

Five Cities Duplicate Bridge Club - Board Meeting Minutes – 1/24/19

I. Meeting called to order by Eli Zinner at 11:15 AM at Pismo Veteran’s Hall

Attendance:

Eli Zinner, President – Present	Jim Borland, Member - Present
Mike Carroll, Vice President - Absent	Patricia Kowal, Member – Present
Art Herbon, Secretary – Present	Gina Kirk, Prior President - Present
Donna Kimber, Treasurer - Present	
David Crampton, Member - Present	

A quorum was declared. Also in attendance: Jim Solomon

II. November Minutes Approved.

III. Treasurer’s Report (Donna Kimber) – Balance is \$12,297.

Significant changes 2018 versus 2017:

A. Income (inflows)

1. Easybridge income	down	\$494	-	8.0%
2. Gifts for charity	up	\$412	(new category)	
3. Novice game income	up	\$1,360	+	42.0%
4. Open game income	down	\$63	-	0.0%
5. Total income	up	\$1,244	+	5.2%

B. Expenses (outflows)

1. ACBL fees	up	\$1,510	+136.0%	mistake
2. Director’s fee	up	\$3,430	+100.5%	mistake
3. Easybridge expenses	down	\$3,708	-	74.1%
4. Rent	up	\$1,067	+	43.0%
5. Total Expenses	up	\$3,023	+	15.1%

IV. Club Manager’s report

- A. 2nd director needed. Non-playing director will interrupt open game. Jim Solomon now handling both. Don Alderman and Jim Borland helping.
- B. Make the second game 199 instead of 149? More tables make Mitchell movement ...easier.
- C. Late start is main issue right now.
- D. Vet’s hall not available 2/7, 4/4, 4/25
- E. Entire summer not available at Vet’s. (Mid-June to Early September)

V. Director’s Report (part of IV)

VI. Old Business

Five Cities Duplicate Bridge Club - Board Meeting Minutes – 1/24/19

- A. Alternate plans when Vets not available ...
 - B. Cancelled XMAS party. March spring fling – March 7th
 - C. Late starts – try not using seating program
- VII. New business
- A. Card fees raised to \$6 starting March 1st
 - B. Cell phone penalty- \$1 penalty for ringing phones starts immediately
 - C. Club manager position ... OK as is as long as Jim accepts volunteers' help to keep things on time
 - D. Location of food table. Member complained about door opening and letting cool air in. Leave as is.
 - E. Election of officers – no change. Donna Treasurer; Eli President; Mike Vice President; Art Secretary
- VIII. Next meeting 2/28 at 11:30.

Five Cities Duplicate Bridge Club - Board Meeting Minutes – 03/28/19

I. Meeting called to order by Eli Zinner at 11:15 AM at Pismo Veteran's Hall

Attendance:

Eli Zinner, President – Present	Jim Borland, Member - Present
Mike Carroll, Vice President - Present	Patricia Kowal, Member – Present
Art Herbon, Secretary – Present	Gina Kirk, Prior President - Present
Donna Kimber, Treasurer - Present	Jim Solomon - Present
David Crampton, Member - Present	

II. January 24, 2019 Minutes approved. Approved.

III. Treasurer's Report (Donna Kimber) – Bank balance = \$17,497 minus 1,552.78 outstanding checks minus 2,000 other possible costs = \$13,944.51 Net Balance (up from \$12,297 on 1/24/19).

