

**ACBL Unit 179 Board Meeting
February 28, 2024 Meeting Minutes (Revised 3/4/24)
Online via "Zoom"**

Date: February 28, 2024 Meeting

Board Members:

Present: Larry Averbuch, David Cochener, Michele Coop, Beth Derrick, Bob Dietrick, Ann Gibson, Karen Kendrick, David Smithfield, Carol Schnaars, Suzanne Torrence, Pat Williams

Absent: Mickey Wilson

Others Present:

Treasurer: Sue Atwood

Secretary: Alison Gembar

Proceedings:

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Pat. Beth will be providing the minutes for this meeting because of Alison's injury; Alison will be providing the minutes for the last meeting. Pat announced that Sue Atwood has resigned as Treasurer and needs to be replaced. She has been the Treasurer for the past 14 years, with the last three years as a volunteer. Patrick advised he selected Sue as the 2023 Volunteer of the Year.

Gale Srulevich resigned from the Board last year. Bob moved that David Smithfield be selected by the Board to fill her position. Gale had one year left on her term so David will serve the remainder of the term and be eligible to run in the 2025 Unit Board Election. Bob's motion was seconded by Ann Gibson; David was elected by unanimous vote.

Treasurer report: Sue Atwood

The 2023 Cash Flow Report was provided. The bank balance as of 12/31/2023 was \$33,674.73. The bank balance as of 2/28/2024 is \$34,139.87. Pat advised that is approximately \$6,000 in revenue sharing due to the ACBL from the October tournament.

Election of Board Officers

A Motion to elect Suzanne Torrence as President was made by Beth, and seconded by Ann. Suzanne was elected by acclamation. Pat turned over the meeting to Suzanne.

A Motion to elect Mickey Wilson as Vice President was made by Bob and seconded by David Cochener. Suzanne contacted Mickey during the meeting and Mickey advised he was willing to serve. Mickey was elected by acclamation.

A Motion to elect Alison Gembar as Secretary with a stipend of \$150 per month was made by Bob and seconded by David Cochener. She was elected by acclamation.

Suzanne appointed a Treasurer Search Committee consisting of Mickey as chair, Bob, Carol and Ann. Two names were given to the committee for consideration: Rob Brown and Mickey Wilson. The committee is to consider additional persons as well. The committee should report back to Suzanne as quickly as possible.

Karen Kendrick – Membership Committee

Michelle and Karen conducted a class at Merrol Hyde Magnet Middle School in Hendersonville this week. Twenty-four students attended the class, with 16 expressing a lot of interest. They used the ACBL student curriculum and thought it was very effective. Karen said that the “Next Door” online newsletter is no longer providing any new students. Any people contacting the club to find beginner classes are directed to Grace and Karen. A new class is started when enough people have contacted them. Karen just started a new Sunday afternoon class for beginners. A lot of discussion followed regarding ways to increase interest both in after school programs and with adults. It was noted that the ACBL has an adult recruitment program that has met with some success in other units. Karen will have further discussions with some of the Board members as to the direction to take.

Pat advised that we need to complete the ACBL recruitment and retention plan which he referred to as the 5/5/5 plan. In the past the United received 11 percent of the ACBL membership fees paid by Unit members; the money was supposed to be used for member recruitment and retention. Under the ACBL’s new plan, there are three steps. Upon completion of each step, the Unit receives

five percent of the membership fees. The plan needs to be reviewed; it is possible that Karen has completed the first step. Suzanne will review and determine the next steps to take.

Pat Williams – Tournament Coordinator

Pat announced the following tournament schedule: two sectionals, one April 3-6 chaired by Suzanne and one June 26-29 chaired by Beth and Carol; one regional September 22-28 with no named chair.

Bob moved to approve the budget proposed by Pat for the April sectional; the motion was seconded by Larry and passed by unanimous vote. Suzanne advised that all of the necessary chairs are in place, with each being shadowed by someone who would be willing to be the chair for the June sectional. Suzanne is supporting Beth and Carol in the June sectional. Suzanne is working on an online local tournament guidebook and hopes to have it in place by the end of the year.

Motion to adjourn

Meeting adjourned approximately 7:00 p.m.

Beth Derrick, March 2, 2024