

**Unit 547 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, May 19,2026**  
**Temple Beth Torah**

Board Members Present: Bunny Raymond, Kay Mendel, Suzanne Brenner, Jim Wall, Gerri Knilans, Gary Ansok, and Buki Burke.

Absent: Raeann Koerner, Craig Kavin and Ray Tsukuki

Guest: Sue Houk and Mark Eckhout

The meeting was called to order by Bunny Raymond at 10:35 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes** - A motion was made by Gerri Knilans to approve the minutes from May 8, 2026 and 2nd by Kay Mendel , M/S/A.

**Treasurer Report - Kay Mendel**

Prior to the meeting Kay sent the board her report for consideration:

**Monthly Income and Expense:**

We had a loss of \$9377. This is due to \$2733 rent deposit paid for Strawberry Tournament plus \$2733 rent deposit paid for Harvest Tournament and our purchase of an additional eight side tables for \$291. In addition to these three big items we paid our annual property tax to TBT of \$4703. To cover these expenditures I transferred \$10,000 from our CD to our checking account, reducing our CD to \$30,000.

The property taxes increased \$125 over last year.

**Note:** In accordance with our TBT contract our monthly rent will increase on July 1 from \$840 to \$865.

**TBT Detail:**

We had a gain of \$164.

A motion was made by Suzanne Brenner to accept the Treasurer Report as presented, 2nd by Gerri Knilans, M/S/A.

**Director Liaison Report - Gary Ansok**

Gary shared that Aaron Zaidoff is interested in becoming a director, and Gary shared with him the information about the necessary process with the ACBL.

Gary confirmed that Jeff Goldberg is willing to direct one Saturday a month for

our club.

Gary did ask if we would be holding a game on Saturday, July 4th. Without verification from Mark about the facility, the board decided that we would not pursue having a game on that day.

Gary shared that he was working on replacing boards and cards that are damaged.

We discussed Mark's report that stated that PVRD requested that we change our start time on Saturday's to 10:00am. After discussion, it was decided that we will remain with the start time of 11:00am, since that is the time that is currently printed on our brochures that have been distributed.

We discussed enforcing directors using a time on a clock during our games, and though that is something we would like to do, we currently have equipment limitations to make that happen at this time.

Bunny asked Gary how he felt the Saturday was going and if he needed anything from the board to support him in any way. Gary confirmed that the larger space was definitely an advantage if we had a group larger than what the library could hold. It was discussed that having a sign near the coffee to indicate that lids on cups are required would be helpful.

### **Club Manager's Report - Jim Wall**

Prior to the meeting Jim sent the board:

May's Attendance Report

The Club Playbook Meeting Recap from ACBL

The Current Week Satisfaction Report - our club was mentioned in the Game Spotlight Notable "Redz" section for 5-11-26 / 5-16-26.

There was discussion regarding the impact on attendance during our weekly games due to the introduction of a Saturday game. There is no clear answer at this time. There has been a reduction in our Thursday game attendance, but it is unknown if this is coming from the Limited game or the Open game. Wednesday's limited game has been reduced. Some players are playing now in the Open game and some have changed the day they play on.

It was suggested that we should be reaching out to members that have not

been attending games, be contacted to find out why and encourage their attendance.

It was suggested that someone should reach out to the directors at the Goebel Center and the Agoura games to advertise our Saturday game.

It was shared that Richard Fox had shared information with Leisure Village about the game.

Bunny shared that Sally Wright was going to check with the administration at The Grove about possibly holding games at that location. She also said that she was willing to go with her to investigate.

## **Old/Continuing Business**

### **Communication with Members/Non-members**

Bunny shared that after repeated attempts to correct email issues with the ACBL, that the problem of members not receiving emails is still occurring. It was suggested that possibly Bunny could reach out to Jim Munday, someone Craig may be able to connect Bunny with to assist.

Bunny also shared that the lists created by Bob Gruber have been effective in reaching the membership. It was decided that utilizing both methods to reach our members, Bob's lists and the Pianola is what we should continue utilizing at this time.

