

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Board Regular Zoom Meeting

January 9, 2024 5:30 PM

In attendance: In attendance at the outset of the meeting were President Mich Ravera, Vice-President Mischel Postas, Secretary Ray Yuenger, Treasurer Karen O'Connell, Stu Goodgold, Doug Hong, and Norman Marks. Milind Girkar appeared as a guest. Lynn Bartz joined at 5:48. Betsy Wagner joined at 5:51.

The **minutes** were approved as circulated with a change proposed by Norman Marks.

The **financial report** was received. The cash balance in December was \$20,543. The board unanimously approved the report as the annual financial report.

A location for a **face-to-face meeting** in February was discussed. The board agreed to meet face-to-face at the next meeting.

Regarding the **holiday party**, Stu suggested it be publicized again. (Lynn Bartz was absent for this discussion.) There weren't many signups yet. All tasks were assigned. The consensus was there is no need to call people about attendance.

Regarding the **spring sectional**, Ray said a sanction was eventually approved and Palo Alto has agreed to the weekend of April 26 through 28. Mich had not yet spoken to Bruce about his involvement. Going forward, a team involving Norman, Ray, and Lynn will handle the sectional details. Ray pointed out that it would simplify sanction applications for one of the team to be designated as sectional coordinator.

When Lynn B. appeared, the details of another blast about the holiday party were agreed on. Mich suggested that Lynn prepare a flyer for the fall sectional as well as the spring sectional.

Mischel gave the **in-and-out report** highlights. Unit membership is now 492.

Norman described the latest developments in the ACBL's **return to the fold** program. He has been emailing lapsing members identified by the ACBL. The latest email communication from the ACBL identified a target number of people to save and did not identify who had returned to the fold, though the list of people to be saved has changed since the beginning.

There have been no recent D21 meetings or ACBL Board meetings to report.

Regarding **new business** and the **fall sectional**, D21 has assigned November 1 through 3 as U507's preferred weekend. Palo Alto has another sectional scheduled the prior weekend. Ray read out the full D21 sectional schedule for October. He discussed Palo Alto's new rental rates for sectionals. The table fee is now \$16 with a cap of \$800 a day. To use the club on Friday requires a payment of \$400 to the Friday game directors.

There was discussion about cutting back the fall sectional from three days to two. Norman asked Karen to calculate the break-even point for Friday.

The Board tentatively approved the weekend of November 1 through 3 for our fall sectional. The decision about a Friday session was deferred pending Karen's report.

The possibilities of holding a **limited sectional** for non-life masters or a **standalone unit championship** were discussed. Ray agreed to look at the ACBL requirements and look into potential dates. Stu pointed out that limited sectionals run by local TDs are also an option. It was suggested to coordinate a nlm sectional with the membership game. Ray read from the codification that a limited sectional must be at least one day. Stu will follow up with McKenzie Myers.

Ray mentioned that **non-life master regionals** are being held in conjunction with sectionals. U507 could try to do it at our sectional. It would likely take more space than the PABC allows. We'd need to understand the cost of the IFES hall. Mich said we might try a different joint event before considering a NLMR.

Norman said there will be **no strategic plan** for 2024.

The February meeting was scheduled for the 6th instead of the 13th. Betsy questioned holding a face-to-face meeting. A consensus agreed to the Garret in the Pruneyard. Stu pointed out pizza will be more expensive than it used to be pre-pandemic.

Submitted by

--Ray Yuenger

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Board Regular Zoom Meeting

February 6, 2024 5:30 PM

In attendance: The U507 Board held a face-to-face meeting at the Garret Restaurant in Campbell. In attendance at the outset of the meeting were President Mich Ravera, Vice-President Mischel Postas, Secretary Ray Yuenger, Treasurer Karen O'Connell, Stu Goodgold, Doug Hong, Norman Marks, Judy Fisher, and Betsy Wagner. Lynn Bartz and Michael Fleisher arrived shortly before 6.

The **minutes** of the January meeting were approved as circulated.

The **financial report** was received. Karen answered Stu's question about one ACBL charge.

As **advance consent** items, the Board ratified an email vote approving a change in the start time of the Friday sectional events to be 10 AM. It was recognized that another motion had failed to remove Friday sectional events. The Board also ratified its vote at the January holiday party that nonmembers could play for free.

Regarding the **holiday party**, Mischel moved that director in the future be paid \$200 to direct the annual membership game and holiday party. After discussion, the motion was passed by a majority voice vote. There was discussion about how much food was left over at the holiday party. People were complimentary about the date of the event and the food provided. The Board unanimously thanked Stu for coordinating the party.

(Some discussion was inaudible in Ray's recording due to other sounds in the restaurant.)

Regarding the **spring sectional**, Norman reported that Greg Vance is directing, Will Watson is making the boards, and the flyer is coordinated. Mich reported that he spoke to Bruce Luttrell in Hawaii and informed him that the sectional coordinator position will now involve a team with Ray as the nominal coordinator for purposes of applying for sanctions. We discussed who will be acting as the partnership coordinator.

Mich asked for content for his monthly **President's letter**.

Regarding the **fall sectional**, we have the dates and a sanction and Lynn is working on the flyer. There are no plans for next spring yet. Stu proposed that the fall sectional be limited to two days as we will be following a busy month of sectionals. A majority was not in favor.

Mischel reported that the **membership total** is 497.

Ray reported that at a recent meeting of the **District 21 Board**, four officers, including Lynn (Treasurer) and Ray (Secretary), were re-elected to their one-year positions, and the new Vice-President is Jim Coke of Sacramento. Also, two representatives were elected to the Western Conference. The Monterey Regional was profitable. D21 has two new regional tournament planning chairs, including one from our unit, Anne Wilson.

Ray reported the requirements for a Unit holding a NonLife Master Regional. At least 12 tables should be set aside. D21 wants to maintain some control over the appearance of the flyer. D21 will ask for 10% of the table fees. Two units expressed interest in holding one.

As far as the **National Board**, Ray reported that a new disciplinary system was implemented effective February 1, 2024.

