

## MINUTES

**Board Members Present:** Steve Goldstein, President  
William Stine, Vice President  
Bill Berke  
David Kane  
Bill Dani, Treasurer  
Sally Tobin, Secretary  
Jim Weeks

**Board Members excused:** Barbara Hopewell, Nance Lodge

### 1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was held at David Kane's house and was called to order at 9: 30 a.m. by Steve Goldstein.

### 2. MINUTES:

Minutes of the board meeting held on December 4, 2014, were read. A motion was made by Bill Berke to accept the minutes, the motion was seconded by Bill Dani and unanimously approved.

### 3. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Bill Dani presented the financials for the past month and pointed out the deposit of \$5,616.19 that had been made to the Convention Center for the Spring Sectional in March; the \$500 donation which had been made to District 22 for the Youth Program. Bill then showed a comparison of the actuals vs the projected budget for the year 2014. He noted the similarities of the bottom line explaining that, although we had more tables this year, we had spent more money on food and directors' fees. Jim Weeks questioned how our expenses for the Sectional at the Convention Center compared with our expenses at Duncan. Bill Dani said that they come out to be the same, when comparing the rental of tables and other equipment, plus the coffee which is provided by Duncan and included in their charges. Our current cash balance is \$24,643.66. Jim Weeks motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report, William Stine second the motion and it was approved unanimously.

### 4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a) Annual Meeting, Status of Proposed Amendments: Steve reported on the status of the Election Committee and Ron Erickson's list of procedures. There was a discussion regarding the different entrances at Duncan and how the committee should go about checking names and handing out ballots. It was suggested that there be a table at both doors where members could register and receive their ballots. Steve will follow this up with Ron.
1. Steve went over Ron's suggested list of procedures for voting on the by-laws amendments, and the timeline for the Agenda. Ron said that colored paper will be used for voting on Amendment. A question came up about absentee ballots and David Kane reiterated that they will count towards a quorum. Sally mentioned that she had received queries about the availability of absentee ballots. For clarification, David handed out extra copies of the election information that had been sent to each club director. Several board members offered to make extra copies to be handed out at various club games. Steve stated that as of January 10, 2015, the membership of Unit 533 is 1135, However,

there have been three deaths reported recently which would reduce the number needed for a quorum to 113. Steve also mentioned that he is going to ask that Duncan open its doors at 11:00 a.m. Steve will commence the meeting at 12:15 p.m. and after his annual report, will introduce the candidates giving a brief background of each one.

2. Bill Dani mentioned that Sun City is having a morning game on the day of the Unit's Election; he said that he will ask if they can shorten their game so players will have enough time to come and vote.

b) **WEBSITE:** Bill Berke said he did not feel that the Unit should be responsible for ascertaining whether bridge directors and/or teachers are fully qualified when they ask to be listed on our Website. He suggested that we put a disclaimer on the bottom of the director's page to the effect that we are neither endorsing or recommending any director listed.

There was a lengthy discussion about publishing notices of member's deaths, and what confirmation was needed in order to comply with such requests. Bill Dani said there had been a practice in place for many years regarding the public listing of such information only when we had confirmation of an obituary. Bill Berke suggested that we have a special "In Memoriam" area where a member's name could be listed. He followed up by saying that he could do a link to an obituary if one is provided. Steve asked that we draft up a clarification of such a policy which could be posted on our Website. If approved, the board will vote on it next month. Bill Berke said he would write the draft and email it to board members for review.

c) **Food:** William has been looking into alternative menus for lunch and presented a couple of menus from take-out places. However, on review, the board agreed that it was too expensive. After discussion, the decision was made to go back to Costco for wraps and croissants, but that we would include more fruit in the future.

d) **February's Unit Game:** The Unit game for February is the same day as the Super Bowl and the question came up whether the game should be moved up earlier so that players could get home in time to see it. After discussion, it was decided that there will still be time to see most of the ballgame after bridge is over, perhaps missing just one quarter of the game. It was thought that the die-hard football fans will not be playing bridge anyway.

e) **Response to Sherry's 2nd Complaint:** David Kane stated that a hearing will be held on March 9, 2015 in New Orleans at the Nationals. He spoke about the process and said that interested parties could participate in person or by phone. It has not yet been decided whether there will be a board member actually present or not.

f) **Discussions with DBC re Sectionals:** There were several complaints about our Fall Sectional. Sally mentioned that this year we did not have have a pre-tournament meeting with Duncan as we had done in the past. Steve added that neither did we have a post-Sectional meeting. It was agreed that these meetings are important and need to take place at future Sectionals.

Bill Berke presented a flyer which he is preparing for the **Spring Sectional** at the Palm Springs Convention Center, and asked for comments. The \$12 fee per game was agreed to; Sunday it will be \$30 for the day and include a play-through lunch. Bill Dani said that the sanctions are in hand, and that Scott will be the tournament director. Darryl Hendershot's name came up for the Partnership desk and Sally was asked to chair the Hospitality table. David Kane and Jim Weeks were approached about being Tournament Managers. It was suggested that newly elected board members work with an experienced board member to learn the ropes for next year's tournaments.

g) **Edith Hirshman Award** Sally reported on her meeting with members of the Edith Hirshman Award committee. She then presented the flyers and the nominating forms which Gary Delestine had asked be posted on the Website. There was a discussion about these flyers and Bill Berke explained that last year we had a link to the form which he will attempt to do this year. Sally explained that it was important to the committee that the information be posted in full on the Website. After discussion, Bill Dani motioned that we continue to do the same that we have done in the past and that Bill do a link for the form. Jim Weeks seconded the motion and it past unanimously.

**5. NEW BUSINESS:**

a) Steve suggested that we ask our club managers if we can use their facilities, prior to a bridge game, for a board meeting. We could rotate our regular monthly meetings amongst them. This way more members could attend and understand what is going on in the Unit. It would be advertised ahead of time, so that players could make arrangements to attend.

b) Mention was made about vendors at our Unit Games. There were some complaints and some compliments about the jewelry table that was displayed at our most recent Unit game. What is our policy? After discussion Bill Dani motioned that we not allow vendors to sell at our Unit Games and Sectionals. Jim Weeks seconded the motion. There were five votes in favor and one abstention.

**7. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at David Kane's house off Cook Street.

**8. ADJOURNMENT:**

At 11:45 a.m. a motion was made by Sally Tobin that the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by William and unanimously approved.

Respectively submitted

Sally Tobin, Secretary