

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Zoom Board Meeting

January 11, 2022 5:30 p.m.

In attendance: Mich Ravera, Judy Fisher, Stu Goodgold, Mischel Postas, Ray Yuenger, Karen O'Connell, Lynn Bartz, Doug Hong, Lynn Yokel (guest)

The **minutes** of the December meeting were approved as submitted.

The **treasurer's report** was accepted.

No volunteers have come forward to join the Board.

An authorized **unit championship** has not been scheduled yet. A motion was approved to allow Lynn Yokel to schedule it in first three months.

The Unit lacks a **sectional chair**. Ray says a spring sectional is not on the district's schedule. Lynn Y. says it is not in Tourney Trax. The Board nominated Norman in his absence to serve as sectional chair. There was some confusion over when an online regional is scheduled. Mischel will check on the church's availability.

There was a discussion of topics for the next **Presidential communication**. One was the upcoming Silver Points game in a week. Lynn Yokel will send a notice.

Ray reported that since Palo Alto has suspended operations, one of the triggering conditions for the **San Jose Club reopening** will not occur. There will be no search for a club site until the conditions are met.

564 members are listed in the latest **In and Out** report. Mischel said the draft flyer for the nationals does not identify the Mindy Foos and Wendy Dewell games as memorial games. Lynn Bartz said that the instructions for naming games leave it up to the donor. The only people who have seen the list are those naming games and others they shared it with. Ray will look in the minutes regarding the vote about the Wendy Dewell game.

Stu reported that the **ACBL Board** had a special meeting coming up the following week. Stu solicited comments on having national games at 10 and 3 instead of 1 and 7. Opinions were divided.

Ray reported on the reduced attendance at the Monterey 2022 Regional, 36% table count compared to the last one before Covid. **District 21** fell 700 room nights below its minimum commitment, so D21 could owe attrition of over \$80,000. The D21 President and Ray as Secretary met with Hyatt hotel representatives earlier this afternoon and presented D21's concerns. The Hyatt people will be following up with proposals.

A D21 Board meeting is scheduled for the following Saturday. Lynn B. is running for Treasurer, Ray is running for Secretary, and Stu is running for a new position called

Executive Committee Officer. The Board recommended voting for our Unit Board members. There was discussion about how to conduct a secret ballot. The Board will be voting on a budget for 2022. Another topic is whether D21 should withdraw from the Western Conference, which stages STAC games. Another topic may be the outcome of the hiring of the governance attorney.

As **new business**, Stu brought up naming a memorial single session event at the nationals after Loreta Flynn. Ray pointed out that Loreta was not a unit member. The motion was seconded and approved. Mischel said she could ask Loreta's family to write up a description. Lynn B said that prices vary by event.

Mischel had to leave after casting her vote.

There was a report that Fran Dickman was recovering.

The meeting was **adjourned**. The next scheduled meeting is February 8, 2022.

--Ray Yuenger
Secretary

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Zoom Board Meeting

February 8, 2022 5:30 PM

In attendance: Mich Ravera, Mischel Postas, Ray Yuenger, Karen O'Connell, Judy Fisher, Norman Marks, Doug Hong, guests Lynn Yokel and Milind Girkar. Lynn Bartz and Stu Goodgold appeared later as noted in the minutes.

The **minutes** of the January meeting were approved with one correction.

Ray pointed out that the **treasurer's report** distributed was for January, not February. Karen will check after the meeting.

Regarding future **sectionals**, Norman declined being appointed the sectional coordinator. Past coordinator Mischel will compile a list of the duties and share it with the board. She has not heard back from the church regarding room availability. There was no plan made to hold a spring sectional. There was discussion of possible coordinators or dividing up the position.

Regarding **in memoriam** games, the Board approved a biography of Wendy Dewell that had been circulated by email to the board. The Board voted to name a \$150 single session open pairs at the Reno Nationals for Loreta Flynn. Ray pointed out that most open events are double-sessions and displayed the list onscreen. Listed costs are \$350 for a 2-session regional event, \$200 for a 2-session Side Game series, \$150 for a single-session open pairs event, \$100 for a 299er game. Lynn Yokel said there is no single-session open pairs except for one game of side pairs series. The Board agreed to name a two-session open pairs event in honor of Fran Dickman. Ray promised to communicate the Unit's naming choices with Tom Pajak at District 21. Lynn Bartz arrived as the motion was pending.

Lynn Yokel will not hold a face-to-face **unit championship** until masks are no longer required. The authorization for the championship was not extended beyond the end of March.

Regarding continuing **storage** of the San Jose Bridge Club's supplies, Doug Hong is storing the club's dealing machine, bidding boxes, and the BridgeMates at his residence. The Board discussed continuing to share the cost of the storage unit with the Directors' Association. No decision was made to change the arrangement. Ray volunteered to send Norman an inventory of the contents of the storage unit in order to assign items a value. Doug volunteered to store folding tables and chairs for the club, if purchased. Stu Goodgold appeared during this discussion.

The latest **membership count** is 562.

Ray reported that the **District Board** will soon be voting on an outcome to the negotiations regarding the attrition cost due to the room nights shortfall at the Monterey Hyatt for the 2022 Regional. He also reported on negotiations with the Sacramento Doubletree and the Santa Clara Hyatt for 2022. The Monterey Hyatt was unwilling to reduce our minimum room commitments in the existing contracts for 2023, 2024, and 2025.

Stu advised the Board to review his upcoming column about **ACBL Board** developments in the District newsletter. He explained the new STaC event called a Royal STaC that awards every kind of masterpoint. He has made a pending motion to award Districts two Royal STaCs a year.

Norman had to leave at 6:30 pm.

Milind Girkar introduced himself and explained he had qualified in the recent District NAP event.

The Board discussed topics for the next **Presidential communication**.

The **next Board meeting** was scheduled for March 1st due to a conflict with the Nationals. The meeting was adjourned.