Regard a nonlife Master sectional, Ray was awaiting a reply to an inquiry to the ACBL to see if a **one-session Non Life Master sectional** was allowed. Betsy said Palo Alto had just started offering one-session sectionals. Norman proposed several votes to schedule such an event. There was much discussion. The first vote was to hold a sectional sometime in June. The second vote was whether to hold the event on a date other than Wednesday. That proposal failed. Stu said that according to Lynn Yokel, as an ACBL TD, she cannot run a limited sectional for less than ACBL TD fees. Norman volunteered to speak with Gabi Bowling and Lynn Yokel about whether they would like to have a NLM sectional concurrent with their regular Wednesday morning game. Ray reported that Lynn Yokel had texted that she was interested in holding such an event.

Submitted by

--Ray Yuenger

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Board Regular Zoom Meeting

March 12, 2024 5:30 PM

In attendance: The U507 Board held an online meeting on March 12, 2024. In attendance at the outset of the meeting were President Mich Ravera, Vice-President Mischel Postas, Secretary Ray Yuenger, Treasurer Karen O'Connell, Board members Stu Goodgold, Norman Marks, Judy Fisher, Bruce Luttrell, Lynn Bartz, and Michael Fleisher, with guest Lynn Yokel. Doug Hong joined the meeting at 5:39. Betsy Wagner joined the meeting at 5:45.

The **minutes** of the February meeting were approved as distributed without change.

The **financial report** was accepted with thanks.

Regarding upcoming **sectionals**, Norman reported that the spring sectional is on track. Lynn recently sent out an email blast and another one is planned. Lynn Bartz asked why our sectional isn't on the District 21 ("D21") website. Ray, as a member of the D21 Communications Committee, said he would inquire of the Communications Chair.

Regarding our request to hold a single-session NonLife Master sectional, the D21 Executive Committee ("ExCom") has decided to leave the issue of authorizing such events to the full District Board at its June meeting. Ray, an ExCom member, explained that the ACBL had authorized such events a few times for U503, possibly because the single-session nature of the event wasn't clear from their applications, but the ACBL has subsequently indicated it is a decision for each District to make.

Regarding the fall sectional, Norman said that we have a sanction for the dates we sought and have made arrangements with U503 to use their site.

There was discussion of mutual publication of local sectionals. Lynn pointed out that our website already has a "tournament trail" listing upcoming local sectionals with links to their flyers.

According to the **In and Out report**, Mischel reported that our membership total is 501.

Regarding the ACBL's "**return to the fold**" program, Norman reported that he had spoken with the ACBL Executive Director, Bronia Jenkins. Each unit by algorithm is assigned nonrenewing members to contact. We report our efforts to contact them. We are not later informed by the ACBL whether the members renewed. The ACBL offers Units incentives in terms of a greater share of membership dues than 5% for making recruitment efforts. Stu said the program was initially designed differently, with separate incentives of 5% for bringing in new members and another 5% for retaining existing members. Norman encouraged Board members to reach out to lapsing members.

Stu no longer has news from the national Board. Ray had no news from any recent D21 Board meetings.

Mich asked Mischel to attend some Unit President's meetings in his place. He'll let her know of the schedule.

Regarding scheduling an **annual member meeting** and game, Norman was asked to contact the church about the dates of June 15 and July 27. Betsy is unavailable on the 15th and Mich may be unavailable on the 27th.

The meeting adjourned in the record time of 28 minutes.

Submitted by

--Ray Yuenger

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Board Regular Zoom Meeting

April 9, 2024 5:30 PM

In attendance: The U507 Board held an online meeting on April 9, 2024. In attendance at the outset of the meeting were President Mich Ravera, Vice-President Mischel Postas, Secretary Ray Yuenger, Treasurer Karen O'Connell, Board members Stu Goodgold, Norman Marks, Judy Fisher, and Betsy Wagner, with guest Lynn Yokel. Lynn Bartz joined the meeting at 5:32.

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

The **financial report** was accepted with appreciation.

Regarding the upcoming **spring sectional**, Norman said everything was being handled. Doug Hong has been talking to the DIC, Greg Vance, and Will Watson about having the boards ready. Lynn Bartz said she'd be sending another Pianola blast the upcoming weekend. Norman had talked to Marc Cervellino, and Marc committed that we will not lose money on the Friday events. If necessary, they would reduce their Friday charges. Trish has agreed to provide lunch all three days. Trish said she would provide pictures of the menu to Lynn Bartz.

Betsy volunteered to bring snacks to the sectional if the board authorized her. The Board authorized her. She isn't willing to be in charge of the coffee, and she didn't think Trish was willing either. Stu volunteered to make announcements at the sectional. Lynn volunteered to do coffee on the weekend and to ask Trish about Friday morning.

Regarding the **fall sectional**, we already have a sanction and a flyer and agreement with U503. Norman and Betsy suggested holding the afternoon session at 2:30.

Regarding the possibility of a **single-session nonlife Master sectional**, Ray reported that the ACBL had recently clarified its policy according to our regional Director Jackie Zayac. As of April 14, 2024, such an event must be at least two sessions. Betsy said there is a small pool of nonlife Masters attending tournaments. In Santa Cruz they recently had 11 tables on Saturday and 5 on Sunday. At Palo Alto's recent sectional, there were 5 tables of nonlife Masters.

There was discussion of the requirements for holding **limited sectionals** with higher masterpoint limits. Quoting from the ACBL's Codification, Ray said that a "limited" sectional is one limited to no more than 750 masterpoints. A "local" sectional is an open sectional with anticipated attendance under 25 tables. Local or limited sectionals may be staffed by Tournament Assistants or certified local directors, but local sectionals are run under the direction of a remote ACBL TD.

Regarding upcoming Board **elections**, Ray was asked to identify whose terms are expiring. Ray said that the terms of everyone except the four officers and Michael and Bruce were expiring. Stu said after 26 years, he would like to step down. Betsy, Judy,

Norman, and Lynn expressed interest in running again. Mich said he would speak to Doug and Milind Girkar. He'll also announce a vacancy in his monthly column.

Mischel reported that our total **membership** is now 503.

Regarding the ACBL's "**return to the fold**" program, Norman reported having a lengthy conversation with ACBL Executive Director Bronia Jenkins. The Unit can increase its share of the dues up to 2.5% for retaining members, another 2.5% for contacting members in danger of lapsing, and another 2.5% for recruiting new members. The ACBL has had problems tracking the Unit's contact efforts. The Unit is due its full share for contacting people though there will be a delay in payment. The recruitment target is based on pre-Covid numbers. Norman didn't learn what happened to the other 7.5% increases that were promised earlier for good unit behavior.

