

**MINUTES**

<b><u>Board Members Present:</u></b>	William Stine	Connie Swanson
	Nance Lodge	Carol Wilkinson
	Jane Witous	Shirley Gibson
	Sandy Hertz (by phone)	
<b><u>Board Members Excused:</u></b>	Nancy Beckerman	

*Also present were: Bill Dani, Treasurer, Sally Tobin secretary, Scott Magged, TD, Merle Friedman, David Lodge and Darryl Hendershot.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at the Cathedral City Senior Center by President William Stine at 9:10 a.m. Vice President, Sandy Hertz joined the meeting by phone.

**2. MINUTES:** Since the board did not meet in July and August, the minutes from the June 14th meeting were read. Jane Witous made a motioned that they be approved, Carol Wilkinson seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**3. TREASURER'S REPORT:**

**a) Audit:** Bill Dani introduced Merle Friedman who had been asked by the Unit to do a thorough audit of the books. Merle said he had worked diligently on every detail of the accounts for the past two years and could not find or come up with any criticism with the way they had been handled. He praised Bill Dani for his excellent work and said the Unit was very lucky to have such a professional taking care of their books. Bill Dani in turn thanked Merle for the many hours he spent processing the books, saying he appreciated someone else's perspective and confirmation that the books were in order.

**b) Financials:** Bill then presented his reports detailing the transaction made during the past six months. He noted a correction in the heading of his Financial Statement and said that the "three months" should read "six months" ending June 30, 2017. The balance in the checking account as of September 13, 2017 was \$28,164.82. Bill then went over the budget detailing expenses for the upcoming tournaments, stating that there may be some adjustments needed after plans for the Harvest Sectional have been finalized. A discussion about the price of the lunches for the tournament followed. A question was also asked about hotel prices for tournament directors and how they were paid or reimbursed. There was a question about receipts. Bill said that there had been a problem in the past with the Unit making the reservations, because when a Director chose not to use the room, the Unit was stuck with the bill. After that, it was left up to the out-of-town director to make his own reservation, and they were reimbursed. A motion was made by Nance to approve the Treasurer's Report, it was seconded by Jane Witous and all approved.

**4. HARVEST SECTIONAL:** Tournament Director, Scott Magged reported that everything was in place and that a caterer, Cello's, had been hired to do the food. They will deliver a variety of boxed lunches for the three days of the tournament. They had been given a deposit of \$500 and would waive the \$75 delivery fee if the Unit advertised their service. As it was too late to do this in the tournament "flyer" which had already been printed, it was suggested that we add their name in the email blast when we send that out. There was a discussion about what the

sandwiches would contain, how they would be distributed and the price, which will be \$8.00 per lunch. Lunch tickets will be sold along with the entry fee. Nance suggested buying extra soda as the drink machine as Duncan would probably run out before the end of the tournament. She will go to Smart & Final to arrange this. There was a discussion about balloons, whether they would be used. William said he would take care of this. Scott stated that unfortunately he will be unable to attend the tournament due to a family commitment, but that he would make sure that all the boards were taken care of together with anything else that was needed, before he left. He had asked William to stand in for him, if a problem came up. Scott stated that he still needs to organize a caddie and asked for suggestions.

**5. NON-LIFE MASTER TOURNAMENT:** Scott handed out a copy of the *Baby Kewbid* logo/sticker for the tournament. The tournament will take place January 18th-21st and be held at the Pavillion. The deposit has been made and the Flyers are all set to go. There was a discussion about the Hyatt, which is the featured hotel, but unfortunately not within walking distance of the Pavilion. It was mentioned that 173 people came to the first NLM but didn't return to the second one. Was this due to the way the tournament was handled? Or the price? David Lodge said in a survey that was done after the tournament, the results were 95% positive, and that the main reason for people not returning was either personal or because they had reached Life Master status. He said Kudos were deserved to everyone for the tournament's success.

