

UNIT 533 BOARD MEETING: February 11, 2022

Board Members:

Vicki Graves
Diane Jobin
Rob Martin
Bonnie Sipkins
Barb Wegener
Deann Young
Sandy Young

Absent: Chip Graves, Linda Hahn

Treasurer: Bill Dani

BOARD ACTIONS PRIOR TO THIS MEETING:

Minutes from the January 7, 2022, meeting were approved by electronic vote.

The Unit's Annual Meeting and Elections were held on January 30, 2022. Three new members were elected to the Unit Board: Barb Wegener, Deann Young and Sandy Young. A revision to the Unit Bylaws was approved. After the meeting and in accordance with the new Bylaws, a short meeting was held with previous board members (sans Sandy Hertz and Rob Martin) and new board members (sans Deann Young) to elect officers for the coming year. Vicki Graves was elected as President, Diane Jobin as Vice-President, and Bonnie Sipkins as Secretary.

TODAY'S MEETING was called to order by President Vicki Graves at 8:30 am.

After member introductions, Vicki reminded the board that our purpose is to grow bridge in our area by taking actions which offer opportunities to our players and our clubs. She noted that we have 900+ members in the unit and some 13 clubs (not all of which are active at this time).

FINANCIALS/RELATED DISCUSSIONS:

Bill reviewed our Year-to-Date Financials noting that we have \$22,990 in our Bank of America account and \$14,570 in the WIN account. The Unit's share of the membership dues paid to ACBL is remitted directly to our bank account on a quarterly basis. This totals to be about \$3,000 a year for our 900 members. We discussed ways we could encourage our snowbirds to make us their home unit and that discussion will be continued. It was noted that board members are required to have their full membership in this Unit.

Bill next reviewed the financials for our STaC week games January 24-30. He reported that the unit's profit was \$80 excluding the Sunday game as reported separately below. We billed the clubs a sanction fee of \$6 per table and paid approximately \$5.24 per table (\$4.77 as a sanction fee and the remainder as a prorate of the \$8 per session Hand Record charge). Vicki said that this was our first ever unit run STaC and we'd known it would be a break even type financial event for the Unit. Unfortunately, many of our clubs are still closed but at Duncan,

where the games were held, the games had attracted additional players over previous weeks (twice as many 0-499er tables). As a result, she believed that Duncan had made a profit and that the players benefitted from the extra silver points. She noted the additional 'bump' some got for particularly good scores. It was agreed that we would pursue a sanction for another such STaC week in the fall.

At the Annual Meeting on January 20, 2022, we lost \$115. The main reason was that It was a STaC week game so the sanction fees were larger than usual (\$4.77 v. \$2.25 for an extra black point type game). The attendance at 21.5 tables was good given the mask mandates in place and the competition from the football playoffs. WIN awards were presented. Vicki noted that there had been a problem with some of the boards shared by tables 14 & 15 in the Open Section as those boards had been duplicated in error. She said adjustments to scores had been made for the affected players.

Bill next covered his draft budget for 2022. The budget includes 3 unit-sponsored extra point event games for which he reviewed his financial projections separately. One was held January 30, 2022, the next is March 27, 2022, and the holiday party will be in December 2022. The unit can also host up to 24 extra point unit games during the year for which the unit absorbs the extra \$1.25 per table sanction fees for each participating club. These games are intended as a way in which we give back to the members and clubs. Vicki said we should look at planning some regular unit games soon as we look at open F2F clubs. Some dates will be reviewed at the next meeting.

For education we give a stipend per student to teachers to hold accredited bridge classes. Bill said \$1250 is budgeted for 2022 although this has been as high as \$3000 pre-Covid. As discussed at our last meeting, we need to determine how this program might change to accommodate online teaching and what the related stipend amount per student should be.

In a related item, Vicki said that Diane will represent us on a new District 22 committee looking at ways to grow ACBL's membership. Ideas such as inviting social bridge players at country clubs to duplicate games and the introduction of bridge at the college and high school levels were discussed. (It was noted that Sean Lui has wanted to teach bridge at the Xavier Prep high school.) Diane will report back as to ideas she hears from other areas as well.

As another budget item, Bill said he'd projected a 6% increase in the cost of our 10'X10' storage unit (currently at \$1524 annually). Several board members had inventoried the unit last spring and determined we could cut the size in half. However, the cost of storage had risen to the point that a smaller space cost more than our current lease. This will be addressed again in the spring.

One item missing in the 2022 budget is the revenue and costs of a Sectional Tournament which is usually a source of profit to the Unit. The Sun and Fun Tournament scheduled for February 18-19 had to be canceled because we projected that the table counts would not be sufficient to cover costs.

AWARDS GAME

This will take place on March 27, and Rob will present the award prizes. We have the sanction, have rented the Duncan facility for the game, and Sean will direct with Bob Price as a back-up

as needed. Vicki suggested that we send out invitations to the award winners and also encouraged each board member to invite their friends to attend. We'll also need volunteers from the board to help with lunch, etc.

OTHER

Vicki will provide the three new board members with additional information about the board and find roles for each.

The next board meeting will be on March 11, 2022, at 8:30 am via Zoom. Electronic minutes of this meeting will be sent to board members for approval within the next week.

Bonnie moved that the meeting be adjourned at 9:41 am and Diane seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectively submitted,

Bonnie Sipkins
Secretary