Norman further reported that the ACBL is pushing three new **outreach programs**, one called "Bridge Ambassador," another "Come Play with Us," and the third "Picklebridge."

Ray said there were no District developments. The District is authorizing more Units to hold NonLife Master Regionals.

Ray, as Chair of the Bylaws Committee, has deferred a meeting of the Bylaws Committee until the Board acts on the proposal by the Unit Status committee, of which Ray is also Chair, to adopt articles of incorporation, something which apparently hasn't been done in the Unit's 64-year existence. Ray presented a draft of **Articles of Incorporation** for the Board to approve and authorize filing with California's Secretary of State. If we want a bank account with the Unit's actual name on it, we need to file Articles. The cost of filing is \$30 for a nonprofit. Lynn explained that once we are incorporated, we will need to file annual statements of information at a cost of \$25.

Ray displayed the previously circulated draft Articles including some new changes proposed by Stu and Lynn B. During about 20 minutes of discussion, Ray revised the draft on the screen until a consensus was reached. He explained that item 6 is not from the Secretary of State's form, but it is included to establish our tax status. Lynn read from D21's amended articles of incorporation. A motion to authorize Ray to file the articles of incorporation as revised with the Secretary of State was unanimously approved.

Regarding our annual meeting and game, Norman reported that the church site isn't available in June, but July 27 is available, and that date was chosen. The schedule will be the same as usual, with a potluck meal before a game that will start around 1 PM.

Norman and Judy won't be available for a May 14 meeting. The Board generally favored meeting at the Garret.

Submitted by

--Ray Yuenger

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Board Regular Meeting

May 14, 2024 5:30 PM

In attendance: The U507 Board held a face-to-face meeting on May 14, 2024 at the Garret restaurant in Campbell. In attendance at the outset of the meeting were President Mich Ravera, Vice-President Mischel Postas, Secretary Ray Yuenger, Treasurer Karen O'Connell, Board members Stu Goodgold, Bruce Luttrell, Michael Fleisher, Norman Marks, Judy Fisher, Betsy Wagner, and Lynn Bartz, with guest Lynn Yokel.

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

Regarding candidates for Board positions, the Secretary reported that Doug Hong was not interested in continuing on the Board. Stu Goodgold announced that he has reconsidered and would like to continue serving. Mich reported that he has drafted Milind Girkar to serve on the Board, though he may be in India for some of our meetings. Because there are as many candidates as there are positions, no ballots will be provided or counted.

The monthly **financial report** was accepted with appreciation. Karen explained the nature of one payment from the ACBL as being table fees. Ray had a question about a stop payment refund. Karen explained that it seemed to be the result of a bank error.

Norman wasn't present to report on the recent sectional.

Stu reported that the ACBL recently decided that **non-life master sectionals** must be at least two sessions.

Stu reported that July 27 is the only available date at the church for our **membership meeting and game**. There was a lot of discussion about holding the game earlier in the day to avoid summer weather, as there is no air-conditioning in the church gym. There was also discussion about what food the Unit should provide, whether the members should be invited to bring potluck contributions, and whether we should look into different locations.

There was a seconded motion to move the startup time to 9:30 am. The Secretary reported the motion, but the restaurant was too loud for others to hear him. Lynn restated the motion. The motion failed, with four in favor and six against.

There was a seconded motion to eliminate the potluck and have the meal catered. An amendment was proposed that the unit would provide the main dishes, with pot luck desserts. (At least I think that was the amendment. Every time the amendment was stated, possibly four times, children were screaming over the speaker in the recording.) In any event, the amendment failed. The original motion also failed.

Mischel proposed that we ask the members at the meeting if they like potlucks. Mich said he would put the question on the agenda of the membership meeting.

Mischel reported that our **unit membership** is up to 507 members.

Ray reported that the California Secretary of State (“SoS”) had rejected his first attempt to **file articles of incorporation** for the unit using an online form. He planned to resubmit it in the form approved by the Board, with two changes suggested by the SoS.

Regarding the **spring sectional**, Mischel had questions about Unit 503’s invoice. Ray and Stu explained to her that Palo Alto charges \$16 a table for rent but also caps the total as \$800 a day if we have more tables than that. The cleaning fees showed cleaning on Thursday when we weren’t there, but Karen clarified that the charge should have been for Friday night, which had no charge. The Unit made about \$2,200.

Ray explained that there are two available **spring sectional** dates in May 2025. The Board was opposed to both dates, pointing out that one immediately preceded the Sacramento regional and the other was on Father’s Day. Ray was asked to see if earlier dates are available from the D21 tournament coordinator.

Bruce Luttrell explained the difficulties he had dealing boards two sectionals prior. Ray mentioned that most tournament coordinators do not take on that job.

Ray opposed the next meeting being in person due to the loudness of the venue. Mich said that the next meeting would be online.

Submitted by

--Ray Yuenger

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Board Regular Zoom Meeting

June 11, 2024 5:30 PM

In attendance: In attendance at the outset of the meeting were President Mich Ravera, Vice-President Mischel Postas, Secretary Ray Yuenger, Board members Stu Goodgold, Lynn Bartz, and Judy Fisher, with Board nominee Milind Girkar. Betsy Wagner joined around 5:55. Lynn departed around 6:10.

The **minutes** for May were approved as circulated. Ray mentioned, as stated in the minutes, that due to a screaming child near the meeting in a restaurant, it was impossible to hear the wording of a motion that ultimately failed, even though the motion was restated more than once.

Regarding the **treasurer's report**, in Karen's absence, Ray questioned a delayed payment from the last sectional apparently attributable to the director's delay in submitting the paperwork. The report was accepted.

The Board **ratified** an email vote to hold the spring 2025 sectional on March 21 through 23. Ray reported that he had applied for a sanction through Tourney Trax weeks earlier and hadn't seen a reply yet. Milind pointed out that those dates were during the spring NABC. Ray explained that the Board was aware of that and had not had any other viable options.

The Board **ratified** that there was no need for Board elections because there are exactly as many candidates as open positions. Mich welcomed Milind aboard.

Regarding **upcoming sectionals**, Ray reported that there was an approved sanction for the fall sectional. Stu asking about the starting times, and Ray and Lynn pointed out that a flyer had already been prepared and approved. Lynn pointed out the flyer was on the ACBL website and the playing times are 10 AM and 3 PM. Ray quoted from the minutes of April 9: "Regarding the fall sectional, we already have a sanction and a flyer and agreement with U503. Norman and Betsy suggested holding the afternoon session at 2:30." There was no motion made on the 9th to change the flyer. There was subsequent email discussion of the topic initiated by Norman's request on April 30, but there was no email vote to change the afternoon start time. Betsy reiterated that some people had complained about a 3 PM start time.