**6. SPRING SECTIONAL:** Duncan has turned down the Unit's offer to hold the tournament at their facility. No reason was given. Connie stated that she had had a conversation with Bev. and felt that if the Unit offered more money it might be re-negotiable. Sandy (on the phone) asked if there were any other facility available in the Valley. It turns out that it's President's Day weekend and everything else had been booked. Sandy said he would contact Bev and see if they could come to some sort of agreement, and asked how much more the Unit would be willing to spend. He said it would be a shame if we had to let the ACBL sanction for the tournament go. There was a discussion about having a two-day Unit-Wide Game at clubs if the Unit board was unable to come to terms with Duncan.

**7. UNIT GAMES:** William asked for help delivering cakes to the various clubs for the Unit Game on September 27th and October 12th. Carol said she would take care of Duncan and Shirley said she would take care of Matt's Game in Cat. City.

**8. NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** Jane Witous presented a new slate for the Nominating Committee and asked for approval from the board. The slate consists of John Kubisty, Chairman, Cookie Ostrow, Nancy Thompson, Trish Walter, with Jane Witous acting as Board Liaison. Sandy motioned that the board approve the slate, Nance seconded the motion and it was approved. The Board was reminded that the deadline for nominees or petitions must be in by November's board meeting which is November 8, 2017.

*Sandy asked to be excused as he had a another commitment and couldn't stay on the phone any longer.*

**9: EDUCATION COMMITTEE:**

a) **Bridge-in-A-Day:** Nance Lodge spoke about this course and how successful it had been in attracting new players in other parts of the country. Patti Tucker, the person responsible for the system, was going to be in Southern California attending the Nationals in San Diego and Nance would like to invite her to come to the Coachella Valley to give her class following the tournament. At that time, there would be minor travel expenses and the costs would be

limited to her fee. A discussion ensued about publicity and how we could get the word out about this class. The board decided that a more suitable time for her to come to the Coachella Valley would be when all the snow-birds are here. It was suggested that Patti could also give a course instructing our directors how to teach her system. They in turn could learn the process and teach it whenever it appropriate. Carol then made a motion to explore the potential of the Unit paying for two teachers/directors to learn Patti Tucker's system at the Nationals in San Diego. These directors would then return and teach it to new potential players in the Valley. Nance, amended the motion to include one night's stay at a hotel. Connie seconded the motion and it passed.

**b) Directors' Refresher Course:** Scott reported this idea had been very well received and he was expecting a good turn-out. It will take place on October 4th at 5:30 p.m. at the Senior Center in Cathedral City.

*William was called away and Nance took over the meeting.*

**c) Beginner classes:** The Monroes are conducting classes for beginners and have requested the Unit's refund of \$1,300.00 for these classes. Nance indicated that the required form has been completed and signed. She outlined the guidelines of this form as set out by the board previously, and will email a copy of the amended form to board members to refresh their memories. Nance made a motion that the requested amount be approved. A discussion followed about the pricing of the classes, then Connie seconded the motion and all approved.

**10. DISTRICT 22: Western Conference.** Nance introduced her husband, David Lodge, who spoke about the reasons why the board of *District 22* decided to withdraw from the Western Conference. David gave a brief history of the Western Conference, and how it's main function now is to publish ***The Forum*** once a month. The Western Conference has been losing money each year, and even monies from the STAC games were no longer able to cover the expense of publishing the monthly newsletter. A special blue-ribbon committee was formed to ascertain how things could be handled differently. The committee was made up of representatives from different districts in the Conference and David was one of its members. After several months of research, several suggestions were made to the Western Conference Board as to how things could be made better. According to David these suggestions were all but ignored, and the District 22 board voted to withdraw.

**11: Next Meeting:** The next meeting was schedule for Wednesday, October 4th, 2017 at 9:15 a.m. in Cathedral City at the Senior Center.

**12: Adjournment:** At 12 noon, Carol made a motion that the meeting be adjourned, Shirley seconded the motion and all agreed.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Tobin