

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Steve Goldstein William Stine
 Bill Dani Bill Berke
 Jim Weeks David Kane
 Nance Lodge Jane Witous
 Jim Lopes

Invited guests: Barbara Hopewell and Sally Tobin

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was held at David Kane's house and was called to order at 9:30 by Steve Goldstein.
2. **MINUTES:** Minutes of the board meeting held on January 13, 2015, were read. A motion was made by Bill Dani to accept the minutes, the motion was seconded by William Stine and unanimously approved.
3. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Bill Dani handed out copies of the financials for the past month, as well as a proposed budget for the coming year, explaining that it was too early to be in a completed format. Our balance stands at \$24,723.26. William Stine motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report, Jim Weeks seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.
4. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**
 - a) **Election Results:** The election results were reviewed. The Election Committee verified that there was a quorum of more than 113 members in good standing present at the meeting. The ballots were counted and the amendments to the by-laws passed by more than 2/3 of the voting members present. The newly elected board directors were Jane Witous and James Lopes. A motion was made by Jim Weeks that the results be ratified as approved by the Election Committee, it was seconded by Bill Berke and the motion carried.
 - b) **New Officers:** Steve welcomed new board members James Lopes and Jane Witous and asked all others to introduce themselves. The board went into executive session to discuss and nominate officer positions. The following positions were assigned: Nance Lodge, President; William Stine, Vice President; Bill Dani, Treasurer; and David Kane, Secretary.
 - c) **Bank Signatories for Unit Checking Account:** The Board authorized the following Board members as authorized check signatories to the Unit's checking account: Nance Lodge, William Stine and Bill Dani. Steve Goldstein was removed from the list of authorized check signers. Bill Dani said he would set up a meeting with our bank to have checking account signatories changed and verified.

d) Annual Meeting Review: There were some complaints that the Annual Meeting had been held on a Monday and the suggestion was made that we move it back to Sunday in the future, and that it be a regularly scheduled monthly Unit game.

e) March Sectional: Barbara Hopewell had suggested that we consider forming a committee that would include members of the bridge community at large to help run our Sectionals. Board members liked this idea, but Bill Dani suggested that at least three members of the Board be included, to coordinate the catering, equipment rentals etc., especially for the Sectional held at the Palm Springs Convention Center. David and Bill Dani will be the joint tournament managers and will handle the set-up and clean-up committees for the March Sectional. Bill Berke will be in charge of publicity. Terry Cox may not be able to be in charge of Caddies which needs following up. Sally and Jane will handle hospitality. Bill Dani will liase with Rick Leson at the Convention Center.

f) Website: Bill Berke said that according to various comments he had received, more and more people were using the Unit's web site. The suggestion was raised to use Facebook to get more publicity, and this was discussed.

g) Unit Games: The Unit game for February was not well attended and it was noted that we should probably not have a game during Superbowl Sunday again. The next Unit game is March 1st. William Stine will take care of the food, but needs help with cleanup.

h) Education: Nance Lodge reported that Marjean Larson is requesting further subsidy for beginner classes that she is holding, and Jim Weeks is requesting a refund for books that he bought for his classes.

i) Response to Sherry's 2nd complaint; For the benefit of the newly elected directors, David gave a synopsis of the events leading up to the hearing to be held on March 9 re Sherry's complaints. David then read a notice he received from the ACBL re the March 9 hearing. The Unit plans to attend by telephone.

j) Fall Sectional: Steve said we should schedule a meeting with DBC to go over the planning of the Fall Sectional next November. We also need to schedule a post-mortem with DBC re last year's Sectional and go over the various issues that came up.

k) Location and Scheduling of future Board meetings: There was more discussion about holding board meetings prior to bridge games at different clubs so the bridge community at large could more easily attend.. Nance will pursue this further with club directors, and find out if and when there might be space available for such meetings and the cost if any. Bill Dani wanted to know what kind of response this suggestion has received so far.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a) Planning the Second Tranche of Bylaw Changes: David Kane said he would email a document to all directors outlining the changes suggested

and gave a brief summary of them. There were 15 proposed changes remaining to be voted upon. The discussion of timing was tabled for future consideration.

- b) Party for Terry Cox:** Terry Cox is leaving and on behalf of DBC, Guy Brackett wanted to know the Unit would participate in the cost of a party to be thrown for Terry at the next Unit game. Brian Hartin would do the catering. The merits and details of this were discussed, and Bill Dani suggested we should split the total bill with DBC to cover the cost for food, but pay for and buy a cake at the Unit's sole expense.
- c) Public Relations:** Jane Witous reported that she has a contact at *Palm Springs Life* who has offered to do some PR for the Unit about bridge in the Coachella Valley, if the Board is agreeable. The Board liked this idea so Jane will follow up and report back at the next meeting.
- d) San Diego 2017 Nationals:** Steve presented a request from the ACBL to help raise money to defray the cost of running this major tournament next year.
- e) Membership Roster:** David Kane suggested that we form an ad hoc committee to oversee the publishing of a membership roster in accordance with the new ACBL Privacy Laws. Jim Lopes will head this effort and develop language for the email/website messages(s).

7. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday March 4, 2015 at David's house off Cook Street.

8. ADJOURNMENT: At noon a motion was made by Nance Lodge to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by William and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

David Kane, Secretary