Betsy moved to change the **afternoon start time** for the spring sectional to 2:30. Ray moved that the motion be tabled until more Board members are in attendance. There was no second to tabling the motion. Mischel seconded Betsy's motion. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 2. Mich said he'd schedule another vote at the next meeting.

Regarding the **membership game**, Betsy asked to reconsider the start time to start at 10. Stu pointed out that such a request had been rejected at the last meeting. Mischel pointed out how hot the club was the previous week and that Lynn Bartz had ordered four fans. Betsy moved to reconsider the start time. Ray said he wouldn't attend a

game with a 9:30 AM setup. The motion to reconsider wasn't seconded. Many other start times were discussed.

Mich said he has Ace of Clubs certificates. Mischel said she'd order the mini-McKenney medallions. Ray said he'd send out the lists of winners if he hadn't already. Stu mentioned that we need to promote the membership game via blasts. Mich said he would include it in his monthly column. Lynn was off-screen for this discussion of sending out blasts.

An issue arose whether the limited section of the membership game should be offered for sign-ups by players under 750. There was a consensus that the section should be for under 500.

Mischel reported that the **membership total** is 501. Betsy asked for the names of the new members. She was told that the names are in the In-and-Out reports that Ray distributes every month. The new members were named.

Ray mentioned a **District 21 Board meeting** was scheduled for the following evening. He reviewed several topics for discussion, including needing recommendations for charities in the next few months.

Ray as **Unit Status Chair** mentioned that the Secretary of State had approved of the Unit's new Articles of Incorporation. He will be filing a Statement of Information with the State in 90 days. Ray said it is now time to hold a **Bylaws Committee** meeting. Mich announced that he was going to be out of the country during the next couple of weeks.

As to new business, Mich turned the gavel over to Mischel and proposed a resolution thanking Doug Hong for his years of service to the Unit. There was unanimous consent.

Mich resumed the position of the Chair. Mischel proposed **rescheduling** the next Board meeting because she and Karen would be unavailable on July 9. That is also true of Judy and Betsy. After discussing various options, the meeting was rescheduled to the 16th. Milind said he would be in Toronto then.

Ray moved that the Unit **reimburse** Lynn Bartz for purchasing four commercial-grade fans for the club game. In Lynn's absence, Mich determined there was still a quorum. Betsy moved that the Unit pay the normal and reasonable cost of four fans. Mischel seconded the motion. Ray displayed an Amazon picture of the fan and its cost of \$130. The motion passed 5-1.

The meeting was adjourned until July 16.

Submitted by

--Ray Yuenger

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Board Regular Zoom Meeting

July 16, 2024 5:30 PM

In attendance at the outset of the meeting were President Mich Ravera, Vice-President Mischel Postas, Secretary Ray Yuenger, Treasurer Karen O'Connell, Board members Stu Goodgold, Lynn Bartz, Judy Fisher, Bruce Luttrell, Betsy Wagner, Norman Marks, and Michael Fleisher. Milind Girkar, being at the Toronto NABC, appeared after the meeting ended. Michael left the meeting at 5:55. Mischel left the meeting at 6:00.

The first order of business was to **elect Board Officers** for the year. President Mich Ravera, Secretary Ray Yuenger, and Treasurer Karen O'Connell were all willing to continue in their positions. With no opponents, they were elected by the Board by unanimous consent. Stu Goodgold indicated interest in serving as Vice-President and Mischel Postas declined nomination. Stu was elected by unanimous consent.

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

The **financial report** was received. One large payment was noted as the proceeds of the recent sectional.

The Board agreed to ratify its email vote to **relocate the membership game** on July 27 to Room M50 at the Campbell Community Center.

Ray noted that the previously approved May minutes included an error in labeling a live meeting as a Zoom meeting and he asked to **correct the May minutes**. Stu asked about the amendability of a previously approved item. Ray explained that Robert's Rules, to which we aren't subject, does allow for majority approval of a motion to amend a previously approved item. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Regarding the upcoming **annual meeting and membership game**, Stu intends to visit the room to see how many bridge tables it will accommodate. Judy asked about how her signup could be deleted. People are still looking to accommodate a player's request for a partner. There was a consensus that coffee not be provided. Stu had given different Board members assignments to prepare for the game. Norman volunteered to bring water. Ray said he would send Mischel the Ace of Clubs winners. Lynn said she had spare large envelopes for mailing medallions and would bring them to Mischel at tomorrow's game. Karen said she will bring the utensils left over from the holiday party. Mich said he also has some utensils. Karen said she and Mischel will provide the paper goods. Gabi will be the director. Ray said he'll give Mich a list of all the Ace of Clubs and mini-McKenney winners.

Karen said she'll handle the food order. Stu proposed ordering only one barbecue item. Karen will try to order the right amount of food and will order two kinds of meat.

Regarding **sectionals**, Norman said the next two sectionals seem set. There has been no progress on arranging a limited sectional. Norman asked when the second session was scheduled for the fall sectional. Ray said that the published flyer says 3 PM. There

was some confusion about whether the Board had voted at the last meeting to change the start time to 2:30 for the spring or also the fall. The topic will be addressed in continuing business.

Ray reported that we might need to change the dates of the **spring sectional** because the landlord will be holding an event on the weekend we have secured. Marc Cervellino told Ray that if that's the case, U503 will give U507 its sanction for the following weekend.

Mischel reported on members' in and out status. Our **total membership** is 495. Betsy said that one of our new members is one of her students.

Norman discussed the **5-5-5 report** that he circulated by email and the nature of the three activities for which a unit can earn a bigger share of membership dues. Stu pointed out that it would actually work to a unit's benefit to tell members not to renew their ACBL memberships until they fall into the "at-risk" category. One way to earn credit is simply contacting members listed by the ACBL as at risk. Norman said we can do better at recruitment. Ray noted that the at risk link wasn't in Norman's email. Norman said he would send the link out.

Betsy and Stu each described **social bridge groups** they are aware of. Lynn said that she is working with a small group of players weekly at her house. She has also applied to teach bridge at the Campbell Community Center.