IV. Club Manager and Old/New Business (the three agenda items were mixed together)

- A. Game fees increased from \$5 to \$6. Attendance is up.
- B. Suggestion to meet with Pete Avojin (P&R Commissioner) to get better treatment at Vet's Hall. Get Pismo resident from our club to Pismo P&R Commission Meetings.
- C. Gina meeting with AG regarding Woman's Club as permanent location for our club. Critical issues are basement storage (12 steps to haul tables), and cost versus Vet's.
- D. Games will be held on 4/4 and 4/15 at Guild.
- E. Investigate Trinity Hall as possible Unit location. Combine SLO and 5-Cities games?
- F. SLO Senior Center can seat 18 tables maximum.
- G. Novice Games: 37 people in newcomer. 4-5 new player tables on Wednesdays. 7 tables with novice. Total 11 tables on Wednesdays.
- H. Thursdays: 6-7 novice tables (149)). Go to 199 to increase tables? No. Total average tables 21. This is the largest game between Los Angeles and San Francisco.
- I. Unit 540 Board allocates Championship games to club. 24 games available. Unit uses 12/year on Saturdays. 5-Cities gets three per year allocated. Seems low. Find out formula for allocation.
- J. Holiday party has been repeatedly rescheduled. Cancel
- K. Next Board meeting is 4/25/19 (Art on vacation 4/22 to 5/15 ... someone else will need to do minutes).

Five Cities Duplicate Bridge Club - Board Meeting Minutes – 4/25/19

I. Meeting called to order by Eli Zinner at 10:00 AM at Donna Kimber's home

Attendance:

Eli Zinner, President – Present	David Crampton, Member - Present
Mike Carroll, Vice President - Present	Jim Borland, Member - Present
Art Herbon, Secretary – Absent	Patricia Kowal, Member – Absent
Donna Kimber, Treasurer - Present	

A quorum was declared. Also in attendance: Jim Solomon

II. March Minutes – not available due to Secretary being out-of-country.

III. Treasurer's Report (Donna Kimber) – Balance is \$14,477. Report approved by acclamation.

IV. Old Business

a) Cancelled Christmas party. Lack of communication. The board deeply regrets the confusion and disappointment created in this situation.

b) Alternative plans when Vets' Hall unavailable. A lengthy discussion ensued due to the fact that we are being evicted from the Vets' Hall this summer. At the moment our options are:

- Guild Hall – low quality of the bathrooms and lack of parking are the major concerns. Also, it's in SLO, not 5-Cities.
- AG Women's Club – inability to store our equipment here is a concern.
- Trinity Hall – this location seems like the best option except the price may be too high. Jim Solomon is currently negotiating with them. There was concern expressed about heavy traffic on Hwy. 227 and the need to make left turns across traffic when leaving to drive north.

In regard to the AG Women's Club, we talked about the possibility of putting all our equipment inside a rented enclosed trailer, and parking it at the club or towing it to the club each week when needed.

c) Ongoing plans for Wednesdays - "Summer School" – Jim Solomon is looking at the common room in a nearby adult community as a possibility for holding classes and games on Wednesdays during our summer hiatus from the Vets' Hall.

d) Dates for Unit Championship games – Jim Solomon will select the dates for our remaining Unit Championship games this year (4 more) and notify Jan Zinner so she can obtain the sanctions.

V. New Business

a) Accommodating late players – a lengthy discussion ensued regarding the best way to deal with people who arrive late for our games and cause the game to start late. A proposal was made to set a time after which anybody who arrived late would be denied the opportunity to play in that game.

There are two categories of late people. The first is those who notified Jim that they would be playing but got caught in traffic, or otherwise delayed, and telephoned to make their situation known. The board does not wish to set a time after which these people would be turned away from the game.

The second category is people who do not communicate in advance that they will play and just show up minutes before the game is to start. There was some sentiment for setting a time after which these people would not be admitted to the game, but the board could not come up with a solid proposal and will continue to discuss this matter.

b) Next meeting – Eli is unavailable on 5/23/19 due to his son getting married in Pennsylvania, so our next meeting will be on 6/13/19.

Minutes submitted by Jim Borland due to the absence of our Secretary.

