

**MINUTES OF THE ACBL UNIT 547 BOARD MEETING**  
**January 5, 2017, 11:15 A.M**

Board Members Present: John Anderson, Rose Buckley, Dennis Charles, Tom Kline, Susan Lang, Dagmar Ragnow Morgan, Ken Thompson    Invited Guests: Tom Ciacio, Josh Rosenbluth, Joan Cathcart

1. President Dennis Charles called the meeting to order at 11:10 am.
2. The Board reviewed and approved the minutes of our last meeting.
3. Dagmar submitted the Treasurer's report for November 2016. We received our \$500 deposit back on our prior reservation for the Oxnard Performing Arts Center. We will be holding our Spring Sectional at the Camarillo Sr. Center auditorium instead. The new taxes we need to pay for the Temple are included in the rent line. We will pay the 12/month prorated property tax along with the rent monthly. The Treasurer's report was reviewed and approved.
4. Tom Ciacio, club manager, submitted game attendance report for December 2016. The New Year's Eve "party" game at Camarillo was a success. Our attendance is way up on the Wednesday games. In fact, our 1249 game is the most popular game of the week. Susan mentioned that Joan Cathcart has taken charge of hospitality for that game with great results.
5. Annual Meeting, Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 11:30 am. We are pre-paying for 60 people. It will be a Unit Championship game. Susan prepared the sign-up sheets for the two games (novice and open). Distributions to local clubs are underway. Tom Kline will give Dennis a list of 2016 deceased members for announcement. The game and dinner is free to any ACBL member (in good standing) of Unit 547. Others pay \$6 for the game and \$10 for the dinner. Note: If you are a life master, you can change your unit membership with ACBL at any time. This is our election meeting. Expiring board members Dennis, Dagmar and Ken have volunteered to run for another term. Josh Rosenbluth and Joan Cathcart are nominated for a board position for term 2017-2018.
  - Susan will create an announcement for our web site home page as well as her monthly Bridge Buzz. She called for any additional inputs for the Buzz. She'll send all to Ken for email distribution early this month.
  - Dennis will transport tables to the Townhouse as well as the bridge supplies (bidding boxes, boards and Bridgemates) after our Thursday game on Jan 26<sup>th</sup>
6. Valentine Sectional, Feb 11, 2017. Susan sent electronic flyers to outlying clubs via email. Dennis printed flyers which Susan is distributing to folks for local clubs. Ken will soon send out the request for an ACBL blast as well as to folks on his local email distribution list. We need to know the status of hospitality, et al, from Buki who was not at this meeting. Dagmar will check with Buki.
7. Strawberry Sectional, Fri. Mar. 31 to April 2. Josh, chair of the tournament gave a status report.
  - Flyers. Josh sent the original and a later modified flyer with a correction to the Sunday pairs game info to ACBL which has been posted. He submitted the back page of the flyer for board review. It has a map and directions. Susan will get him a list of recommended local hotels to add to the back. A dry run with Kinko's produced a better quality map than Dennis' laser printer but cost \$1 per page. Perhaps Dennis could use a better-quality paper. The board discussed the printing costs and agreed that printing of both sides of the flyer should be kept to a minimum. All electronic emails and flyers should have both front and back pages. Double-sided printed flyers should only go to more distant clubs. Schedule for printing flyers is early February.
  - Email blasts will start mid-February. Josh will notify Ken when to request them from ACBL. Should be 100-mile radius. Rent for venue is due mid-Feb. Dagmar will take care of it.
  - Rose created a scaled facility layout of the auditorium playing area. Tom C. will prepare the director and playing table set up and give it to Josh. Rose will add the hospitality table needs. In addition, two tables are needed in the lobby: Partnership Desk and Welcome Desk. Rose will send Josh the facility layout of the

Skylight Room Josh will give Denise Cleric the finalized facility layouts for both rooms. The Skylight room has a screen (needed for the Swiss Pairs). Tom C. can bring a projector.

- Hospitality. Rose distributed her hospitality sign-up sheet. She will try out the concept of teams of folks to bring different category of things. For example, her “Sandwich Brigade” will bring sandwich fillings. Her team will buy the bread and condiments, make the sandwiches and serve them as “canopies” just before lunch. Basically – a free lunch on Friday. Free sandwiches at all sectionals in the South are a sign of Southern hospitality.
8. Club Director Raise. (Tom Ciacio excused himself from the room during the discussion period). The board approved a raise for all unit club game directors. Unit club games are all Temple Beth Torah games and the Camarillo Saturday game. It increased the minimum flat session fee to \$85 and the per table fee to \$8.50 whichever is greater.
  9. 2017 Special Games: (Tom returned to the board room.) The board agreed that our next Swiss Pairs will be held at the Temple on Thursday, March 2 contingent on whether Bob Gruber (who is normally scheduled to direct that day) is amenable to the change in his director schedule. Dennis will discuss it with Bob. If this date is agreed upon, we will move our board meeting to the following Thur. March 9<sup>th</sup>.
  10. GNT (Grand National Team) ladder competition for 2016-2017 must be held at the club level no later than March 31, 2017. All contestants must be a member of District 22. Having it along with our Saturday game was discussed. Sat. Mar 11 was proposed. This date may work if the Swiss Pairs is held on Mar. 2. Otherwise, the GNT may be held on Mar 2 and the Swiss Teams moved to another date. Susan brought up the importance of having a Swiss Pairs practice game before our Strawberry Sectional on Mar. 31.
  11. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm. Our next board meeting is Thursday, February 2, 2017 at 11:15 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rose Buckley  
VUBC Secretary