Norman mentioned that we are still losing people to U503. Judy noted that they offer so much more than we do. Norman suggested that we should get a second game going. Betsy pointed out that San Jose has a reputation for being unfriendly. Betsy didn't want to name names, but Norman said we should learn the names and talk to the Wednesday directors about the situation. Judy said that it's up to the directors to set the tone of the game, including telling players not to issue rulings at the game. Mich said that when he was directing, a player told him not to call the round. Judy said that she would contact the directors about the issue.

Stu mentioned that the **ACBL Board** was imminently deciding that the Charity Foundation will become a separate organization.

Ray said that **District 21** is soliciting charity nominations from units.

For the Unit status committee, Ray noted that U507 had actually filed articles of incorporation with the California Secretary of State so that U507 could notify the IRS of a name change, so that U507 could open a bank account with an IRS-recognized name. So more work remains to be done.

Ray has yet to schedule a **Bylaws Committee** meeting.

As **continuing business**, the Board was asked to reconsider the start time for the second sessions of the spring sectional, which passed at the last meeting without many members voting. Norman suggested changing the start time for the fall as well, even

though the flyer has been published on the ACBL website. Betsy restated the position that a number of people have complained about the 3 PM start. Lynn suggested surveying the members. Mich suggested that a Board member could poll people at the fall sectional. Norman moved that the players be polled at the upcoming membership game. Mich seconded the motion.

Before leaving the meeting, Michael had mentioned that if we hadn't found another local site for the membership game, it should have been held at the Palo Alto club. Ray restated his request as continuing business. Norman said he and Michael are diametrically opposed on this topic. Lynn said she views the playing site as an IFES site. It doesn't threaten our Unit to have events outside the Unit. Stu said that Mountain View is geographically in U503. Ray asked if this means U507 should stop holding sectionals in the Palo Alto Bridge Center. Norman said there is no good alternative to holding sectionals there. No motion was made.

Mich asked that people should tell him soon if they wanted information included in his **next Presidential message**. Ray asked if the Board had any advice for Mich about congratulating non-member partners of U507 players. There was no advice. Mich said that Ray may proofread his column as he sees fit.

Submitted by

--Ray Yuenger

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Board Regular Zoom Meeting

August 13, 2024 5:30 PM

In attendance at the outset of the meeting were President Mich Ravera, Vice-President Stu Goodgold, Secretary Ray Yuenger, Treasurer Karen O'Connell, Board members Mischel Postas, Lynn Bartz, Milind Girkar, Judy Fisher, Norman Marks, Michael Fleisher, and guest Lynn Yokel. Betsy Wagner arrived at 5:36.

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

Regarding the **financial report**, Milind had asked a question by email and Karen had responded by email and did not want to elaborate. Karen's email had solicited comments by other Board members. In the future, Karen may make a change that Norman had recommended to her privately.

An **advance consent** item was to ratify the email vote increasing the pay for directing the unit membership game to \$250. Stu noted that the Board just recently voted to increase the director's pay to \$200. Lynn Y added that the club directors make \$200 per game. Stu said he didn't recall that the email motion was for a permanent change. Ray read back the email motion, noting it wasn't limited to the membership game only.

Regarding **sectionals**, Norman said there was no news. Ray reported that we have to reschedule the spring sectional because the landlord needs the facility on our scheduled weekend. Mark Cervellino on behalf of U503 and U507 had written the D21 tournament coordinator saying U503 is willing to cede the following weekend for U507's sectional. Ray will contact the coordinator to see if a new sanction application is necessary.

Mischel reported on **membership changes**, resulting in a membership of 493.

Ray reported that at a recent meeting of the **District 21 Board**, there was some preliminary discussion about reorganizing the 21 Units in the District into five areas for purposes of electing directors to a smaller D21 Board. Ray reminded people that D21 has been soliciting charity nominations. Norman mentioned Second Harvest. Ray said it was already on the list.

From the **Unit status committee**, Ray said he hadn't yet contacted the IRs about submitting a name change. No **Bylaws committee** meeting has been scheduled yet.

There was discussion of the recent **membership meeting** and game and whether the mirrors in the new room were a problem. Stu said the Roosevelt room is easier to set up and take down. Mischel said the Roosevelt access is sometimes impeded. Roosevelt costs \$50 more than M-50. Access to restrooms was discussed. Everyone agreed and **the Board ordered** that future advertising should say whether or not we are providing coffee.

Regarding **5/5/5 recruitment**, Norman said there was nothing new. Mischel mentioned that Gabi had invited three tables of beginners to play in the club game the next day at no charge and Gabi is making name tags and special food for them. Mischel suggested that the Unit help her financially. Judy said that she had organized the beginner game and has other people interested in doing it, and Betsy and Anne W had helped organize it and find people. Gabi intends to charge half-price after the first game. Betsy said Gabi seems happy to do it without financial assistance.

Lynn Bartz described her efforts in setting up a **shuffle and deal class** at the Campbell Community Center or another community center. Insurance for two years is required by the Community Center. Betsy suggested that the Unit should pay the insurance.

Michael brought up that if we want new people at the club, we need to work on players not misbehaving in the open game. Ray mentioned that the Unit used to have an Intermediate-Novice liaison. New unit members were sent free play certificates. The Unit reimbursed directors who turned them in. Lynn Y confirmed that the directors pay sanction fees for each table, but she said the fees are small and not of concern.

Milind asked if **online recruitment** had been attempted. Ray said Lynn Y used to run all kinds of online games at the beginning of the pandemic, including limited games. Stu said that generally it has not proved successful. Betsy mentioned that the ACBL has a series of beginner games. Ray said the ACBL has a ClubHouse on BBO for beginning players.

