

**ACBL Unit 179 Board Meeting  
January 2019 Quarterly Meeting Minutes  
Vanderbilt Bridge Center (Sectional Tournament)**

**Date:** January 26, 2019

**Board Members:**

*Present:* Harry Allen, Peggy Burkhalter, Chris Clark, Bob Dietrich, Charlynn Foust, Barbara Moomy, Linda Murdock, Pat Williams

*Absent:* Anne Hitt, Sherry Howell, Mike Reeslund, Jim Wynalek

*Others Present:*

Secretary: Alison Gembar

Treasurer: Sue Atwood

Tournament Coordinator: Betsy Keeling

**Proceedings:**

Meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm

Welcome to new board members Bob Dietrich and Harry Allen.

Results of Election for 2019 Board Members: Harry Allen, Bob Dietrich, Chris Clark (re-elected) Charlynn Foust (re-elected).

December 8, 2018 minutes were reviewed. Minutes were approved

**Sue Atwood - Treasurers Report**

Table counts for this tournament are not available yet but Charlie indicates they are down. Numbers will be available tomorrow.

Discussed account balances; checking and CDs

Financials were presented.

Table count comparison for the last tournaments were presented;

October 2016, 2017, 2018 tournament table counts were presented. Table count for Fall down 30. VBC receives \$10.75 per table for sectionals held at the club.

Tournaments are not geared to make money; they are geared to break even.

**Pat Williams – NAOP/GNT Coordinator**

North American Pair qualifications for Nationals were held in Jackson, MS last week. 4 pairs from here attended. 1 pair qualified to play in the Nationals.

Team qualifications for Grand National Teams are being held at VBC the second Sunday in March. Those who qualify will then compete again in Jackson, MS the last week of April to advance to the Nationals in Las Vegas in July.

## **Regional Report - Alison Gembar and Betsy Keeling**

We had a great meeting with Embassy Suites a couple of weeks ago. Things are moving along.

Gale Srulevich presented some ideas for giveaways and is checking on some prices. Alison met with Ruth Raines. She is getting buttons to promote the regional. We are also discussing the prices of stickers, pens, and other items that will fit our budget for giveaways.

We need a registration chair. From that we need counts for our novice reception and as a channel to provide our token gifts (ie stickers) for players. We will also use that pool of registrants for giveaways. We need volunteers to attend the registration area 15-20 minutes before game time.

This year we are going to give \$2 bills for section tops.  
We will also recognize New Life Masters as they are achieved.  
We will have a drawing for a free "play" with a bridge professional.  
Need ideas for speakers. Suggestions: Check with David Birnbaum (Mike Lawrence) Bryan Howard, Coley McGinnis, Chuck Said.

We will be scheduling a Monday morning meeting for tournament chairs and volunteers soon. Board members are encouraged to attend.

Barbara Moomy: Found out that we can put up a banner at Gatlinburg.

Charlynn Foust:

Researching the possibilities of accommodating credit cards for entry fees

"Square" is a possibility, a physical reader (Terminal) is a possibility.

The "square" itself is free but you have to buy a phone and have a phone carrier.

Vanderbilt Club has Comcast. You can add up to 5 phones free of charge on Comcast.

Data charge is minimal and there is no charge for the phone call. The fee is 2.75% per swipe (\$1.37 on \$13.00).

The Terminal is a phone in itself. It is \$400. The fee per use is 2.6% plus .10. A lot of other regionals offer this payment method.

We would not raise the entry fee. Other units/districts usually "eat" the fees per Charlie

Patrick:

As of 18 months ago *acbl* was actively working on doing this at all tournaments (sectionals and regionals). Their advice at that time was to not invest in anything. Not sure where they stand on that at this time, although nothing else has been heard.

