



Long Beach Unit 557

Board Minutes

April 19, 2016

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Rob Preece, President, at 11:00 am.

Absentee Members: Cliff Goodrich, Diane Sachs and Renee Hoffman

All other board members were present.

The March minutes were presented and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Betty Jackson, Treasurer, mentioned that a thank you note from the Long Beach Women's shelter was sent for donations submitted from Unit 557.

Betty also requested that we no longer post a list for members purchasing name badges. To prevent errors, members should request badge purchases directly from Betty.

This month's bank balance is: \$16,470.24

Petty Cash: 180.00

Total: \$16,650.00

The last unit game netted a profit of \$47.40.

Hospitality Report: Since Renee Hoffman, Chairperson, is unable to be at the meeting, Rob asked if the board knew of any members who may need our condolences. The board responded and Ralph Brunson agreed to send get well and sympathy cards in Renee's absence.

Secretarial Election: Rosalie Storc was nominated for the position of Secretary. Rosalie accepted the nomination.

Sectional/Unit Game: MariAnn Satin reports that Cliff Goodrich will be the director at the awards/unit game. Janet Logan, Refreshment Chairperson, will provide dessert. Kevin Lane reports the boards are being prepared. Fern Dunbar, Awards Chairperson, has assured all plaques and certificates are ready for the presentation. At the request of Renee Hoffman, Rob made a motion that on-line bridge players be rewarded a certificate for their achievements. Kevin Lane seconded the motion. The motion was opened for discussion. Kevin asked for an amendment to the motion to research how many participants play on line. Betty suggests we employ the District Director to validate on line certificates from the ACBL. She also feels that this motion may be detrimental to the clubs since playing on-line may reduce club attendance. Dalia Hernandez states playing on line encourages practice

and a reward certificate could also encourage players to participate at clubs. Rob agrees with the board's comments, but since there will be no cost and on-line players may be deserving, the motion is a valid point. Also, Rob volunteers to print the certificates. Rob called for a vote, the majority voted yes and the motion was carried. On-line players will receive certificates for accomplishments made last year.

Kevin reports that the May 499er sectional was cancelled due to conflicted tournament dates with West L.A. Kevin also mentions that April Berg, unit member, may be able to suggest a site for a future tournament. Kevin will follow up on this and speak further with April.

Betty asked if we have to host a sectional every year. Kevin answered that it is customary to host a sectional at least every two years and delaying may reduce attendance. Kevin feels we should have one every year, but sites are difficult to find for these venues. Rob states that the May 22nd sectional is still listed on line and should be corrected. Fern also reminds the board that our unit game is scheduled for May 22.

I/N Coordinator: No report at this time.

Old Business:

C.P.R.: Directors are to be reminded that CPR classes are available, courtesy of Unit 557.

Rosalie made a motion that the unit purchase a blood pressure cuff. This device could be necessary in an emergency. Rob seconded the motion that a blood pressure cuff be purchased for a budget of \$200.00 or less. The board voted and the motion was carried

Janet Logan announces that Eric Tang, member, has a resource for bridge mates at a reduced cost. Dalia states that during bridge classes, students could be taught how to use these devices. Kevin endorses the idea of purchasing bridge mates and mentions that directors already know how to use the software. Dalia says that she has the software on her computer and printer and Sharon Biderman, Instructor, also has this data. Kevin also mentions that we need a place to store them. Rob states the motion to purchase bridge mates be tabled until a set negotiation fee is determined. Fern says since the bridge mates will be the unit's property, clarification regarding a fee should be decided if other clubs, classes etc. would like to use them. Janet made a motion that we charge Sharon a one-time fee of \$500.00 to use the bridge mates. Dalia agreed. A discussion ensued. Betty states we should decide an actual purchase of the bridge mates and other decisions could follow. Alan feels the purchase of bridge mates may not be warranted if they are only used one time a month for unit games. Larry Slutsky, Leisure World Representative, agrees. John Hagman feels we should take advantage of a "good deal" and make the purchase. He further suggests that they be available for club or teaching purposes at a set fee. The

purchase price is approximately \$3,500.00. (Partial cost is 28 bridge mates at 120.00 each plus \$128.00 for the control unit.)

Rob called for a vote, leaving out the \$500.00 fee to be charged to Sharon until further negotiations are made. The board unanimously voted in favor of purchasing the bridge mates. Janet Logan will make the arrangements.

New Business: Rob discussed our main charity, the Long Beach Women's shelter. He mentions we have been very successful in our donations to the shelter. One way we make donations is through the sales of used books at the Long Beach Bridge Club. He asks the board to remind members to donate books in order to continue this donation. A suggested donation fee for the purchase of books is posted at no less than fifty cents. Of course, more generous donations are appreciated. Betty reports the latest book donation collections are \$21.00. She also mentions that the District Director may be able to make a donation. Kevin states that this will be discussed in the future. He also mentions that ALACBU sponsors a scholarship fund as a charity. Betty states that if the scholarship is not supported it will no longer be viable. She suggested several ways to donate to the scholarship fund such as a memorial donation.

Rob asked if scholarships are really needed for younger players since they may not need financial support. Betty further states that money is only given to students that have a financial need. Rob was concerned that scholarships may go to people who do not have need and are not actually bridge players.

Kevin also mentions that the ACBL wrote a letter to the Governor of Missouri regarding a bill addressing religious freedom and discrimination.

Adjournment: Alan moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dalia.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm.

NEXT MEETING: May 19, 2016

11:00 am

Respectfully Submitted:

Rosalie Storck, Secretary