--Ray Yuenger

Secretary

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Zoom Board Meeting

March 1, 2022 5:30 PM

In attendance: Mich Ravera, Mischel Postas, Ray Yuenger, Karen O'Connell, Judy Fisher, Norman Marks, Doug Hong, Lynn Bartz, Stu Goodgold, guests Rick Jasper, Lynn Yokel, and David Holbrook. Joined later by Betsy Wagner and Milind Girkar.

The February **minutes** were approved as distributed.

The **financial report** was summarized by the Treasurer. There was a question why the owners' Association is sharing the costs of Pianola and storage with the Unit.

Betsy Wagner joined the meeting. Milind Girkar joined the meeting.

Michelle has prepared a summary of the duties of the **sectional chair** that was distributed.

Mischel reports we have a **sectional** sanction for April 23-24. She is investigating the Eden church near the Campbell post office.

Rick Jasper will review Mischel's summary.

Morris Jones has hosted the sjbridge **website** since the late '90s. The unit has not paid for this service. Morris has asked recently that we move to a new server. Ray explained that Pianola will host our website for no additional charge. Rick will help us set up a new website on Pianola and shut down the old domain. Lynn Bartz built a trial website a few years ago and it is ready to go except for needing to be updated.

On motion by Norman, as amended by Ray and seconded by Mischel, a **website committee** of Lynn Bartz, Rick Jasper, and Ray Yuenger was formed to update a new website with all deliberate speed.

Regarding **naming rights** of in memoriam events in Reno, the Board had already approved naming an open pairs for Fran for \$350. The Board also voted to name a one-session open pairs event for Loreta Flynn for \$150. However, it turns out there are no such events. Ray notified District 21 that we would name a two-session side pairs game for Loreta at a cost of \$200.

In an email, Mischel proposed naming a fast pairs event for Carole Dietz at a cost of \$250. However, such an event costs \$350. Mischel proposed naming a side pairs event for Neal Webb for \$150. There is no such event.

Mischel and Judy suggested that not every deceased unit member should be recognized by the unit.

Ray suggested we set aside last week's email vote due to confusion over what was proposed and what the vote was and instead vote anew on each naming proposal separately.

The Board voted in favor of increasing the amount for Loreta to \$200, Ray abstaining.

The Board voted in favor of naming a Monday fast pairs event honoring Carole Dietz for \$350.

The Board voted in favor of naming a two-session round robin event honoring Neal Webb for \$350, Ray abstaining.

Ray proposed and the Board approved a **memorial committee** to develop guidelines. Mischel and Ray will be the committee, with Mischel as the chair.

Stu proposed and Ray seconded that we cancel any plans for a **spring sectional**. A majority voted in favor.

Betsy Wagner and David declined to serve as sectional chairs.

Mischel will apply for a **sanction** for the fall sectional. Mich will notify Anne Hollingsworth about the cancellation.

According to the **In and Out** report, the Unit has 559 members including three deceased.

Stu announced that masking is now optional at tournaments as provided by CDC.



Ray announced that the District settled the hotel's attrition claim of \$80,000 from the Monterey 2022 regionals. The District is paying a little over \$10,000 for complimentary rooms used. Room rates are increasing for the next three years. Lynn Bartz pointed out that the Monterey regional resulted in a \$3,000 profit despite the settlement.

Ray will notify Karen about the payments due the District.

Mich proposed that the memorial committee will send out condolence cards.

David Holbrook introduced himself. He has an IT background.

Betsy Wagner introduced herself as a student of Judy Fisher.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted,

Ray Yuenger, Secretary

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Zoom Board Meeting
April 12, 2022 5:30 PM

In **attendance**: Mich Ravera, Mischel Postas, Ray Yuenger, Karen O'Connell, Judy Fisher, Doug Hong, Lynn Bartz, Stu Goodgold, Norman Marks, and guests Michael Fleisher, Bruce Luttrell, Betsy Wagner, David Holbrook, and Rick Jasper.

The **minutes** of the last meeting were approved with one revision proposed by Stu.

The **financial report** was received and summarized by Karen.

Michael Fleisher and Bruce Luttrell agreed to fill **vacant Board positions** and were appointed by the Board. Bruce was appointed by the President to serve as Sectional Coordinator.

Lynn Bartz reported that the **new website** is close to being launched. The website committee needs to discuss what to include. Mischel questioned what the site should be labeled. Photos of the new Board members will be helpful.

Mischel will talk with Bruce about a location and time for the **fall sectional**. Events will be discussed later.

Mich solicited items for his next **Presidential communique**.

The Board ratified an email vote to contribute \$200 towards the **naming rights** of the event at the Reno Nationals in honor of Mindy Foos.

Judy reported that the **San Jose Bridge Center Association** of club owners voted to dissolve at a recent meeting. At that meeting, the Association decided to sell its share of the property in the storage unit and devote the proceeds to the reopening of a new face-to-face bridge club.

The Board voted to sell its share of the property in the storage unit and devote the proceeds to the reopening of a new face-to-face club. There was a discussion of what property is in the storage unit. Norman has valued an inventory (at replacement cost) of what is in the unit. The current storage cost is \$275 monthly. The Association will continue to pay its share of storage fees until the items in storage are either sold or moved.

Ray agreed to head a **committee** to sell the property that is no longer needed. The Board approved of such a committee and delegated the authority to the committee to sell items. Mischel and Michael agreed to serve on the committee.

Ray said that he and Lynn Yokel visited a church site that seemed desirable as a site for a **pop-up bridge club**. The church requires an application to use its location. The plan is to start small with one game and see how it goes. The Unit would not need to be involved in renting the space. Ray explained that this plan isn't subject to the ten preconditions approved by the Board for reopening a dedicated bridge facility.

There was discussion of Morgan Hill's monthly Unit game.

Doug pointed out that the Association is earning fees from some online games. Ray explained that any ongoing proceeds of the Association will be devoted to reopening a new club. Lynn raised the question of who will be in charge of the proceeds of the sales.

