will go down in the future. Currently, the annual cost is \$765.94. but this includes several 9-year periods that have been pre-paid, so in future our annual expenses will be nominal. There no longer appears to be any need to use Scott's services as Bill and his wife are able to handle the site themselves. Bill has the passwords available for the future use of other web masters and handed a sealed envelop to Bill Dani and Sally for safe keeping.

d) New Members: Barbara had nothing new to report.

e) Education Committee: Nance said that they only person so far who had taken any interest in her new program was Mimi David, who will wait until the fall to begin her new classes.

5. NEW BUSINESS:**a) Unit Game - May 4th.**

There was a discussion about whether Marie will continue her game, or join Jamie at Duncan. Bill Dani talked about Marie's fee. William will get in touch with Marie to negotiate a fair rate in

exchange for helping Jamie with the 299er section. Steve volunteered to take care of the food again, as several other people are away next month.

b) Non-Life Master Sectional:

Bill Dani talked about having a Non-Life-Master Sectional at the Duncan facility during the spring of 2015. After discussion, Bill Dani made a motion that a NLM Tournament be held during the second weekend of February, 2015. The motion was seconded by Barbara Hopewell and unanimously approved. Bill said he would obtain the sanction from the ACBL.

6. DATE & PLACE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will take place at Barbara Hopewell's house off Cook Street, on Thursday, May 22nd, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.

7. ADJOURNMENT

At 11:40 a.m. a motion was made by Barbara that the meeting be adjourned; it was seconded by Nance and approved by all.

Respectfully submitted

Sally A. Tobin
Secretary, Unit 533