There was a proposal to send new members **free play certificates**. Lynn B said free plays aren't consequential if players come to the open game. Lynn Y said we should focus on free plays to participants in a 0-20 game. Judy said 20 is too high. Lynn Y said 0-5 is better. Ray displayed the old free play certificate and crashed out of the Zoom meeting to return. Milind mentioned that under 5 masterpoints can play online for free. Betsy suggested at least three free play certificates. Mich said he assumed the limited game might be 0-50 or even 0-500. Lynn Yokel said it is going to be a 0-20 game. Lynn B volunteered to modify the form Ray had displayed and bring some to tomorrow's game. Ray moved that all the 0-20 players tomorrow receive free play certificates for future games, and the Unit will reimburse the directors when they turn in the certificates. It was seconded. Norman suggested that free plays also be offered to returning players. Lynn Y said the charge is likely to be \$5. Betsy asked about handing out more than one certificate. **The motion as seconded passed unanimously.**

Norman asked what will happen going forward. Judy said the future still needs to be arranged with the players. Betsy moved to authorize the directors to issue free plays in the upcoming weeks. Ray mentioned from the latest roster that U507 has 77 players under 5 masterpoints and 118 under 20. Norman moved to authorize the directors to use their discretion as to who receives free play certificates. Mich restated Betsy's motion as authorizing the directors to issue free play certificates to players in the limited game for the next month. Ray asked if the same player could get a certificate every

week. The response was that a new player will only receive one certificate. Mich added to the pending motion that only first time players in the limited game are eligible. In chat, Ray restated the motion to be: "Each first time player in the limited section may be issued a free play certificate by the Wednesday directors." Mich added that this will apply until the next Board meeting. The motion was seconded. **The motion as amended passed unanimously.**

Mich reported that when he asked for an advisory vote at the membership meeting about the **start time for the second session** of our sectionals about two-thirds of the members favored 2:30 over 3:00 PM. Norman moved that the change be implemented beginning with the fall sectional. Mischel seconded the motion. There were six votes in favor and two opposed, so **the motion passed**. Lynn B said she'd change the flyer accordingly.

As to **new business**, Norman moved that the Unit buy the Board members **name tags** and that the Board require its members to wear the name tags during the Wednesday games. Betsy mentioned that U524 buys each new member a name with U524 on it and maybe U507 should do the same and include new members in the past year. Mich asked how much a unit gets from membership dues. Stu said it is between \$2.50 and \$17.00. Mich had researched the tags at the 7NT site and found prices from \$4 to \$11 and \$5 for shipping. Ray said that as D21 Secretary he purchases officer name tags for \$11. Mischel asked if everyone would wear one. Ray said he sometimes wears one of his name tags and sometimes doesn't. Lynn B said she doesn't need a new badge and will wear her D21 tag. Ray asked if the idea wasn't to identify Board members as Board members and the response was "no." Stu moved to **table the motion** due to the lateness of the discussion. The motion to table was seconded and approved.

Regarding a possible **new playing site**, Mischel reported that she and Ray and Gabi (and Karen separately) had viewed a possible site at the West Coast Presbyterian church. It has some desirable features, like air conditioning and plenty of parking, but due to a regular yoga class, the game would have to start at noon. Gabi intends to ask the players at tomorrow's game if they would be willing to start an hour later. Gabi had proposed what rent she could afford and the terms are subject to negotiation. Betsy mentioned that she and Judy are teaching at 3 pm, so a later game won't work for them.

Norman mentioned he has also found a possible site, the United Methodist Church in Japantown, but he doesn't know if it's available yet.

There was agreement that the **next meeting** will be face-to-face on September 10 at the Garret Station.

Submitted by

--Ray Yuenger

Minutes ACBL Unit 507 Board Regular Meeting

September 10, 2024 5:30 PM

In attendance at the outset of the meeting at the Garret Station were President Mich Ravera, Vice-President Stu Goodgold, Secretary Ray Yuenger, Treasurer Karen O'Connell, Board members Milind Girkar, Mischel Postas, Lynn Bartz, Judy Fisher, Norman Marks, Michael Fleisher, and Betsy Wagner.

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

Regarding the **financial report**, it was accepted. Milind said his email question had been answered.

A **sectional report** had been written and distributed. Ray said there was a pending sanction request for a new weekend in April, 4-6. There are no plans for a limited sectional.

Mischel reported on **membership changes**, with a total for the month of 497.

The **Santa Clara regional** table count was up 10%. Lynn reported that as D21 Treasurer she hadn't yet seen the hotel bill and one expense report. We might be paying a \$3,000 penalty for a room shortfall.

Mich reported the GNT stratifications are changing.

Ray reported that he hadn't yet attempted a Unit name change with the IRS and he hadn't yet scheduled a Bylaws Committee meeting.

There was a discussion about ordering **name badges** for board members. Mischel and Karen said they already ordered their own. Betsy suggested that we should be buying name tags for new players and said that she has gone ahead and ordered some for people who have just joined the ACBL. It's going to say their name and where they live, but not the Unit number. Mischel is putting Silicon Valley Unit 507 on hers.

Norman proposed that Board members have badges identifying ourselves as U507 Board members while playing in the Wednesday game. Lynn said that the new people are playing in a separate game and that wearing a badge won't make someone friendly. Stu said that new players don't care who is on the Unit Board. There was a lot of discussion about what should be on the badge. Betsy mentioned the Unit buy them if we are supposed to wear them. Lynn pointed out all the ordering options. Ray reported the motion as being that the Unit members will buy the Board members name tags that identify us as Board members and we are requested to wear them at our club games. Mich volunteered to collect the orders. The motion passed by a vote of 6 to 4.

Another topic was **free plays** for retaining members. Lynn Bartz reported that Lynn Yokel said she's going to let everyone play for free with or without certificates from the Unit.

Ray opposed having future live meetings in loud venues.

Norman reported that some players had complained that others were playing too seriously.

October 8 was proposed as the next meeting. Betsy said she wouldn't be around. Stu pointed out that it conflicts with the Reno/Sparks regional. Betsy said that the 8th is fine.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by

--Ray Yuenger

Minutes of Regular Zoom Meeting of ACBL Unit 507 Board

October 8, 2024 5:30 PM

In attendance at the outset of the virtual meeting were President Mich Ravera, Vice-President Stu Goodgold, Secretary Ray Yuenger, Treasurer Karen O'Connell, Board members Mischel Postas, Lynn Bartz, Judy Fisher, Norman Marks, Michael Fleisher, and Milind Girkar.

The **minutes** were approved as circulated after making four deletions proposed by Norman, Stu, Michael Fleisher, and Ray.

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

Regarding the **fall sectional**, Norman said we are in good shape. Boards, caddying, and lunch have been arranged. Ray said he brought flyers to the Santa Clara regional. There were no volunteers to handle partnerships for Friday and Saturday.

Regarding the **spring sectional**, we have approved dates. Ray explained that we exchanged dates with Palo Alto because the landlord is using the facility on one of our original dates. Lynn said she is still working on the spring flyer and she needed the dates. She said she'd circulate a draft to the Board.