Norman proposed that the Unit Treasurer be able to review the Directors' account. Lynn suggested a new account with Lynn Yokel and a Unit Board member as signers. There was discussion of using the proceeds for unit games as well as reopening a club.

There are 544 Unit members in the latest In and Out report.

Stu reported there are new Convention Cards available now. The event schedules at future nationals will be 10 AM and 3 PM. More details can be found in Stu's report in the upcoming Diamond in the Ruff.

Norman's 'straw man' goals for the Unit were distributed. They will be discussed at a special meeting.

Ray promised to update the Unit's **Bylaws** on the website by the weekend.

Ray reported that he has scanned old unit documents dating back to 1988 in pdf format with a gap from 1995 through 1999. Lynn proposed storing Unit archives on a Google Drive.

A **special meeting** was scheduled for April 26. Judy said she would be out of town.

The meeting was adjourned.

--Ray Yuenger

Secretary

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Zoom Board Special Meeting

April 26, 2022 5:30 PM

In attendance: Mich Ravera, Mischel Postas, Ray Yuenger, Karen O'Connell, Norman Marks, Michael Fleisher, Bruce Luttrell, Stu Goodgold, Lynn Bartz, and guests Lynn Yokel and Betsy Wagner.

The **minutes** of the last Unit Board meeting were continued to the next regular meeting.

The Board agreed to move to the **new website** as soon as technically feasible.

In line with the Objectives of Unit 507 as identified in the By-Laws, after discussion and various suggestions the Board agreed on the following objectives for 2022 as drafted by Norman Marks and amended. The meeting was adjourned following this agreement.

2022 Objectives

1. Support and publicize the clubs that are operating in the area, both their face-to-face and virtual activities. The decisions of whether and when to open for face-to-face games are reserved for the club directors, not the Unit and its Board. However, the goal is to have clubs playing face-to-face by the end of 2022.
2. Hold one Sectional in the Fall of 2022 that is face-to-face, and plan two Sectionals for 2023.
3. Hold at least two face-to-face Unit Championship games by the end of 2022.
4. Support individuals/organizations that are teaching bridge and bringing people of all ages to the game. Support includes promoting the classes in Unit communications, including advanced lessons that may be offered from time to time. Target is to have at least one class operating in each community by the end of 2022.
5. Keep members and potential members aware of and interested in bridge activities within the community. Communicate the achievements and promotions of members and celebrate the lives of any who have passed away.
6. Participate and promote district and ACBL charitable activities.
7. Maintain and keep current the Unit web site with communications and other activities detailed above.
8. Maintain the financial health of the Unit.

--Ray Yuenger, Secretary

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Zoom Board Meeting

May 10, 2022 5:30 PM

In **attendance**: Mich Ravera, Mischel Postas, Karen O'Connell, Ray Yuenger, Michael Fleisher, Judy Fisher, Norman Marks, Stu Goodgold, Lynn Bartz, Bruce Luttrell (10 minutes late), guests Lynn Yokel, Rick Jasper, David Holbrook, and Betsey Wagner.

The Board voted to accept Norman's revisions of the draft **minutes** for the two meetings in April 2022. Stu objected to wholesale last-minute revisions of the minutes in the future.

The Board accepted the Treasurer's latest **financial reports**.

The Board **appointed** Betsey Wagner to fill the last vacant position on the Unit Board.

In terms of **upcoming elections** for the Board, Ray explained that the terms lapsing this June are Lynn Bartz, Judy Fisher, Betsey Wagner, Stu Goodgold, Doug Hong, and Norman Marks. Each member indicated a willingness to continue serving. The President will solicit nominations in his next newsletter.

Rick Jasper explained there have been technical issues in establishing the **new Unit website** and Cloudflare and Pianola have been slow in addressing the problems. Ray explained that the ACBL links for Ace of Clubs and mini-McKenney contests are static and need to be updated annually. They are accurate on the new website.

Bruce will try to schedule a **fall sectional** date through Tourney Trax after contacting the District 21 Tournament Coordinator. Lynn Yokel emphasized that we need to identify a date and location soon. Having the sectional at the Palo Alto Bridge Club was discussed.

Lynn Yokel explained she doesn't have a place or date for a **unit championship** and expects to be out of town for a couple of months. Mischel was asked to pick a date for a unit game. Various dates were discussed.

The President solicited news items for his **monthly newsletter**.

Lynn Yokel explained she is applying to a local church for a site for a **new bridge club**. The cost of the site hasn't been mentioned yet.

The **Unit membership total** is 546.

There was no news from **District 21** and the date for the next meeting has not been set yet.

Stu reported that the ACBL Strategy Committee is trying to improve face-to-face games and to reduce the large online alliances. It will be meeting soon. There was discussion

about whether limiting online games will necessarily benefit face-to-face games. Bruce suggested there should be incentives for returning to face-to-face bridge.

Ray and Mich noted a recent change in the **Alert Charts**.

Regarding the contents of the **storage unit**, Ray said that the office liquidators on Craigslist specifically indicate in their ads that they do not want to hear unsolicited offers. Ray intends to list items on Craigslist for sale in bulk to try to get the attention of a professional liquidator.

Dave suggested using the Sunnyvale Community Center for a bridge game.

Stu mentioned that we should schedule a **membership meeting**. If we get a location for a unit game, that would be a good time for the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

--Ray Yuenger

Secretary

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Zoom Board Meeting

June 14, 2022 5:30 PM

In attendance: Mich Ravera, Mischel Postas, Ray Yuenger, Michael Fleisher, Stu Goodgold, Judy Fisher, Betsey Wagner, Lynn Bartz, Bruce Luttrell, Doug Hong, and guests Lynn Yokel, David Holbrook, and Milind Girkar.

The **minutes** of the last meeting were approved as submitted.

The **treasurer's report** was accepted without questions in the Treasurer's absence.

