

Minutes of Board Meeting September 2, 2014

Attending: Stu Goodgold, Karen O'Connell, Mary Steele, Rick Jasper, Mich Ravera, Jeff Hack, Mischel Postas, Ray Yuenger

Minutes of last month accepted as read.

Treasurer's Report - Total assets are \$9,837, down \$2,000 largely due to loss on Sectional.

District and National Reports - Jeff reported:

- The district has a new secretary.
- The ACBL Score program has cost \$1.6 million dollars thus far and is not going well. The district has asked the ACBL for a full and immediate accounting of the current status, but seems doubtful that one will be forthcoming.
- The election for our District Representative is currently going on. Candidates include Katherine Ewing, Stu Goodgold, and Roger Smith.
- The four charities have been chosen to receive this year's charitable donation from the district. They include StandUp For Kids, Silicon Valley, SF/Marin Food Bank, Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties, and Fresno Rescue Mission. The four charities will split \$5,000, receiving \$1,250 each.
- Club directors are now authorized two special games to be held at time different than regular game.
- Stipend for Junior members determined.

Stu reported:

- The district's cash is down \$30,000 primarily due to a disappointing Monterey Regional, which because it was scheduled just before New Year's Day, had lower attendance.
- There was a discussion on how online points when played against computer robots, should be counted for the Barry Crane race. Currently, they are limited to 200 points per year. Stu took an informal poll from those present at our unit board meeting asking whether we thought that points acquired in online play against computer robots, should count toward a player's lifetime totals. A follow-up question was should such online robot points count the same as those earned playing against people. There was not strong opinion either way. Basically, "Whatever the ACBL decides, is fine."

Membership - The San Jose unit currently has 692 members, down 2 from last month. It includes 5 new members, 4 transfers out.

Facilities - Mischel reports that the carpet in the San Jose club will need to be replaced or at a minimum, patched or repaired soon. There seam where there is a lot of foot traffic is separating. The question was raised, "Who is responsible to pay for carpet maintenance, the unit or the landlord?"

Mischel also reports an unsightly increase in trash outside our building, e.g. in the carpet that's currently in the bushes next to the parking outside our door.

Unit Games - Mich is running the October 13th game.

The question was raised about missing Recognition games. The unit did have a Recognition game for new Life Masters and Mini McKenney winners, but apparently not for New Members.

Sectionals - There was an email poll of the board members regarding adding a 0-5 MP event to the upcoming San Jose sectional at 10:30 AM Saturday, October 25, 2014. The board was in favor of adding the event and it has been added to the flyer. Email vote was confirmed. The event is for anybody with 0-5 points and is free to anybody under 26 years old. A request was made to publicize it to the target players, e.g. the Tuesday and Thursday "Shuffle and Deal" players. Mary Steele volunteered to get the word out to Judy Fischer, Lynn Yokel, Wendy Dewell.

There was some problem in reserving the October week for the 2016 San Jose Sectional.

The Non-Life Master Sectional will be February 28 through March 1, 2015. Doug (via Ray) proposes holding it in the San Jose Bridge Center.

Holiday party - The 2014 Holiday Party is scheduled for Sunday, November 23, 2014, which is before Thanksgiving and before the Fall Nationals. The location will be the Old Orchard Room (the big room) at the Campbell Community Center.

Jeff gave an update on his desire to publicize the first, the oldest, and the youngest person to achieve Life Master status with the new 500-point requirement established January 1, 2010. Basically, the question cannot be easily answered. The ACBL contact could not easily provide an answer and after looking into it, there are a lot of complexities, e.g.

- There are different requirements for those starting at zero points and those starting with some points. Malcolm McLaughlin was first in the ACBL from 0-500.

- There are differences on whether you are a brand new ACBL member or are reinstating your membership.
- There are differences on what is counted, e.g. a new member who might have extensive experience in Europe, but no ACBL masterpoints.

New Business -

Jeff brought up the idea of running a Life Masters' Knock Out event in parallel with the Non-Life Masters' tournament in February.

Others thought holding talks during the tournament might be a good idea, e.g. "The Difference Between IMPs and Matchpoints" or "Table Etiquette."

The next San Jose Board meeting is Tuesday, October 7, 2014. Adjourned.

Submitted,

Rick Jasper