Mischel announced that our **Unit membership** is now 496. Bob Ritz's passing was noted. Ray said the Board has no one sending condolences like we used to have.

Norman noted that Ray had updated the **website's** descriptions of Board members.

Norman proposed duties for a **membership chair** including greeting new members and sending sympathy cards. Michael seconded the motion. Mischel said she is not willing to greet new members. Lynn said this person should also notify the ACBL of deaths. Ray pointed out that the ACBL's Unit President's handbook includes a description of the position of membership chair. Ray moved to table the motion until next month when we can decide whether to adopt the ACBL's description of a membership chair's duties. The motion was seconded and it passed.

Mich said that he routinely greets new members in his monthly column, but as new members they may not be receiving his column right away. Milind confirmed that was the case as to members he'd recruited.

Mich said he'd send greetings to our four new members. Mischel said she'd send sympathy cards for Bob, Pat Hannah, and Betty DePaolo.

Norman talked about the **555 program**. He had spoken with Bronia Jenkins again. She confirmed that the numbers reported in Karen's financial reports are accurate. We should be paid within the week. We are up in recruiting but down in retention. Across the ACBL, the new version of the program is paying units less than the old version. The ACBL is studying the situation. The ACBL was withholding payments under \$1,000 and

that amount has dropped to \$250. We are getting 11% and could go to 15% with better recruiting, which includes retention. We will probably never get to 15.

No one recognized the names that Mich had circulated involving temporary or guest memberships.

From **District 21**, Ray mentioned that five charities had been recommended to the ACBL Charity Foundation. A D21 newsletter will be coming out soon. There have been discussions about how to downsize the District Board of Directors. The D21 Bylaws Committee sent out a survey to obtain guidance. Ray said if we downsize, some of the 21 units won't have representatives. There have been some survey responses already, while other Board members wanted the opportunity to speak with their unit boards. One proposal is to group 21 units into five areas.

Mich asked for nominations for **District Goodwill awards**.

Lynn reported that the Hyatt Hotel forgave D21 a \$4,000 penalty for its shortfall on its room commitment because D21 entered a contract for 2025 by the end of September. Ray said that D21 had fallen about eight rooms short. Ray said that the room commitment for 2025 is nine fewer rooms. The hotel also forgave a shortfall last year.

Stu mentioned that at the **national level**, GNT and NAP now have congruent flights.

Ray reported status quo regarding the **Bylaws Committee**. The Unit's articles of incorporation were filed and approved.

Mich solicited information for his **monthly column**.

Regarding a **holiday party**, it has worked out for us to hold it early and late. Mischel proposed January 18. It was seconded. The motion was approved. Milind pointed out a conflict with the San Francisco sectional. Mischel proposed January 25. Norman will contact the church. We agreed to hold it at the usual times.

For the next meeting, the 12th was a problem for three members. We agreed to hold it on the 5th, election night.

Submitted by

--Ray Yuenger

Minutes of Regular Zoom Meeting of ACBL Unit 507 Board

November 5, 2024 5:30 PM

In attendance at the outset of the virtual meeting were President Mich Ravera, Vice-President Stu Goodgold, Secretary Ray Yuenger, Treasurer Karen O'Connell, Board members Mischel Postas, Lynn Bartz, Judy Fisher, Norman Marks, Michael Fleisher, and Milind Girkar, and guest Lynn Yokel. Betsy Wagner arrived at 5:34.

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

The **financial report** was received with corrections and an update to the sectional report circulated shortly before the meeting. Karen explained that the preparation of the report was delayed because she had COVID. Our profit on the sectional was \$981. Lynn Bartz and Ray Yuenger both printed flyers at home and declined reimbursement. Norman asked the Board to thank Karen for her efforts while sick and Mich so ordered.

Michael Fleisher paid Will Watson \$300 on behalf of U507 for **making the boards** for the sectional. Will said the cost was a little less. Norman explained that he usually pays Will a little over his rates as thanks.

There were three **consent items**. The first was the vote to hold the holiday party at the church on January 18 opposite the San Francisco sectional. Mich said there were six in favor and three opposed with three abstentions. Mischel pointed out that the church has no heating and it has been freezing on Wednesday mornings. Mischel suggested that we should look for an alternative. Norman said that the church is getting bids for heating and he expects it will be heated by the holiday party. Mich said that the discussion was out of order. Ray agreed the email vote was as reported. Mich's tabulation of the vote will be incorporated in the minutes as though read at the meeting.

The second consent item involved Stu chairing the meeting so Mich could ask for unanimous consent to include his **vote tabulations** sheet into the minutes as though it had been read. It was unopposed.

The third consent item was approval of the **spring sectional flyer**. Michael said that he received a question about lunch being available at our recent fall sectional. He didn't know and he called Ray who didn't know. At the meeting Ray said that the flyer on our website said lunch will be provided. Norman said that the plan with Trish is to have lunch available for the spring sectional. Lynn said the flyer will say so.

The **spring sectional** was the next topic. Stu mentioned that we need to have the flyers available at the Monterey Regional. Lynn Yokel said she'd bring copies to the regional if someone provides them to her.

Regarding the recent **fall sectional**, Stu mentioned that attendance was down about 20%. He suggested that a reason was fatigue because our sectional was the third of three consecutive sectionals in the same location. Mischel said there wasn't enough promotion. Lynn said she forgot. Michael pointed out it's hard to survey people who didn't attend to learn their reasons. Responding to Mich's question, Ray said one can't tell from the D21 website what the schedule is for other sectionals near our spring sectional. Norman pointed out that U503 has told us that they will reduce their variable costs so we won't lose money renting their club.

Milind pointed out that on the ACBL website, which is linked on the D21 website, there are more sectionals listed in April. Norman suggested we need to work with Marc Cervellino to make sure U503 publicizes our sectionals at their location.

Mischel reported that U507 now has **501 members**. Regarding retention and recruitment, Norman explained that we have no new at-risk members, suggesting that everyone has renewed their memberships on time. In January we'll learn what the resulting payments will be.

From **District 21**, D21 Secretary Ray said that a D21 newsletter had recently been sent out. A 2025 budget meeting is scheduled for November 20. Ray mentioned that Mich had distributed a color-coded proposal for organizing D21 for purposes of electing board members into five areas. Mich noted that U503 and U507 are in different areas. Ray explained that one goal of the area groupings was to have roughly equal memberships in each area, and combining our units would overbalance one area. Ray said that reorganizing D21 will be a lengthy process, so immediate feedback from Board members isn't necessary. Stu asked for a straw poll about the reorganization of the D21 Board, but his request wasn't seconded.