No **nominations** have been received for Board positions except for those already in position, so they are re-elected.

The **new sjbridge.org website** has been up and running for two weeks.

There is at least one on-line **NAP qualifier** scheduled for June 21.

No **unit membership meeting** site has yet been located. Mischel will check with the church about August 13. November 19 is a possible date for a holiday party. A potluck lunch was proposed.

Whether the same church is big enough for our **next sectional** was discussed. A date for the sectional is still being sought. Bruce had been unable to log onto TourneyTrax. He learned from the ACBL head of IT that a subcontractor manages TourneyTrax. Bruce talked with Anne Hollingsworth about TourneyTrax, but they did not establish an available date. Lynn Yokel will help with TourneyTrax once Anne, the District sectional coordinator, approves a date. Bruce will follow up about the weekend of October 29 and 30.

In terms of **selling the storage unit supplies**, Ray has been out of town every weekend since the last meeting except for one. And he would like to be available to show the contents of the unit when a Craigslist ad is running. In chat Bruce suggested a possible buyer. Lynn Bartz explained that Craigslist ads should be refreshed and renewed every three days.

The contents of the **President's announcement** were discussed.

The reopening committee reported that Ray submitted an application for space to the church for a **new club** two weeks prior and had received no response.

Per the **In and Out report**, the membership has increased to 548.

Ray said the **District 21 Board** has a meeting upcoming on Saturday. There is a proposal to change the cost of tournament supplies for sectionals from \$3.50 per day for table use to a flat fee of \$4 for each table ordered (and unloaded) and \$1 a mile. Lynn

Bartz explained the former fee schedule, which was based on attendance tables rather than the amount of work performed by Calvin Harper. Estimates of charges will be provided to units in advance of their sectionals. Lynn will send out her analysis comparing old and proposed rates.

The District will be considering purchasing the BridgeMates it has been renting.

U507 has previously recommended that D21 not make donations to charities that aren't bridge-related.

Stu reported that the **ACBL** is starting an **Entry Express** program that allows for online registration for regionals. It may be extended to sectionals. For one year the masterpoint awards for overalls in sectionals are increased 20%. Maximum awards for online games have been reduced to discourage large alliances. Another Royal STAC is scheduled for December. The ACBL is cutting back on offering online tournaments.

There will be an election for **Regional Director**. The candidates are Stu, Jackie Zayac, and Laurie Rowe. Voting will be online beginning in August.

Lynn Bartz reported that the **Sacramento Regional** attendance was about 45% of pre-Covid times. The hotel was under renovation and in poor shape. Masks were required from Friday on.

In the absence of new business, the meeting was adjourned.

Lynn Yokel said the longest day online games are coming up on the weekend.

--Ray Yuenger

Secretary

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Zoom Board Meeting

July 12, 2022 5:30 PM

In attendance: Board members Mich Ravera, Mischel Postas, Ray Yuenger, Karen O'Connell, Norman Marks, Michael Fleisher, Stu Goodgold, Lynn Bartz, Doug Hong, Betsey Wagner, and Judy Fisher, and guests Jackie Zayac and Laurie Rowe.

In the absence of other nominations or objections, the Unit Board **re-elected officers** Mich Ravera President, Mischel Postas Vice-President, Karen O'Connell Treasurer, and Ray Yuenger Secretary to continue in their positions.

The draft **minutes** for June were approved as circulated.

The **Treasurer's report** was received.

For 38 minutes, the Board heard individual presentations from **candidates for regional director** Jackie Zayac, Laurie Rowe, and Stu Goodgold. Each candidate answered questions from Board members.

In discussing **upcoming sectionals**, Stu reported that the Palo Alto club would be amenable to holding our sectional at its site. Mischel found out the church and the Roosevelt Room are not available on Sundays. Palo Alto is planning on holding more sectionals this year.

On the **new website**, there are no links to old newsletters. Lynn Bartz and Ray explained that the Board had decided not to use the website for archival purposes.

Regarding upcoming **unit games**, Mischel reported that Saturday, November 19 is available at the church and the Roosevelt Room for the holiday party. Bathrooms are more accessible at the Community Center. The Board voted to hold the **holiday party** on November 19 in the Roosevelt Room with setup beginning at noon. Food options and table fees were discussed and deferred.

The Board voted to hold a **membership meeting and game** on Saturday, August 20 with setup at noon. Mischel pointed out we need to notify the membership. Norman proposed preparing a list of active Unit 507 members and dividing it up so each Board member could contact part of the list about the game. Mich said he could compose a list of players who were active in the last months that the San Jose Bridge Center was open. Norman said he would divide up and distribute Mich's list. Betsey asked what we should tell the members. Mischel said she would email the Board with a description of the game. Food options, catering and potluck, were discussed and the Board decided not to provide food. Ray pointed out that unit members are entitled to electronic notice of membership meetings.

Ray reported that he wrote a summary of what happened at the **District 21 Board meeting** in the Diamond in the Ruff newsletter.

Mischel reported the latest **membership count** is 540, down 8.

Mich will be holding an **NAP game**.

Ray reported that the church has yet to respond to our application for space for a club.

Ray has posted an ad on Craigslist to **sell the supplies** in the storage unit.

--Ray Yuenger

Secretary

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Zoom Board Meeting

August 9, 2022 5:30 PM

In attendance: Board members Mich Ravera, Mischel Postas, Ray Yuenger, Karen O'Connell, Norman Marks, , Stu Goodgold, Lynn Bartz, Doug Hong, Betsey Wagner, Judy Fisher, and Michael Fleisher (late as expected).

Mich was unable to appear or speak for the first 13 minutes of the meeting due to technical difficulties. In Mich's absence, Mischel Postas commenced the meeting.

The **minutes** of the last meeting were approved as circulated without objection.

The Treasurer noted the highlights of her **financial report**.

