

## ACBL Unit 507 Board Meeting

December 11, 2018, 5:30 pm

### Minutes

In Attendance: Ray Yuenger, Lynn Bartz (arrived late) Bob Dean, Judy Fisher, Stu Goodgold, Mike Hughes, Karen O'Connell, Mischel Postas, Mich Ravera, Jack Verson, Anne Bossange

The meeting was called to order. The minutes were reviewed and approved without correction by unanimous consent. The Treasurer's report was received and acknowledged.

#### Unfinished Business:

Premises- The drain in the kitchen was clogged but Doug Hong poured hot water down it and it seems to be working but it will probably need a more permanent fix later on. The faucet also broke but since it broke on the weekend, and we needed it to be fixed right away, we fixed it ourselves. If we had waited the landlord would have fixed it. However, Ray said the landlord could have recouped the cost by a rent increase. While the lease provides for annual rent increases when operating costs increase, the rent has not been increased since we've moved in.

Chairs- No new progress on chair cleaning.

Sectionals- Regarding a new sectional site, Harker Academy only rents their facility to those organizations that are non profit and are using it for the benefit of children so we won't be able to use their facility. The Palo Alto Bridge Center will let us use their facility but we're trying to avoid doing that due to concerns over managing overflow parking. Stu is looking at Leland High. Mike suggested looking at hotels and the Los Gatos Lodge. Judy will stop by the Los Gatos Lodge to see if it meets our requirements. Anne called DeAnza but the cafeteria is available to rent on Saturdays only.

Website design survey- People find that the new Palo Alto website is confusing. Based on the survey at the holiday part, most look at our website to see results and for the events calendar. Some people want photos. Stu suggested putting results of the day on the homepage. As to using the Pianola website tools, Pianola is a three feature tool. The email part works well at the unit level, but has problems at the district level in distributing the monthly newsletter as Ray does. To improve the site's visibility to require changing the site's metatags. Jack pointed out that it's not easy to do so.. Jack mentioned that some of our players don't know that we have a website. There won't be a decision with regards to the website in the near future.

Holiday party- The party was a success. The net expenditure was \$58.00, the lowest in years because our attendance was up by 4 tables. Lynn suggested the increase in attendance was due to the Pianola blast. We have a \$300 deposit with the City of Campbell that can be returned to us at any time.

Committee Reports: Membership- There are 6 new members , 2 reinstated, 2 transferred in and 2 transferred out for a total of 675. Several have passed away recent, K-P Cheng, Tim White, Henry Wen, and Tony Trigg.

District /National News: During the board meeting in Hawaii, Joe Jones, who had been the acting executive director, was elected to be the permanent executive director. Five board members were voted out or retired. There are 165,000 members, down less than 1% from the previous year.

Attendance at the national tournament In Hawaii was lower than expected. In fact it had the lowest attendance since 1985. Consequently, we didn't meet our room commitment and received a \$630,000 penalty. Another \$50,000 was spent on paying more directors than were needed.

At the nationals, there will be the following fee increases: \$30 for NABC+ events, \$22 for other NABC events, \$20 for regional events. No increase to the \$15 fee for intermediate/novice events.

A motion was made to bar for life anyone who cheats but the motion was not approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Bossange and Ray Yuenger