Five Cities Duplicate Bridge Club - Board Meeting Minutes – 6/13/19

I. Meeting called to order by Eli Zinner at 11:15 AM at the Pismo Vets' Hall

Attendance:

Eli Zinner, President – Present	David Crampton, Member - Present
Mike Carroll, Vice President - Present	Jim Borland, Member - Present
Art Herbon, Secretary – Absent	Patricia Kowal, Member – Present
Donna Kimber, Treasurer - Present	

A quorum was declared. Also in attendance: Jim Solomon

II. March and April meeting minutes were approved by acclamation.

III. Treasurer's Report (Donna Kimber) – Balance is \$12,917. Report approved by acclamation.

IV. Club Manager's Report

a) Today's game will be our last one at the Pismo Vets' Hall. Starting next week our new home will be the Arroyo Grande Community Center/Women's Club. A work crew will be established this week to move all of our equipment to our new home. On game days we will not be allowed access to the building until 11:45 am.

b) Donna Kimber verified that our insurance policy does have \$1 million liability coverage as required by the City of Arroyo Grande. She will work with Jim Solomon to arrange for the certificate to be sent to the city.

c) It was suggested that we should send thank you notes to the directors of both the Pismo Beach and the Arroyo Grande Recreation Departments.

V. Old Business

a) Further discussion on the topic of late starts. Everyone agreed that we should do everything possible to accommodate new people who did not sign-up in advance. Habitual late comers among our regular attendees will be dealt with on an individual basis.

b) When a pair arrives late they will be welcomed if there had been an odd number of pairs creating a phantom pair and a sit-out. If the pairs were even then the latecomers will become the rover pair or be given the sit-out on round one.

c) If the Seating Assignment list has already been posted when the latecomers arrive, the director will not re-do the list. Starting on-time is more important than having perfectly balanced seating.

VI. New Business

a) The unit's Longest Day game will take place at the Arroyo Grande Community Center/Women's Club on Friday, June 21st. Our club agrees to lend it's support to that activity by allowing them to use our tables and all of our bridge equipment.

b) Next meeting – Our next meeting will be on Thursday, 08/08/19, at a location to-be-determined.

Minutes submitted by Jim Borland due to the absence of our Secretary.

Five Cities Duplicate Bridge Club - Board Meeting Minutes – 8/8/19

1. Call to Order: 100% attendance
2. Minutes from 6/13/19 - Presented by Mike Carroll. Approved
3. Treasurer's Report
 1. Over \$5,000 in checks not deposited by Jim Solomon. Jim reports that they were just deposited.
 2. Current bank balance is \$19,561.95 (minus the \$5000 checks not yet deposited) - \$14,500+/- available. Prior month balance was \$12,917.
 3. Motion to approve report - approved unanimously
4. Club Manager Report
 1. 19.4 average tables at Thursday games. The largest game between LA and Bay Area
 2. 10.4 average tables at Wednesday novice games
 3. Discussion regarding slow play.
 4. Problem during last month of player that reversed direction of boards to suit partner that was bothered by glare from window. Caused trouble with many EW that played the wrong direction that day.
5. Gail Lapins requested that club routinely purchase food instead of relying on players bringing snacks
 1. Estimated weekly cost is \$2 to \$3 per player based on Costco sandwiches and salad
 2. Annual impact about \$6,000 to \$9,000 (in addition to pizza once a month)
 3. Decision to take "straw vote" to determine member interest (post meeting note ... membership voted later that day ... about 80% in favor of not raising weekly fee to get lunch)
6. Annual Meeting - Terms that expire in October are Herbon, Crampton, Borland, Kowal.
 1. Kowal will not be running for another term. Other members indicated they will
 2. The board requested Eli to make an announcement to recruit another board member, and to form a nominating committee.
7. 2020 Sectional Report - Art informed the board that March 26-29 is tentatively scheduled for the Unit's next sectional. Primary location choice is AG Woman's Club. Alternative is Trinity Hall if facility costs are less.
 1. Board asked Art to provide statistics for number of sectional players that come from out of town.
(post meeting data) - Number of players in 2019 sectional
Non-ACBL 9
Unit 192 4
Unit 473 2
Unit 476 4