The Board ratified **two email votes**, one to follow ACBL/CDC protocols for masking at the upcoming unit game, and the other was to provide no food for said game.

No one had any immediate suggestions to improve the **new website**. Lynn Yokel later mentioned that links to upcoming special games like NAP qualifying games should appear on the front page. Lynn Bartz said it wouldn't be a problem.

Ray explained that he has been a few months behind in posting the approved **minutes** of the Board on the website. He did post the latest minutes when the same unit member contacted both Michael and Mich about the minutes being outdated. Ray noted that the minutes will always be delayed a month because the Board approves of the minutes once a month. Norman suggested that the draft minutes be circulated to the Board for review, not approval, when there are action items pending. Ray promised to do what he could to prepare drafts more expeditiously for the Board, not the website. Norman suggested that a draft with action items should be circulated to the Board within a week. Ray suggested that the entire Board could be sent a link to the recording of the meeting right after the meeting. Board members expressed disinterest in sitting through the meeting again. Mich pointed out that minutes should be limited to the actions of the Board, not the discussion. Norman said that action items are the most important topic to circulate. Ray said he would normally be free to circulate the draft within a week.

Regarding the **membership game** scheduled for August 20, Doug Hong said that he could again provide tables, bidding boxes, BridgeMates, and table markers. Ray said he would again rent a van and bring those supplies. Mischel said she is coordinating the game. Norman has been updating the Google Sheet to indicate who is attending. People can update the Google Sheet to note requests to partners. Mich said he would include notice of the unit game and a request for help in his next Presidential communication.

It was noted that the unit could hold two monthly unit games even without a bridge club.

Mich assigned Bruce to obtain a **sanction** for the unit game, saying it was the same process as obtaining a sectional sanction.

Regarding the **fall sectional**, Bruce explained that he needs help to obtain sanctions. Ray offered to explain to Bruce the steps for obtaining a unit game sanction. There was some confusion about whether the unit has obtained a sanction for the fall sectional yet. Mischel said we needed a site to obtain a sanction. Bruce had asked the Palo Alto Unit whether he could hold our sectional at their club.

Regarding the **holiday party**, Mischel said we have reserved the Roosevelt Room for November 19, but need to pay for it. It was moved and seconded that Mischel secure the room. The motion carried.

Regarding one of the **Unit's objectives**, Ray asked what kind of efforts should be made to **promote face-to-face games** in nearby Units. It was noted that our website has listed and linked nearby sectionals and has also listed and linked the websites of nearby Units. A motion by Norman carried by majority vote that the Unit include in the monthly newsletter tournaments and special games in clubs within a drivable area of which we have notice. Lynn Bartz noted that some people unsubscribe every time a Pianola blast goes out, and Lynn Yokel said that people won't read Pianola blasts if we send too many.

Judy said there are two **classes** scheduled for the fall, one by her and one by Betsey. Ray asked to be sent flyers for the classes.

Stu suggested that we work on reserving dates for **next year's sectionals**. Lynn Yokel said to contact Anne Hollingsworth regarding available dates for next year.

Ray reported there has been no progress on finding a club site.

As to disposing of supplies in **storage**, Ray said that no one has responded to the Craigslist ad. There will be a separate ad to dispose of the cabinets. We are seeking photos of the cabinets with the doors installed. Ray said the doors were removed to move the cabinets and the doors and cabinets are wrapped in plastic. A deadline for disposing of the contents before a payment is due on October 3rd was suggested. It was recognized that Ray had already been authorized to dispose of the contents one way or another. Judy said she would call to figure out what kind of notice to cancel the contract is required.

The total **membership** is 537.

There was no news from the **District** and the next District Board meeting will be on September 10.

From the **ACBL**, Stu reminded Board members to vote in the Regional Director election. Ray explained that the ACBL sends out electronic ballots that need to be filled out within a month. There was a question whether the ACBL has recognized Betsey as a Board

member. Stu said that she was not on the list, though Mich said he had notified the ACBL three times. Stu referred to his upcoming article in the District newsletter for other developments at the national Board level.

--Ray Yuenger

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Zoom Board Meeting

September 13, 2022 5:30 PM

In attendance: Board members Mich Ravera, Mischel Postas, Ray Yuenger, Karen O'Connell, Norman Marks, Stu Goodgold, Doug Hong, Judy Fisher, Bruce Luttrell, Michael Fleisher, and Lynn Bartz and Betsey Wagner (both late), and guest Lynn Yokel.

The **minutes** for August were approved as circulated.

The Treasurer summarized her comments in the monthly **financial report**. She explained a follow-up document that she sent out regarding a payment to the Campbell Community Center.

The Board **ratified** the following four email votes: (1) coffee will be provided at our upcoming sectional; (2) there will be a discount to \$7 for junior players under 18; (3) the schedule for the upcoming fall sectional will be the same schedule approved for the last fall sectional; and (4) the Sectional Coordinator and Communications Director will put together a sectional flyer.

Ray moved that the discount at the **sectional** be extended to players under 26, what the ACBL defines as juniors. The motion was seconded. Lynn Yokel explained that the discount at regionals is given to players under 26. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Mich announced that his Zoom meeting was time-limited. Ray said he would send an invitation to a continuation meeting.

Mischel said she had some **sectional supplies**. Bruce said he'd pick them up.

Regarding the **flyer**, Bruce said that he and Barbara were working on a one-page flyer. Lynn Bartz said she had already circulated a one-page flyer. Ray pointed out the ACBL had already approved of last year's flyer.

Regarding the **holiday party**, Mischel proposed to not decide about providing food until next month. The question was tabled.

The meeting ended mid-sentence and reconvened in a Zoom session hosted by Ray. Doug and the guest, Lynn, didn't return to the continued meeting.

In the absence of a **Unit Game coordinator**, decisions about the holiday party will be made by the Board. Ray said he would circulate to the Board an ACBL pamphlet describing the position.