From the ACBL, Mich noted that one big change was to the **Code of Disciplinary Regulations** as Ray had explained in an article on the BridgeWinners website.

Also from **D21**, D21 Treasurer Lynn Bartz reported that the latest Sparks/Reno regional, which is usually about a break-even event for D21, made about \$8,000. Attendance was up 25% from Sparks two years ago and up 60% from the Table Mountain Regional. The Reno Unit did a lot to encourage local attendance. Stu pointed out that some attendance was also blown into Sparks by a hurricane that halted the concurrent Tampa, Florida regional.

Regarding the **Bylaws Committee**, Ray reported that there was a very productive meeting where changes were proposed to the first half of the Bylaws. Ray has to write up the meeting notes on proposed changes, and with one more meeting, the Committee might have some proposals ready for the Board.

Karen proposed that Norman be thanked for his work on the fall sectional and without objection it was so ordered.

Regarding the **holiday party**, Mich said he'd mention it in three columns before it occurs.

Ray moved to remove from the table the discussion of the job description of the **Membership chair**. The motion passed. Mich had distributed a more current pamphlet ACBL Membership Chair handbook. Ray said the question is whether U507 wants to adopt the ACBL's job description or make up our own. Norman said the question is whether we can find a volunteer for the position, and if we can, that person should propose their own duties. There were no volunteers. Mich said he'd look for a volunteer.

As to contents for Mich's **monthly column**, Norman proposed the success of the newcomer game on Wednesday mornings thanks to Betsy and Judy. Lynn Bartz said we should consider newcomer games at our sectional. Norman also proposed mentioned the successes in the Youth NABC.

For **new business**, Judy proposed that the Unit should acquire a public address system so the Wednesday directors don't have to shout to be heard. Mich had researched it and found one for \$54. His wife uses one. Judy and Mich described it being very portable. Ray asked if the directors wanted one. Judy said that Gabi was interested. Lynn Y said she supported what Gabi wanted. Mich described the features. Norman said he uses such things all the time and it's easy to forget you have it. Lynn B volunteered to bring one to the club. Mischel moved to purchase one. The motion passed without objection.

The next meeting was scheduled for December 10, 2024. Lynn B said she won't be available. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by

Ray Yuenger

Minutes of Regular Zoom Meeting of ACBL Unit 507 Board

December 10, 2024 5:30 PM

In attendance at the virtual meeting were President Mich Ravera, Vice-President Stu Goodgold, Secretary Ray Yuenger, Treasurer Karen O'Connell, Board members Mischel Postas, Michael Fleisher, and Milind Girkar. Lynn Bartz did not attend from England.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as circulated with one change. Mich pointed out that the minutes did not include the tabulations of a vote regarding the holiday party, though a consent item added the tabulation to the minutes as though read. Ray said he would include the tabulation in the official minutes.

The **financial report** was accepted with thanks.

Regarding the **spring sectional**, Ray was surprised to learn from a player's inquiry that the flyer did not appear on the ACBL tournament website. Ray recalled that the flyer was approved at the last Board meeting with one change to be made by Lynn Bartz. Lynn made the change and sent the flyer to Ray, who sent it to the ACBL during the recent NABC, but it hadn't been posted on the ACBL website the last he had checked. Mich mentioned there were plans to bring flyers to the Monterey regional. Ray didn't know if Lynn had sent out a Pianola announcement about the spring sectional yet.

Ray said he was unaware of any planning for the **fall sectional** yet. Mich said it had not been on the agenda.

Mischel reported that the current U507 **membership total** is 500.

Ray reported that **District 21** held a recent budget meeting and passed its budgets for 2025. Of most interest to U507 is probably that D21 is now providing free access to **Pianola Marketing Services** to all Units in D21, which allows Units to publicize their sectionals and other special events. While the immediate purchase of Pianola credits was not part of the D21 2025 budget, the D21 Executive Committee after the budget meeting voted to authorize the purchase so Units could begin promoting sectionals right away. Ray said he'd talk to Lynn Bartz about whether this new service would eliminate the need for U507 to have its own contract with Pianola, for which we are paying a semiannual fee. Karen confirmed that U507 is no longer sharing the cost of Pianola with the club game directors. Ray explained the two methods available for broadcasting messages in Marketing Services. Units will control who has the access code to Marketing Services.

Ray also mentioned that the new service allows for formatting messages in Rich Text Format, which could solve the problems in some of our blasts about the hyperlinks for sign-ups not working. Mich said that he might need to compose his monthly messages in RTF.

Regarding the **Unit Status committee**, Ray said there is nothing more for the committee to do. We need to get D21 to correctly identify U507 in its tax filing on the Unit's behalf to the IRS. Regarding the **Bylaws Committee**, Ray still needs to write up the minutes of the last meeting before there is a next committee meeting.

Regarding the January 18 **holiday party**, Stu announced that the church site now has heat. Mischel has volunteered to take over from Karen in arranging for the food for the holiday party. Mischel wants to talk to Buca di Beppo. Stu pointed out that means no potluck as we usually have done. Mischel pointed out that Unit 503 is having a holiday party where everyone is invited and there is no charge.

Mich suggested that people could bring desserts. There was discussion about who wanted another potluck and who on the board would be attending. It sounded like almost everyone present will be attending. Michael does not like the venue selection. Karen pointed out that contributions to the last potluck were uninspired.

Mischel said the cost could be \$21 per person. She will get a quote and tell Mich in time for his monthly column.

Stu asked whether we should charge table fees if we are having the meal catered. After discussion, there was a consensus that the format will be catered with people bringing drinks and desserts and table fees of \$10 will be charged. That was the order of the Board.

Stu will contact Will about directing.

Stu said we need to send out a blast promoting the party. Ray said Lynn would be back from a trip on Saturday.

No potential **membership chair** has been identified.

Mich asked for suggestions for his **monthly column**. Ray said to mention Michael Bodell.

As **new business**, Stu described a new ACBL program to raise money for hurricane relief in the southeast called Gold for Good. For the next two weeks, if you sign up and pay \$30, you can win gold by playing in club games.

The meeting was adjourned after 35 minutes with the next meeting scheduled for January 14, 2025.

Submitted by

Ray Yuenger