### **Saturday Game**

There was discussion regarding what the break even cost point would be and if using the Multipurpose Room 3 Saturday's and Room 6 for one day a month would be at 16 tables. We would need 10 tables in the library room, which is not physically possible, to break even.

We did discuss the possibility of having a team game at the Saturday game, but decided not to proceed at this time.

It was clarified that the Saturday game in Camarillo is still in fact a game part of our Ventura Club.

There was a letter given to the board to consider making the game a Senior Only game, with the thought that it would mean that we would incur no costs

using the Senior Facility at PVRD. That is not our understanding and said that further investigation should occur.

## **New Business**

### **Strawberry Tournament - Mark**

Prior to the meeting Mark shared the following report:

As of 5:00 pm, Monday, May 18th, pre-registration is at 55% of the Auditorium capacity. 28/23/30/29 tables at each session. 50 tables is Max.

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All of the work areas are well covered by our veteran volunteers.

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I am waiting for PVRPD to tell me how many tables over 36 are available. They know this is a critical item for us. I will know this week.

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The checklist is in progress. It will be completed after the Sectional.

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It will be a notebook.

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ACBL has a detailed procedure for executing a Sectional. It will be included.

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There will be a high level checklist of the major work areas - as experienced by VUBC.

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Each work area will have a description of the work that needs to be accomplished.

Bunny asked Mark if he needed anything by way of support from the board. Mark indicated that all is well at this point in time. Sue Houk also indicated that she is prepared for the event as well. The board suggested that she could send out an email to ask for specific assistance to set-up and clean-up in the kitchen/food area.

There was a question as to what the break-even cost point for the Tournament/ per table; but this is not specifically known at this time. Last year a profit was made and it is anticipated that with the same number of tables we would not have a profit due to the increased costs for directors.

### **Saturday Game discussion continued:**

After further discussion, and with the understanding of the break-even points and

costs, we would like to return to using the Library area at PVRD and limit the number of tables to 6 using reservations only to participate beginning June 6th.

In order for us to continue to have a Saturday game the board discussed that a new location would probably be necessary. The sites we had discussed on May 8th were the Goebel Center in Thousand Oaks, the Freedom Center in Camarillo, and the Conejo Valley Adult Center where Diane Gunther teaches her bridge classes currently. At the May 8th meeting Mark said he would review his notes and make any necessary contact for additional information. Mark is reviewing his notes, and has not investigated any new sites at this time.

### **Mini-MCKinney and Ace of Clubs Presentation-**

Buki will contact Raeann to confirm who the members are that will receive the awards and then contact them to make sure they are aware of the presentation and that they will be able to play free on that day.

It was agreed that the membership would be notified of the voting that will take place that day regarding the start time for our games on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If a member is not able to attend the meeting they will be able to vote by contacting Suzanne Brenner by June 4, 2026. The safety information will also be shared at the meeting.

### **Time of Game Survey/Vote**

Suzanne will prepare the information for the membership and have it at the game on 6/3/26.

If game times do change, this will go into effect on July 1, 2026.

### **Next Board Meeting**

Will be on June 9, at 11:00am.

### **Hospitality Chair**

We do not have a chair currently, and no new information to provide.

### **Birthday Celebrations**

It was decided that we will not continue with the monthly birthday celebrations at this time.

## **Ice Cream Social**

This will be held on Thursday, July 23rd and Susan will hostess the event.

## **Honoring Stan**

It was agreed that we think having a memorial game and a time before the game where members could have an opportunity to speak about Stan would be ideal, as well as having treats that honor him - cheesecake was suggested.

Suzanne will contact his nephew to see if anyone in the family might be interested and available to participate, and schedule based on their availability.

## **Pianola summary:**

What needs to be announced:

The Strawberry Tournament and requests for assistance for the event

The Saturday Game - time, location, and that reservations are required and table limitations

June 3rd Award Day and Voting for game start times

Vice President, Bunny Raymond, adjourned the meeting at 12:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Suzanne Brenner, Secretary.