As to **what we learned** from the free membership game, some observed there is a demand for face-to-face bridge. We calculated that with the attendance of 82 players, charging \$10 a person would not have covered our costs, but at \$15 it would have paid

for itself if the same number of players showed up. Ray mentioned that Doug has tables to use for which he doesn't charge, but Ray won't promise to pick up and return the tables if unit games are scheduled once a month. Mich said he would run a game so long as he didn't lose money. Norman suggested that the discussion about future unit games be deferred until the reopening committee learns about the availability of Lynn Yokel and Gabi Bowling to direct weekly club games at a meeting in two days.

Regarding the **new sjbridge.org website**, Ray said it was operating and new items were being added.

Mich said we have reached a few goals for the year.

Regarding the **Prez Sez** column, Norman proposed naming winners at the regional.

Regarding disposition of items in the **storage unit**, Ray had arranged to sell side tables to Karen for \$5, and then Mischel suggested we should charge \$1. Ray reported that only one other person had expressed an interest in buying any of the items in storage. The large cabinets have not yet been separately listed. Ray explained it will take some effort to create a path to the side tables at the back of the unit. Judy said we have the unit until September 30. Lynn B. suggested the cabinets would be easier to sell if someone attached the doors. She agreed to create an ad for the cabinets without the doors.

Stu made a motion to **abandon the property** at the end of September. It was seconded by Mischel. A majority voted in favor.

Ray arranged to meet with Karen and Mich at the storage unit on Saturday to make the side tables available for free.

No **in and out report** was presented.

Stu reported that more masterpoints will be awarded in club games with over 18 boards to encourage face-to-face play.

Ray reported that a two-hour **District 21 Board** meeting was held the night before. The NAP Flight A District qualifier will be held during the Monterey regional. The B and C Flight qualifiers will be held online. Regional table fees will increase to \$15 after the Monterey regional. Nominees are being sought for District President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Executive Committee Officer, and Advisory Council member. Lynn reported that the District is likely to lose money on the recent All-Western regional and the upcoming Reno regional. Ray reported that the District rescinded prior annual financial commitments like NAP and GNT stipends in favor of making decisions through its new budget process.

Judy suggested we discuss merging our unit with Palo Alto and San Mateo. Stu said the Gilroy unit is also interested in dissolving. Stu said that we would need to dissolve as a

California corporation and it will take a long time. Mich asked to hear from the reopening committee before scheduling a special meeting to consider dissolving the unit.

Betsey said there is a regular sanctioned game on Fridays occurring at the Villages.

It is time to consider making nominations for District Goodwill awards. Mich said he will circulate the list of Goodwill recipients to the Board.

--Ray Yuenger

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Zoom Board Regular Meeting

October 11, 2022 5:30 PM

In attendance: Board members Mich Ravera, Mischel Postas, Ray Yuenger, Karen O'Connell, Norman Marks, Stu Goodgold, Doug Hong, Judy Fisher, Bruce Luttrell, Lynn Bartz, and Betsy Wagner (late), and guest Lynn Yokel.

The September **minutes** were approved as circulated.

The **financial report** was accepted without questions.

Regarding the **fall sectional**, Bruce reported that he met with Greg Vance in Reno. Bruce discussed making the boards with Will Watson. Mich said he will handle the partnership desk on Saturday morning. Stu volunteered himself and Ray for the Saturday afternoon partnerships. Bruce said they have a coffee maker and water dispensers. Stu said they have a soda machine. Doug says he has the unit's dealing machine, though it is old. Lynn said Will charges \$11 per set. Bruce volunteered to deal the boards at Doug's house. He has prior experience with a dealing machine. Doug volunteered his own newer dealing machine and new boards.

Regarding snacks, the Palo Alto Bridge Club is putting out snacks again. Mich will solicit voluntary contributions.

A **preparation status meeting** was scheduled for the Tuesday before the sectional.

Norman, as safety monitor, is going to order wristbands for proof of vaccination.

Additional publicity via Pianola was discussed. A question was raised about our flyers being at the PABC. Bruce will bring flyers to the Santa Cruz sectional as he did to the Walnut Creek sectional.

Regarding the **holiday party** on November 19, Mischel volunteered to be in charge. There was discussion of providing food, whether it will be pot luck or catered. One proposal was to have ham and turkey provided by the Unit with members bringing what they want. Lynn Bartz said she'd put out a Pianola blast once Mischel provides the details. We are doing lunch instead of dinner. The room is reserved from 12 to 5. Setup first, then lunch at 12:30, and game following at approximately 1:15. Ray committed to bring the tables from Doug's house.

Regarding disposing of the **storage unit contents**, Ray reported that he got an offer to haul away the contents for \$2,000. He also spoke with the property manager, who said, after inspecting our unit, that they would be willing to take over what we leave behind, though there might be disposal charges of no more than \$900. Lynn Bartz proposed renting a truck and bringing the contents to a Goodwill. Ray cautioned that the problem is really finding the labor to load up the truck. There are five stacks of eight chairs. Ray

sent out an inventory to the board last night. Lynn Bartz volunteered to advertise items. Ray said he would check out if any charity was willing to pick up the contents.

Ray said that the two storage cabinets were being sold for \$600. Ray paid \$274 to extend the storage for the additional month of October. On Judy's motion that was seconded by Stu and amended by Norman, the Board ratified Ray's decision to extend storage for a month, authorized reimbursing Ray from the proceeds of the cabinet sales, and gave Ray discretion to spend remaining proceeds on the disposition of the contents.

Regarding **reopening** the club, Lynn Yokel and Gabi Bowling will need to make arrangements with the United Methodist Church site viewed by the committee. Lynn said a game is planned for Wednesdays. Gabi was out of town and hadn't seen the space yet. Gabi has enough folding tables. The site doesn't offer storage. There was a consensus that reopening shouldn't be announced until certain.

