

MINUTES OF THE ACBL UNIT 547 BOARD MEETING
October 5th, 2017, 11:00 A.M

Board Members Present: John Anderson, Rose Buckley, Dennis Charles, Susan Lang, Dagmar Ragnow Morgan, Ken Thompson Invited Guest: Tom Ciacio

1. President, Dennis Charles, called the meeting to order at 11:10 am.
2. The board reviewed and approved the minutes of the September 14th, 2017 board meeting.
3. Dagmar distributed the Treasurer's report for August 2017. We lost \$144 due to no bridge games during Rosh Hashanah on Wednesday, September 20 and Thursday, September 21. The Treasurer's report was approved.
4. Tom submitted the September 2017 Club Attendance report. The table count is starting to come up, especially Wednesday's game.
5. Susan recapped the Fall Sectional of Sept. 30, 2017. We were only 3.5 tables fewer than last year, which was expected due to the tournament being on Yom Kippur. Several college players from Santa Barbara were in attendance. We had 12 players attend who have never been to our tournament before. The overall winner was a college pair from Santa Barbara. In the past, the "plaque" overall winner was restricted to players from our unit. After some discussion, it was moved and seconded to allow players from any unit to win the overall award and get their names inscribed on our perpetual plaque / trophy. However, the plaque / trophy will now stay in the unit and be displayed during major games throughout the year. The winners will be given a Winner's Certificate. The motion was carried. Susan will be in charge of the trophies. Rose will make up the certificates. Susan will present the certificates to the winners in Santa Barbara once Tom C. notifies her of a good date when the winners are present.
6. We need a volunteer to chair our Valentine Sectional on Feb. 10, 2018. Raeann told Rose she may consider chairing it. It was suggested that Anne Conn is a good candidate to co-chair the event to gain experience. Dennis will contact Raeann and Anne. Susan mentioned time is of the essence as Santa Barbara already has their flyers out for their March 2018 sectional.
7. Susan reported that we are all set for our special Grand Reopening Game on Thursday, Oct 19th. Bob Gruber will say a few words in memory of Tom Kline. The Unit Championship game will start at the usual time. Joan Cathcart will bring a cake. If enough tables (at least 3), we will have a 499er section as well as the Open game.
8. Susan reported that our Holiday party on Thur. Dec 7 is on track. Similar to last year, she'll order the chicken from WinCo. It will start at 11:30. The game will have extra master points awarded.
9. Rose submitted the idea of setting aside an hour before our Thursday game to teach raw beginners bridge. She's had requests from folks that are anxious to learn. Raeann has volunteered to conduct it, if we have a follow-on 199er game afterward. The board discussed various follow-on games: 0-20 "chat" game, 0-199er or even a social bridge game such as Chicago. Dagmar suggested that we wait to decide until after we try it out. Perhaps ask for input from the players. The board agreed to start this new teaching session in January, on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays.
10. John volunteered to chair the nominating committee for Unit 547 Board of Directors. He will select two other unit members to be on his committee. Susan and Rose offered to remain in their positions for another term. That will leave two board positions to be replaced: John and Tom Kline. The board approved even adding additional positions as there is plenty of work to go around. The election is at our Annual Meeting on Sat., Jan 13, 2018. Dennis said he is working with Samantha at the Ventura Townhouse. We will pay for the catering. They will provide coffee.
11. The board approved the purchase of holiday gifts the same as last year. Cash gift to the Unit Directors, Camilla and Mike Gaddis. See's candy boxes to the Temple staff. Dennis will purchase and distribute them.
12. Dagmar suggested we review our web site for possible upgrading. All board members should take a look at other bridge websites, such as Bridge Academy II and Santa Barbara and we'll discuss this further in our next meeting.
13. ACBL is banning use of the Stop card at all bridge tournaments but it's up to the Units to decide whether we still wish to use them. Due to time constraint, discussion on this will be tabled until our next meeting.
14. The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm. Our next board meeting is changed to Thursday, November 9th, 2017.

Respectfully Submitted,
VUBC Secretary, Rose Buckley