

Unit 533 January Board Meeting-1/18/24

Board Members Present:

Diane Jobin
Deann Young
Ann Carter
Kathy Kroll
Barb Wegener
Sandy Young

Acting President: Vicki Graves

Treasurer: Bill Dani

Guest: Guy Brackett

Board Members Absent:

Rob Martin
Diana Seeb

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

NLM SECTIONAL: January 12-13, 2024

Vicki said a huge thanks was due to Diane for her role in both organizing the event and covering all the sessions. We had 42 tables on Friday and 30 tables on Saturday-in total the 72 tables represented a 36% increase over the 2023 event. We had a Net Surplus of \$1734.49 which was split 50% between the Unit and CVBF. Diane said we should not collect money at the tables next year, and she would investigate a fun banner and possibly some sort of feedback questionnaire after the event.

SUN & FUN SECTIONAL: February 16-17, 2024

Diane said she and Diana were looking at food options and that volunteers would be needed. Bill said he would be a caddy on Saturday afternoon, but we still need a volunteer (free or paid) for Friday afternoon. Vicki said we also need volunteer players to be available at all four sessions in case individuals came in without partners. Bill passed out copies of the projected financials for the event. Vicki noted that 160 tables was the same as 2023's event, but given the 30%+ increase at our last two sectionals we would hopefully see more than 200.

AWARDS EVENT: March 17, 2024

Sandy passed out a list of winners for the Ace of Clubs, Mini Mckinney, and WIN awards. Of the 37 names listed, five won one award each and the rest won 2 or 3 each – only 17 unique winner names. Sandy recommended calling each name once and giving all applicable awards, but she could not be at the event. Ann volunteered to work with her to plan and be there to present these and the other awards. Diane volunteered to coordinate the luncheon.

W.I.N. AWARD: Changes for 2024

As a follow-up to the discussion at our last meeting, the board voted to approve the following changes to the use of the WIN account:

1. Free play tickets to be used at the recipient's Unit 533 bridge club of choice would be given to anyone completing a Beginning Bridge class.

2. Our welcoming email to new ACBL members would be modified to be presented for a free play.

3. Free play emails would also be available to the Board's membership chair to be used in his/her outreach to 0-5MP players who aren't playing and whose ACBL membership is soon to lapse.

These changes will be effective as of 1/1/24. It was agreed to give WIN free plays for 2023 at the AWARDS event as per the previous play in place. It was also agreed that the Board's award coordinator would develop a system whereby Bill would know how many WIN free plays had been issued each month.

VOLUNTEER of the YEAR:

It was decided that the recipient would be Bob Wernick as belated recognition for his role in making the Duncan Bridge Center a reality. \$100 will be given to the Charity of Bob's choice. Addendum: that was determined to be "Tools for Tomorrow".)

BOARD ELECTIONS: March 17, 2024:

The elections will be held March 17 in conjunction with the awards event. There are three openings: Diane's, Rob's and the vacancy left by Ellie. Randy Bissett had agreed to be the Nominating Chair last fall, but an Election Chair is needed. Vicki will work with Kathy offline as to the process. The first notice to membership was included in the January newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP:

Vicki reported the following:

1. ACBL's 2013 Membership was 167,811 and it was 130,614 (prelim) for 2023.
2. Projecting a 5% decline yearly going forward, membership in 2032 would be 80,000.
3. ACBL is changing the way Units are reimbursed (currently 11% of the membership dues paid to ACBL by our members) to a 5/5/5 plan which reimburses the Unit up to 15% but as a base, only 5%. It's 5% as a base, 2.5% for contacting our players whose membership is about to lapse (& those with 0-5MPs who aren't playing), 2.5% based on the % of members lost as compared to pre-Covid (2019), and 5% based on the % of members gained as compared to 2019. For 2022 we received \$3500 from ACBL as the 11%.

Vicki said the new 5/5/5 plan would become effective in the second quarter of 2024, but she had the unofficial report of what we would have achieved under this new plan for the fourth quarter, 2023. She noted that we would have met 100% of our retention goal because our % members lost in 2023 was less than that % in 2019. We would have achieved only 50% of our target dollars for recruitment as our 31 new members in 2023 were less than the 43 we gained in 2019. We met our activity goal but efforts to reach lapsed and at-risk members would be a new and ongoing responsibility of the membership chair on the board.

EDUCATION:

Vicki suggested that the board authorize a D22 Grant Request for Mick Riccio's Beginning Bridge class for which 44 people are enrolled. All agreed.

BUDGET:

Bill presented the end of year financial statement which reflected a net surplus of \$3029.75. The balance sheet shows \$24,169 in our Bank of America account and \$13,480 in the WIN account. He requested more feedback prior to completing the budget for next year-most particularly as regards to Education. He also noted that he was in contact with Bill Burkes about eliminating two domain names residing in GoDaddy no longer in use by the Unit.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00. The next meeting will be Thursday February 22nd @ 10:30 am at the Duncan Bridge Center/

Submitted by: Barb Wegener, Secretary