Norman distributed an accurate report on accomplishing the Unit's **annual goals**. He pointed out that we haven't publicized local bridge lessons. Ray will contact the game at the Villages. Judy and Betsy are both in the middle of bridge classes now. Judy has five tables and Betsy has four tables at the Saratoga Library. Norman will investigate whether lessons are being offered in local community centers. Judy will send the information for her classes starting in January. Next year's goals will be discussed in January.

Mich has topics for the **Presidential column**.

Mischel reported that the **total membership** is 543.

Regarding **District 21**, a new newsletter will be published by early next week. If you want to run for President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Executive Committee Officer, or a member of the Advisory Council, you should notify the Nominations Chair.

Lynn Bartz and Judy Fisher were nominated by the Board for D21 **Goodwill** awards, in case the District is accepting nominations for 2021 as well as 2022. Ray volunteered to write up the nominees.

Stu reported that the ACBL **Board of Directors** selected Minneapolis for Nationals in 2026. More masterpoints will be available for games with more than 18 boards. There is an ongoing runoff election for Regional Director involving Stu and Jackie Zayac.

The meeting was adjourned after 70 minutes.

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Zoom Board Special Meeting

October 25, 2022 5:30 PM

In attendance: Board members Mich Ravera, Mischel Postas, Ray Yuenger, Karen O'Connell, Norman Marks, Doug Hong, Judy Fisher, Lynn Bartz, and Betsy Wagner (at 5:44), Stu Goodgold (at 5:45), Bruce Luttrell (at 5:59 PM) and guests David Holbook and Milind Girkar (at 5:50).

Regarding the sectional, there was discussion of the availability of big index cards. Doug doesn't have any.

Norman noted that Bill Riester had just passed away.

Mich tried to contact Bruce. Bruce visited Doug's house this morning. He has the memory stick.

There was discussion of the morning's earthquake.

Regarding the **holiday party**, Mischel has declined coordinating it, but sent out suggestions for alternative preparations. Lynn Bartz and Ray found a lot of plasticware and plates and serving utensils in the storage unit. Mischel hasn't called Little Lou's Barbeque. Mischel will ask them without knowing our turnout. It will be a potluck.

The party will be announced at our sectional. There will be a holiday party blast after the sectional.

Mischel suggested they have a coffee maker in the Roosevelt Room. Lynn reported that the coffee urns from storage have been disposed of. Mischel has pointed out that no one wants to store coffee urns. Norman suggested just bottled water. We should publicize the lack of coffee.

Stu volunteered and was appointed the holiday party chair. Judy and Karen are on the planning committee. Further plans will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

Regarding the **fall sectional**, Mich had solicited donations of snacks in his Presidential column. Karen volunteered to get snacks at Costco. The Board authorized her reimbursement. Ray volunteered to deliver the snacks Karen will purchase.

Ray agreed with Karen to deliver checks for the two Directors at the sectional. Lynn Bartz objects to paying the expenses of the Tournament Directors on the spot.

It was reported that Bruce had arranged to use the PABC's custodial service on Saturday night.

Betsy mentioned that there was a tip jar for the caddies at the Santa Cruz sectional, but not at the Palo Alto sectional. Lynn mentioned that the ACBL discourages this practice.

Bruce will be making eight sets of boards tomorrow. He has arranged the setup and the cleanup of the club. Mich volunteered to make coffee using their coffee maker.

Norman will arrive early to set up the vaccination check.

Mich volunteered to handle partnership calls. Stu and Ray volunteered to handle partnerships for the second session.

Betsy proposed that future sectionals start at 10 am and 2:30 pm. Ray mentioned that with shorter lunch breaks, meals need to be provided. The topic was tabled.

Regarding the **storage unit**, Ray referred to Lynn Bartz's recent email summary of progress. Ray reported that neither Goodwill nor the Salvation Army does donation pickups in our area. Ray will follow up with the Habitat for Humanity, which does seem to accept large furniture donations. The remaining items are 11 tables and the directors' desk. Lynn said there are ads on Craigslist, NextDoor, and FreeCycle, and there will be on Facebook Marketplace. Lynn is saving items for holiday parties and unit games.

The meeting was adjourned after 55 minutes.

--Ray Yuenger

Secretary

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Zoom Board Regular Meeting

November 8, 2022 5:30 PM

In attendance: Mich Ravera, Ray Yuenger, Karen O'Connell, Doug Hong, Norman Marks, Judy Fisher, Stu Goodgold, and guests David Holbrook and Lynn Yokel. A quorum achieved when Stu arrived. Betsy Wagner and Lynn Bartz joined around 5:42.

The **draft minutes** for October's regular and special board meetings were approved as distributed.

The **treasurer's report** was received. Karen noted that we made \$1,300 at our recent sectional.

Regarding lessons learned from the **last sectional**, it was noted that the Palo Alto Club was a good venue. There was good attendance. Caddies are needed.

Regarding **future sectionals**, Norman objected to holding future sectionals at another bridge club. Norman believes more U507 members will attend a more local tournament, such as at the United Methodist Church. Stu pointed out that Mountain View is not within U507's boundaries. Mich mentioned that we've allowed them to hold sectionals in our area. Others agreed with Norman's suggestion. There was also a suggestion of holding the sectional on Fridays and Saturdays. It was recognized that the spring sectional is about 4.5 months away. It was uncertain whether Bruce had already scheduled a date for the spring sectional.

Norman moved that sectional details, such as dates and location and a sanction application, should be delegated to Bruce and a committee of his choosing. No one volunteered to serve on the committee. Stu seconded the motion. Norman said the Board doesn't need to decide whether to provide bottled water. Stu suggested the Board should approve the schedule and entry fee. Norman proposed amending his motion to create an exception for the items Stu mentioned. Lynn B. suggested that the committee should report its proposals to the Board. Norman agreed to amend the motion to require the Board to approve of the costs. Betsy suggested that the Board should vote on the schedule. Norman agreed to Betsy's amendment. Ray seconded the second amendment. As amended, the motion was approved.

