

UNIT 533 BOARD MEETING – 10/24/24

Board Members Present:

Ann Carter
Vicki Graves
Kathy Kroll
Diane Jobin
Diana Seeb
Deann Young
Barb Wegener

Treasurer: Bill Dani

Guest: Guy Brackett

Board Members Absent:

Nancy Beckerman
Sue Blom

The meeting was called to order at 10:30am at the Duncan Bridge Center. Minutes from the prior Board meeting had been approved electronically via email vote.

The board had also voted electronically prior to this meeting to amend the new member incentive plan passed at the last meeting as follows: “We’ll offer beginning bridge ‘graduates’ who live in the Coachella Valley a \$30 reimbursement if they sign up for a new regular ACBL membership within 30 or 60 days (as determined given initial responses).”

HARVEST SECTIONAL: November 8-9, 2024

A discussion was held on how to encourage more participation for limited players and focused on those players with 0-20 points. Discussion items included free plays, help to find partners, an outreach to online players, prizes such as free admission to the Todd workshop or a chance to play with a Pro, and an offer to those players with 0-20 points for free play on Saturday morning.

The board voted to offer free plays to those with less than 20 Masterpoints on Saturday morning. Vicki will send out an email offer to this group of players.

Diane had asked John Kubisty to oversee the food. She reported that volunteers were still needed to help with the kitchen.

Guaranteed Partners: The following volunteered to participate: Diane (Friday/Saturday both), Diana (Friday/Saturday morning), Vicki/Deann (Friday AM), and Nancy Beckerman. Lewis Lorton had offered to be a Limited level Guaranteed Partner. Kathy said she would advise as to whether she would also be available as a Limited guaranteed partner.

Vicki and Diane will be Greeters. Someone will need to handle the 0-20 free plays. Who will do the decorations?

Vicki said Mick will give away 5 free plays for the sectional at the Halloween party. Diane suggested putting flyers on tables at upcoming games and Sean will announce at games and put a flyer on the online site.

HOLIDAY PARTY: December 8, 2024

Ann reported it will be a Potluck and sign up sheets will be posted. She needs a flyer prepared and Vicki asked her to send her the information she wants included in the flyer. Prizes will be awarded.

MEMBERSHIP:

Mick has 33 people signed up for his Oct/Nov Beginning Bridge class and 4 are already ACBL members. We'll present those nonmembers who are Coachella Valley membership (normally

\$59). The board agreed to give free plays to those who are already members.

In Nancy's absence Vicki reported that our results under the 5/5/5 plan for the 3rd quarter had been good. Prior to the new plan we had been reimbursed by ACBL for 11% of our membership dues. Since the new plan became effective 4/1/24 we have received 14% for the 2nd quarter and 11.5% for the 3rd quarter. In the 3rd quarter the variance was Retention—the percentage of members lost in the 12 months ending 9/30/24 as compared to the 12 months ending 9/30/19 was negative.

BOARD ELECTIONS/BYLAWS

In Sue's absence, Vicki reported that: The Board elections will be held in March. The terms of Barb, Deann & Nancy (a replacement for Sandy Young) are up. Vicki said that each should advise Sue (who is leading the election process) if they plan to run again. Vicki said she and Sue had discussed possible revisions to the Bylaws which would need to be voted on at the meeting:

- Remove the requirement for a Nominating Committee and a chair appointed by October 15 and instead require that “calls for candidates” be issued electronically via the newsletter/ website X months before the election. (*Addendum: Randy Bissett will serve as the Nominating Chair for 2025.*)
- Remove the requirement for an Election Committee as voting is mostly done electronically—at most one person needed.
- Remove the term limit for President beyond that of the term limits of the board in general (2 terms). The board elects this position and all officers every year.
- Change the requirement of dual signatures for checks over \$200. Maybe \$500 assuming the expense is part of a budgeted item?
- Should the by-laws specify 7 board meetings needed?

Vicki said Sue was working to update the by-laws and a revised copy would be available for vote at the next meeting. Revised by-laws need to be posted 45 days before the elections.

FINANCIALS:

Bill reported that the unexpected Membership payments had been very positive to the bottom line. We had a net surplus of \$2,581 YTD and \$39,641 in the bank (including \$12,640 in WIN).

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05. The next meeting will be **Thursday, December 5th @ 10:30am at the Duncan Bridge Center.**

Submitted by: Barb Wegener, Secretary