Credit cards increase sales therefore usually covering the “usage” fee (2.6%, 2.75%)  
Patrick will follow up with *acbl* as to future credit card availability,

### **Linda Murdock: Membership Chair**

Reaching out to the *acbl* members in our unit who have allowed their membership to lapse. During the last quarter the majority of members who have not renewed their membership have stated the following as issues:

- Elderly – health issues.
- Traffic from outlying counties is a big issue
- Some newer people have not returned because they play different types of bridge (ie Goren). Linda has put them in touch with Louise Fontecchio for classes.

Benefits: some have come back and many appreciate that we care. We will also let them know about other clubs in surrounding areas. Charlynn suggests we let club managers in their area know so they can call on them.

### **Barbara Moomy – QUIP report**

Shows our membership rank vs other units. Average age of membership has gone down for 5 straight quarters. Our unit has the largest membership in the district.

### **Jim Wynalek - Club Liaison Report**

(Absent)

### **New Business:**

Barbara Moomy is resigning as Unit President. Her goal was to improve communications in the unit. She also established the Volunteer of the Year Award. She represented us at the district meeting and appreciates everyone for helping her serve this past year.

Barbara Moomy – By-laws update

Mike Reeslund is currently working on an updated version of the unit 179 By-laws. When he has a completed draft, a committee will be formed to read and review the proposed changes. If there are any changes subsequent to that they have to be read and reviewed before sending the By-laws to the *acbl*.

### **Election of Officers**

Charlynn Foust was elected as New President of Unit 179 Board  
Barbara Moomy was elected as Vice President of the Board  
Sue Atwood was re-appointed as Treasurer of the Board  
Alison Gembar was re-appointed as Unit Secretary

### **Honorarium for Secretary of the Board**

Motion to approve \$150 per month honorarium for Unit Secretary.  
Motion approved.

### **Charlynn Foust – New Business/Upcoming events**

#### **Tournament Chairs**

Discussed the need for tournament chairs

Board members can recruit tournament chairs. We need tournament chairs for the October 2019 tournament. Tournament dates are October 10-13<sup>th</sup>.

#### **New Life Master/Goodwill/Volunteer of the Year Event**

Discussed that April is not a good time (Gatlinburg). There will be approximately 12-15 new life masters to recognize this year. Decided to have the reception/recognition ceremony during the May Non-Life Master tournament May 11<sup>th</sup> after the afternoon game.\*\*

\*\* (Subsequent to this meeting the tournament was changed to a week earlier, the event is now May 4<sup>th</sup>)

**Mini McKinney & Ace of Clubs Recognition** – winners are not available yet thus we are not recognizing the winners during this tournament. Board agreed to also recognize the race winners during the New Life Master event.

Chris Clark has suggested that we send out the board meeting dates for the year so that board meetings are easier to schedule in advance. This will help attendance of board members.

#### **Longest Day Fundraiser**

Clubs can pick any one day during the week of June 21<sup>st</sup> to raise funds for the Longest Day (Alzheimers Association)

Do we want to continue to donate \$10 per table?

In the past the unit contributes \$10 per table for every club in our unit that participates in the fundraiser.

Motion to approve \$10 per table contribution

Motion approved.

#### **Other Business**

Inquiry was made regarding insurance for the board. Members are covered up to \$3000/person by the *acbl*. Treasurer is not bonded. We can get a surety/fidelity bond for up to \$50,000 on the Treasurer for ~257.00/year.

Further discussion presented a motion to go ahead and get the bond for the Treasurer and President if the cost is not 50% more for both. If the cost *is* more than 50% more for both there would need to be further communication to the board.

Motion presented to acquire a bond for the Treasurer and President.

Motion approved.

Suggestion was made to have an audit of the Unit 179 financial records. Roslyn McMahan was suggested to perform the audit. The expectation is to receive a review

that does not result in an attestation report; but confirmation that “no irregularities were discovered”.

Motion presented for Roslyn McMahan to perform audit of the Unit 179 financial records to support “no irregularities”.

Motion approved.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned 6:25 pm.