Ray moved that the U507 Board express its **appreciation for Morris Jones** hosting the U507 website for over 20 years after he left our area and that its expression be accompanied by a gift of \$250 in BBO dollars. It was seconded by Doug. Ray agreed with Mich's suggestion that the gift should be transferred with all deliberate speed. Mich supported the motion. The motion was approved.

Stu reported that Will Watson will direct our **holiday party**. Judy and Karen will be assisting in the planning. Ray said that Lynn Bartz has the party supplies remaining from

the storage unit. Lynn will do an email blast correcting the earlier time announcements to be set-up at 12, lunch at 12:30 and the game following, possibly at 1:15. Ray said the site has long tables available. Ray will pick up the card tables, bid boxes, and BridgeMates from Doug at 10:30 a.m. Michael and Mischel have arranged with the Community Center to remove the post that blocks vehicle access to the Roosevelt Room.

Ray explained that he submitted two **Goodwill nominations** to the District 21 Goodwill committee because the District hadn't given out awards in 2021. He learned they are not giving out awards for 2021. He identified which nomination was for which year.

Ray announced that the **storage unit** was emptied by the end of October except for the directors' desk. Judy arranged with the storage business to dispose of the desk for \$100. The Board thanked Lynn and Ray for cleaning out the unit.

Lynn Yokel explained that the plan for **opening a bridge club** is to open at the United Methodist Church the second week of January, holding a morning game on Wednesdays, but she is awaiting a response from the Church representative. The most difficult part is expected to be bringing tables to set up and then taking them down. Chairs will be available.

Norman hasn't updated his report on the Unit's progress on its **annual goals**. He will update it in January. Ray said the website hasn't yet been updated to list locations of local bridge classes. Ray will contact the game at the Villages to see if they want to be publicized on the website.

Mich reviewed the topics for his upcoming **Presidential column**. Stu recommended publicizing that no coffee will be provided at the holiday party.

Mischel had distributed by email a summary of the **In and Out report**.

Norman suggested that the Board could have a member dedicated to maintaining and growing membership. Mich proposed that Betsy serve as **new player representative**. Betsy pointed out there isn't any place to which to direct new players except for the few classes already being offered by her and Judy. Stu suggested that Betsy try to run a supervised play game at the Palo Alto club. Betsy suggested it could be done after the proposed game at the church.

Ray said there are no new developments from **District 21** except a new site is being explored for the Sacramento Regional.

Stu said the national Board of Directors is looking into some election reforms. They will be meeting for three days the week of Thanksgiving.

The meeting was adjourned after fifty-five minutes.

--Ray Yuenger, Secretary

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Zoom Board Regular Meeting

December 13, 2022 5:30 PM

In attendance: Mich Ravera, Mischel Postas, Ray Yuenger, Karen O'Connell, Doug Hong, Betsy Wagner, Norman Marks, Stu Goodgold, and Lynn Bartz. Judy Fisher arrived at 5:41 PM.

The **draft minutes** of the November 10 meeting were approved unanimously as circulated as essentially accurate. Secretary Ray acknowledged some confusion as expressed in the minutes.

The Treasurer's report was acknowledged.

Regarding the **holiday party**, Stu and his committee did a good job. Judy recommended that the same group continue in their positions. Stu said it helped to have several people working together. Norman proposes having one person in charge. Ray said that used to be the unit game coordinator, and no one is volunteering. Doug proposed having one unit game a quarter. Karen was praised for getting a price reduction on the dried turkey from the vendor.

There was some discussion about Lynn Yokel's test club opening at the United Methodist Church ("UMC"). The smaller room was a tight squeeze for 10 tables. A larger room is also available.

The Board took from the table an email motion to **purchase group email credits** from Marketing Solutions (Pianola) for use in promoting our sectionals and new club game Lynn Bartz shared her screen with a list of costs of emailing individual units. Ray explained that there are two options, targeting particular units or targeting the players within a radius. Stu said we could send neighboring units 12 blasts for a \$100 credit purchase, considering the bonus credits available for a \$100 purchase.

The Board unanimously approved a motion to **purchase \$100 email credits** from Marketing Solutions. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Ray and Norman to put Lynn Bartz, Communications Director, in charge of the Marketing Solutions email blasts.

Norman reported that the Fireside room at the **United Methodist Church** is \$30 hour, while the larger Fellowship room is \$50 per hour.

Regarding Lynn Yokel's **test club reopening game**, Ray delivered from his house 10 tables that Doug is loaning the club. It was set up in time and there were 10 tables of players.

Regarding the **spring sectional**, we have a sanction and a date, but no location. Ray reported that Bruce, who is out of the country, is aware of the preference of some Board

members to hold the sectional in our own territory. There was some discussion about available venues, such as the Palo Alto Club and the UMC. Betsy favors using the PABC again. Norman volunteered to contact the UMC. Mich volunteered to contact Marc Cervellino.

Mich agreed to make the sectional coordinator's report a standing item on the agenda.

Mischel reported that, according to the **In and Out report**, we now have 539 members.

Regarding **District 21 news**, Ray described a recent D21 Board meeting that was mostly focused on the budget. He said his writeup of the meeting will appear in an **upcoming D21 Newsletter** in the next day or two.

Ray said that the Reno regional will not be held at the usual time in 2023 as accommodation to District 20's Seaside regional. As far as sites for a regional presummer, many hotels appear be under renovation now. D21 continues to look for a site. Do not expect more than three regionals in 2023.

Ray announced that Judy Fisher was selected as a **D21 Goodwill recipient**. This year the recipients will be honored at a lunch at the Monterey regional.

Stu announced that the **ACBL Board of Directors** rejected the proposed budget for 2023. The existing Executive Director subsequently resigned. Directors of IT, Marketing, and Operations have also left recently. The ACBL has raised the fees for large online games with no face-to-face components.

The next meeting was scheduled for January 10.

--Ray Yuenger, Secretary