

Unit 179 Board Meeting Minutes

Date: June 10, 2026, **Location:** Online via Zoom

Attendance

Members Present: Annie Bartlett, Michelle Coop, Ann Gibson Howard, Karen Kendrick, Carol Schnaars, Gale Srulevich, Patrick Williams, Aissa Wayne, Tom Wilson, Jon Young, Mary Pepper
Absent: Carol Schnaars

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the President at **4:30 PM**.

2. Approval of Minutes

- The minutes of the previous meeting were approved with one correction.
- A motion was made and seconded requiring that **voting counts (yes/no)** be recorded for this and all future meetings.
- **Motion passed: 6–4.**

3. All Clubs Social – Fall Event Planning

- Planning continues for the second All Clubs Social, titled “**Breaking into the Holidays.**”
- Scheduled for **November**, in compliance with Unit bylaws requiring equal treatment of all clubs.
- Event will receive **expanded marketing**, including **physical ambassadors** visiting all clubs.
- **Marilyn Leathers and Carol Schnaars** will again coordinate the event.

4. Awards Ceremony – Recap (Aissa Wayne)

Attendance

- Approximately **100 participants**, primarily VBC members.

Food & Catering

- Catered by **Edley’s BBQ** for ~100 guests.
- **Cost:** \$1,069 before discount (final total pending from Mickey).

Event Support

- **Tammy Eden** assisted with setup and cleanup; Mickey has her invoice.
- Her help was greatly appreciated.

Outcome

- The event was successful, enjoyable, and smoothly executed.

Future Considerations

- District awards update on **February 6, 2026**.
- The Unit has been honoring **Masterpoint totals** and **Mini-McKenney** only.
- Additional effort is needed to obtain **District-level award information** going forward.

5. All Clubs Social – Recap (Presented by Ann Gibson for Marilyn Leathers)

Event Summary

- Held **May 23**, with close to **100 attendees**.
- Bridge session exceeded expectations, filling **five more tables** than a typical strong Saturday turnout.

Menu & Cost

- Edley's BBQ provided pork and chicken BBQ, baked beans, potato salad, cole slaw, sweet tea, and desserts.
- Total cost remained **under \$1,000**.

Future Planning

- Strong interest in a fall event on **November 7**.
- Proposed theme: **"Break into the Holidays"** with bridge followed by Wine & Cheese.
- Expanded marketing expected to increase turnout.

6. Treasurer's Report (Mickey Wilson)

- **Balance:** \$40,523.67
- **Three checks remain outstanding**, after which the accounts will be fully current.
- **Anonymous donations received:**
 - \$500 designated for **education**
 - \$720 designated for **All Clubs Social**
- Mickey will meet with **Tammy and Rachelle** to review expenditures from the last sectional.

7. Tournament Coordinator Report (Pat Williams)

- No updates.

8. Marketing & Regional Promotion (Tom Wilson)

- Flyers for the **2026 Regional** mailed to **13 clubs in 12 cities**, including Knoxville, Chattanooga, Birmingham, Huntsville, New Orleans, Louisville, Memphis, St. Louis, Hot Springs, Evansville, Little Rock, and Lexington.
- Pat can send targeted emails within a **500-mile radius**, reaching **22,000 ACBL members** at **½ cent per email**.
- By **February**, mass marketing of the host hotel must begin.
- Tom emphasized that marketing effectiveness will determine the Regional's success.

Motion

- Tom moved that the **2027 Regional schedule** be submitted to the Board by the **February 2027 meeting**.
- Motion was seconded and approved.
- A draft schedule must be circulated before the meeting for review.

9. Youth Bridge Report (Michelle Coop)

- Introduction to Bridge taught in **six Sumner County schools**, reaching **140 students**.
- Schools want the program to be returned next year.
- Also taught in a Bellevue middle school for **two semesters**.
- Working to secure “club day” positions in additional schools.
- VBC members are helping connect the program to private schools.

10. Adult Education Report (Jon Young)

- Three more talks scheduled: **July 2, September, and November/December**.
- Topics include basic bidding, invitational bids, and game-forcing bids.
- Jon is transitioning careers but will prepare flyers outlining upcoming topics.

11. Bridge Camp Report (Annie Bartlett)

- Annie reported that registration is progressing well, with **7–8 students registered for the morning session** and **8–10 students registered for the afternoon session**.
- Ann advised that **additional volunteers are needed**,
- The team anticipates a smooth and successful camp.

12. Alzheimer's Fundraising (Roger Smith)

- One email sent; another scheduled for Thursday; Sunday newsletter will also promote the event.
- **Main Event Day: Monday**
 - Three games scheduled.
 - **10:30 AM:** Abby Cox from the Alzheimer's Foundation will provide donuts.
 - Board must determine hospitality for **2:30 PM** and **6:30 PM** games.
- Donation jars are placed at VBC and other facilities.
- Silent auction planned with top players offering themselves as partners.
 - Donor pays card fees and makes a contribution.
 - Participants include Chuck & Elaine Saaid, Art & Becky Lowen, David Birnbaum; awaiting Cathy David's confirmation.
- Auction winners announced **Thursday, June 25 at 2:00 PM** during the sectional.

13. Elections Committee Process (Gale Srulevich)

- By September, Gale will appoint **three committee members** to recruit candidates.
- Committee will identify interested individuals and present names for consideration.
- Four Board seats are expiring; goal is **two candidates per seat** (eight total).
- One seat is outside Davidson County and requires two candidates from that area.
- Committee composition: **3 non-Board members + 2 Board members**.
- Committee presents a slate to the Board for approval.
- Additional candidates may join the slate by submitting **10 signatures** to Gale.
- The **official slate must be finalized in October**.

14. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at **6:14 PM**.