Unit 502 4
Unit 503 13
Unit 514 30
Unit 522 17
Unit 524 6
Unit 528 8
Unit 539 4
Unit 540 438 (68%)
Unit 542 36
Unit 543 59
Unit 547 6
Unit 548 4

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Total 644 (32% from outside)
20% increase from 2018

8. Next board meeting is 9/12/19. Art Herbon will be out of town that week.

Five Cities Duplicate Bridge Club - Board Meeting Minutes – 9/12/19

I. Meeting called to order by Eli Zinner at 11:00 am in the patio at the AG Community Center/Woman's Club.

Attendance:

Eli Zinner, President – Present, Mike Carroll, Vice President - Present
Art Herbon, Secretary – Absent, Donna Kimber, Treasurer - Present
Patricia Kowal, Member – Present, Jim Borland, Member - Present
David Crampton, Member - Present

A quorum was declared. Also in attendance: Jim Solomon

II. August meeting minutes were approved by acclamation.

III. Treasurer's Report was approved by acclamation.

IV. Club Manager's Report

a) The AG Community Center/Woman's Club will not be available to us on Thursday, October 24th, because the facility has been rented over that weekend for the annual Jubilee-By-The-Sea Jazz Festival. Jim Solomon will attempt to rent the SLO Guild Hall that day so we can hold our game there. A discussion ensued regarding the logistics of moving our equipment out of and then back into the Community Center/Woman's Club.

b) Our arrangement with the Community Center/Woman's Club is that we must be completely finished and out of the building by 4:30 pm on Thursdays. This includes time spent to put away our equipment, clean the kitchen, empty the trash and sweep the floor. If we fail to be done by 4:30 pm there will be a financial penalty charge. Jim Solomon will communicate this information to the members and attempt to get lots of help from attendees in order to meet this deadline.

c) Looking at the calendar, we agreed that there will not be a game on Thursday, Thanksgiving Day. Christmas falls on a Wednesday this year and we do plan to hold a game the day after Christmas and also the day after New Year's Day.

V. Old Business

a) At last month's board meeting there was a proposal to raise table fees and use the money to purchase food in order to improve the quality of our refreshments. At the game following that meeting, Eli made an announcement and asked for a show of hands regarding this proposal. There was an overwhelming response showing that the members are NOT in favor of this idea.

VI. New Business

a) We decided to hold our annual meeting and elections at our regular game on October 24th. Of course, this assumes we are able to rent the SLO Guild Hall that day. The board discussed the disadvantages of having this meeting on a day we are away from our regular facility, but it was decided that we needed to go ahead with this important event.

b) The Unit 540 Sectional will be held on March 27-29, 2020. Location will be the AG Community Center/Woman's Club. However, the Sectional Committee is considering expanding the tournament to include Thursday, March 26th. Obviously, that would impact our regular Thursday game. Also, the Sectional will need to use our equipment which is stored at that location. The board discussed these matters and pledged our cooperation, agreeing to offer assistance in any way as needed.

c) Next Meeting – our next meeting will be on Thursday, October 24th, at the SLO Guild Hall (assuming we are able to hold a game there that day).

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am. Minutes submitted by Jim Borland due to the absence of our Secretary.

