

**ACBL Unit 179 Board Meeting  
June 27, 2024 Meeting Minutes  
Vanderbilt Bridge Center**

**Date:** June 27, 2024

**Board Members:**

*Present:* Michelle Coop, Beth Derrick, Bob Dietrick, Ann Gibson, Karen Kendrick, Carol Schnaars, Suzanne Torrence, Pat Williams, Mickey Wilson.

*Absent:* Larry Averbuch, David Cochener, David Smithfield

*Others Present:*

Secretary: Alison Gembar

**Proceedings:**

Meeting was called to order at 5:15

**Administrative business:**

Minutes for board meetings were presented:  
April 29, 2024

Motion to approve minutes.

Motion approved.

**Suzanne Torrence – new business**

**Unit 179 website -**

Move from current website hosted by Jim to “Bridge Webs” site. Most Units are using Bridge Webs. We set up 60 day free trial period. Link was sent out for people to try it out.

Everything is working the same as previous site and running smoothly. Cost is \$120 annually but probably more for first year set-up.

Motion to change website to bridgwebs.com

Motion approved

Motion to approve \$200 expenditure year 1

Motion approved

### **Ice for tournament**

Jay Hitt provides ice for tournaments. Jay is looking to get new cooler, larger, on wheels to provide ice for tournament. His generosity saves hundreds of dollars each tournament. However, he suggests we replace a broken cooler with a larger cooler that will cost about \$200

Motion to approve purchase of cooler.

Motion approved.

### **Mickey Wilson - Treasurer Report**

Commend Sue Atwood for excellent job she did for so many years.

New money market account opened, paying 5 ¼% interest. We can write 6 checks per month for no charge.

Mickey will provide financial statements on a quarterly basis.

We are a non-incorporated association. We will incorporate; we have an obligation to protect the board and our Unit members. This will happen in the next few weeks.

We will also look at our current insurance; we might need D&O insurance. We have insurance through ACBL that covers the Unit. Suzanne will find out from ACBL what is covered.

### **Committee Reports –**

#### **Ann Gibson – Unit 179 Goodwill Committee**

We have 12 total clubs in our Unit. 8 are public clubs and the other 4 are private (country club-type settings). Ann has updated contact list and will provide to Jim Daugherty to post on the website. Will work on getting a bulletin board on the website so clubs can post announcements. Ann will visit all the satellite clubs with members of her committee over the next year and a half, play in their game, hear their concerns about the Unit and find out what we can do to get them to come to tournaments and play more often. She will see if there is a reason they don't feel more comfortable coming to tournaments, finding out if they want people to come to their games, etc.

Committee Members:

Ann Gibson

Randi Young

Laura Shachter

Kathryn Keenan

Motion to approve Goodwill Committee and members

Motion approved.

### **Carol Schnaars – Membership & Retention Committee**

ACBL provides monthly report of memberships expiring. We now have an app that we are using to notify members that their membership is going to lapse; reminding them we would like to see them back at the club.

Suzanne – 5/5/5

Out of 280 Units, 221 were 0% compliant, including Unit 179. Karen, Suzanne and Carol met and utilized the ACBL tool, met with people and made phone calls and now we are 5<sup>th</sup> in the country and are now 234% compliant and will earn our reimbursement.

New initiative - “Clubhouse”

ACBL has contracted with BBO to offer novice games (0-5, 0-49, 0-100, 0-299 games only) to earn ACBL masterpoints, it’s a 12 board game. We will encourage our newcomers that play in local games to play in the BBO games. Our Unit will receive a portion of the proceeds from the members that play in these special BBO games.

Additionally, we have the Monthly In and Out report to track new members and members leaving our unit. We plan to welcome new members and say goodbye to departing members with a letter from the Unit.

Committee members:

Carol Schnars  
Karen Kendrick  
Pat Robichaux  
Irene Lowe

Motion to approve committee and members

Motion approved.

### **Beth Derrick – Disciplinary Committee**

Presented procedures for complaints that might be brought before the committee.

For any conflicts of interest we would bring in another member.

Motion to approve procedures

Motion approved

Committee members:

Beth Derrick  
Sid Stanley  
Michelle Coop

Motion to approve committee  
Motion approved

### **Tournament Committee – Pat Williams**

Committee Members:

Patrick Williams  
Bob Dietrick  
Becky Lowan  
Suzanne Torrence  
Carol Schnaars  
Randy Held

Motion to approve committee  
Motion approved

### Tournaments

Potential population surge could be an issue for upcoming tournaments. Having enough space in Vanderbilt Bridge Club has been a concern.

Parking for tournaments is still an issue.

Regional budget presented. Budget has a 7% increase in attendance projected from last Regional; 750 live tables (chance for more “on-line” tables). Previous Regional made \$2,000 for on-line games. We have on-line expenses; director fees and sanction fees.

Evening games, David Birnbaum has agreed to direct. Morning and afternoon games, we may have local Directors willing to run those games which would save us money. We expect attendance to be 70% of pre-Covid attendance.

We have a budget of \$1500 for transportation. However, we need to have a parking solution we can implement for the Regional. Bob Dietrick will explore the possibilities of transportation; Bus, perhaps parking at Nashville Tech, or available parking behind Trader Joes.

Regional Budget and Schedule need to be approved so they can be sent to District 10 Oversight Committee.

Motion to approve Budget  
Motion approved.

Schedule last year was successful. Pat proposed the same schedule as last year, adding a Friday night game, minimal changes to game stratifications

Motion to approve Regional Schedule  
Motion approved.

### **Suzanne Torrence – Announcements**

Entry Express will not be available for the rest of this year except for NABC's. ACBL is having issues with Entry Express.

NAP's have always been

1. 0-500
2. 500-2500
3. 2500+

ACBL board has met and there will now be 4 brackets for NAP

1. 0-500
2. 500-3500
3. 3500-6000
4. 6000+

EDGAR – cheating program (Everyone Deserves a Game Above Reproach)

Started in February. They are reviewing statistics. Program seems to be effective. Disciplinary action has been taken. They are available for review on ACBL website.

Motion to adjourn  
Meeting adjourned 6:32 pm