Minutes - ACBL Five Cities Bridge Club Board – October 24, 2019

1. Meeting called to order 11:00. In attendance: Eli Zinner, Jim Borland, Michael Carroll, Art Herbon, Dave Crampton, Patricia Kowal, Donna Kimber. Quorum Declared. Also in attendance was Jim Solomon.
2. Minutes from September 12th presented by Jim Borland. Approved.
3. Treasurer's Report presented by Donna Kimber.
 1. Jim Solomon has \$6,152 in uncashed checks. He states that he has taken care of them.
 2. Rent is misleading. Supervision by City is charged at end of year.
 - a. The board requests Solomon to provide the board with the rent contract to review terms regarding supervision (Art stated that he negotiated with city to cut supervision hours in half for next Sectional).
 - b. Donna asked Solomon to get periodic updates on labor accruals (monthly or quarterly?) to budget for the end-of-year expense.
 3. 10/15/19 balance (after Solomon deduction) is \$14,368.80, versus \$13,850 one year ago (October, 2018).
4. Club Manager's Report
 1. Wednesday attendance running at 12 tables. The Novice group tried Swiss for the first time. The Wednesday group offers 0-20 and 0-99 sections.
 2. Thursday attendance running at 13.5 to 20 tables. The 149 group is shrinking as players move up.
 3. AG Community Center is not available on 4th Thursday of October, every year. The board decided to relocate the game on that day.
5. Director's Report - none
6. Old Business - Annual Membership Meeting plans discussed.
 1. Herbon, Borland and Crampton are up for reelection. Pat Kowal is stepping down. The board thanked Pat for all of her service to the board.
 2. Three members were nominated. Donna Marshall and Jack Luxton opted to withdraw their nomination in support of Deb Cameron.
 3. 2020 Nomination Committee formed - Art Herbon, Jim Borland, David Crampton
 4. The board requested Art Herbon to send Deb Cameron the past years' of Minutes.
7. 2020 SLO County Sectional -
 1. The board approved preliminary plans for a special 5-Cities "Swiss Pairs" game on 3/26/20, the Thursday before the Sectional.
 2. David White has offered his time, without charge, to direct the game and teach Unit 540 directors on how to run Swiss Pairs on Bridgemates.

3. The board voted to move our normal Pizza Day to that day (but make it more special), and offer the day at normal table rates (now \$6) to make it a positive first experience.
 4. Eli will pursue getting a special game status form the Unit. Otherwise, the Club will use a game status that it has available to increase the points availability that day.
8. Possibility of new part time Director
1. The board approved John J Fields as it's part-time director, once per month
 2. John will direct on the 2nd or 4th Thursday of each month, or once a month that is mutually agreeable to Fields and Solomon.
 3. Jim Solomon will be paid as a 2nd director on those days, once per month, for up to three months.
 4. The board requested Jim to be available as a mentor. Jim can play while mentoring.

Minutes submitted by: Art Herbon, Secretary

ACBL Unit 540, 5-Cities Club Annual Meeting Minutes October 24, 2019

1. Meeting called to order at 11:15 by President Eli Zinner
2. Board members in attendance
 - Eli Zinner, President
 - Mike Carroll, Vice President
 - Art Herbon, Secretary
 - Donna Kimber, Treasurer
 - David Crampton
 - Jim Borland
 - Patricia Kowal
3. 2018 Annual meeting minutes presented by Art Herbon. Motion to approved passed.
4. Treasurer's Report was presented by Donna Kimber. Finances are in good order. Balance is \$14,368, 4% higher than last annual meeting. Motion to approve passed.
5. Nomination to Board -
 - a. Four positions are open (Jim Borland, Art Herbon, David Crampton, Patricia Kowal).
 - b. Patricia Kowal is stepping down. The board and members of the club acknowledged her for her service.
 - c. Jim Borland, Art Herbon and David Crampton have accepted nominations for another term.
 - d. Deb Cameron has accepted a nomination to fill Kowal's seat.
 - e. Motion to accept the four nominations by acclamation passed.
6. Meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM

Minutes - ACBL Unit 540 - Five Cities Board Meeting on 11/14/19

1. Meeting called to order on Thursday, November 14, 2019 at 11:00 AM. Everyone was in attendance and a quorum was declared.
2. Minutes from 10/24/19 were revised and approved.
3. Treasurer's Report
 - ! Jim has \$3,750 in uncashed checks [down from \$6,152 last month]. The oldest uncashed check was issued on 12/28/18.
 - ! The club's balance is \$16,373 (up from \$14,368 last month). Difference is related to rent and facilities supervision labor timing.
 - ! Discussion regarding D&O insurance ensued during treasurer's report (possible subject for future agenda).
 - ! Treasure's report was approved.
4. Club Manager's Report
 - ! Jim S requested the city (AG) to hire him at a nominal rate (\$1/yr for instance) to qualify for key access. City said no.
 - ! Jim B organized awards ceremony for Wednesday rankings achievements. He provided printed certificates to 25 recipients, along with a cake to celebrate. Jim S requested that Jim B be reimbursed.
 - ! Gail Lapin suggested to Jim S that the Thursday game do something to recognize rank advancements.
 - ! On October 24th the board requested Jim S to provide the board with a copy of the A.G. Community Center contract (not received yet).
 - ! We discussed changing our club's home to Arroyo Grande to save money. Art reported that the sectional contract did not qualify for the \$75 discount because the home of our club is Five-Cities. The board discussed changing our mailing address to save on weekly rent. Jim S was asked to find out how much per week the club would save and what would have to change (name? Mailing address?).
 - ! Art suggested negotiating weekly labor charges. He convinced AG to cut labor charges in half for the sectional. Art also suggested getting periodic (monthly or quarterly) updates of the accrued labor (billed at end of year). We will review this when we see the contract.
5. Director's Report - None

6. Old Business

- ! Election of officers - The board voted to reinstate the same officers as last term: Eli-President, Mike-VP, Donna-Treasurer, Art-Secretary.
- ! Incorporation of new director - John J Fields and Jim Solomon have decided to incorporate plans for Fields directing once per month starting January. Tentative first day is January 9th (Solomon might attend Monterey ACBL event that day). John J will periodically assist Jim in directing prior to January to become familiar with our process.
- ! Thursday before the sectional - Swiss Pairs with David White
 - # It was pointed out that there is a possible conflict with serving pizza on 3/26/20, since the sectional committee may be serving pizza for Saturday. Art will discuss with committee.
 - # Jan Zinner is concerned that \$6.00 fee is too low for Thursday. Not resolved.
 - # The club asked Art Herbon to convey to the committee that it would like advertising to include an invitation to Thursday's game. The Five-Cities club also wants to put out advertising for 3/26 (to hype Dave White introducing Swiss Pairs). Not yet resolved.

7. New Business

- ! Board Making - The SLO Club notified Five-Cities that they will no longer prepare boards for our club. They offered to sell one of their dealing machines (the new one) for \$2,400, including eight sets of boards. New machines cost \$6,000 according to SLO Club.
 - # Our club has paid SLO Club's people \$945 YTD for preparing boards.
 - # We discussed who would store the machine and operate it. Deb Cameron offered to temporarily do so.
 - # We discussed using "Common Game" in the future (not resolved).
 - # We discussed paying someone to do the board preparation (not resolved).
 - # We discussed offering SLO Club double (up from \$5 to \$10 per set). Bill Ringbom joined into the discussion and declined the offer, saying the SLO Club was firm regarding their decision and the job was too big for volunteers to prepare boards for multiple clubs.
 - # Deb Cameron offered to do further research before the board makes a final decision. However, she indicated that SLO's offer seemed fair based on her knowledge of operating and purchasing the machines.
 - # [Secretary's note after board meeting - Unit Board has previously paid half of a club's facility and equipment expenses. The Unit Board also paid for

the dealing machine that the Paso Robles club uses. Consider asking the Unit for financial support for getting the equipment from SLO Club.]

- ! Emily Kreins Tribute - The board approved Gina Kirk's suggestion to hold a goodbye on December 19th. The club will reimburse Gina for making the arrangements (cake, refreshments, banner, etc.).
- ! December 5th - Facility is available starting at 2:30. We will hold our game late to avoid having to relocate the game. We discussed starting the game at 3:00 PM (half hour after we are allowed into the facility).

[Secretary's Note after board meeting - The SLO Club President (Jan) suggested using the SLO Senior Center that day, and will investigate whether it is available as an option.]

8. Next 5-Cities Club Board Meeting - December 26th at 11:00 AM.

[Secretary's Note after board meeting - The December 26th meeting was canceled due to lack of attendance. The next meeting was held on January 23rd.]