Unit 547 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 15, 2026
Temple Beth Torah

Board Members Present: Buki Burke, Kay Mendel, Suzanne Brenner, Jim Wall, Gerri Knilans, Gary Ansok, Ray Tsukuki, and Katarina Berbaum.

Absent Members: Raeann Koerner, Carol Haverty, and Craig Kavin

Guests: Sue Houk and Mark Eckhout

The meeting was called to order by Buki Burke at 10:43 a.m.

Approval of Minutes - A motion was made by Kay Mendel to approve the minutes from August 18, 2026 and 2nd by Gerri Knilans, M/S/A.

Treasurer Report - Kay Mendel

Prior to our meeting, Kay sent the board the August Treasurer report:

Monthly Income and Expense:

We had a gain for the month of $1,748. This reduces our loss for the year through 8/31 to $6,222.

Note that our YTD table count of 1303 compared to 1309 tables at this time last year.

Also, the issue of the possible credit for unused Saturdays rent in Camarillo is still unresolved.

TBT Detail:

We had a loss for the month of $125. Please note that our ACBL fees were unusually high in August due to the STaC games.

She also enclosed the check register YTD to review.

A motion was made to approve the August Treasurer Report with the discussed table revisions by Suzanne Brenner, 2nd by Jim Wall , M/S/A.

There was discussion regarding the lack of a resolution with PVRD regarding

our credit/bill due to the ending of our Saturday game. We table the conversation to be held once Mark arrived.

Club Manager's Report - Jim Wall

Prior to the meeting Jim sent the board:

The August Attendance Report

A copy of "What our New Members Are Up To" report from the ACBL: referred to as the Sapphire Program, Celebrate First Steps.

Jim stated that our table count is lower than this time last year.

Jim has not been trained at this time to be able to send out Pianola's which had been discussed at our August meeting.

Director Liaison Report - Gary Ansok

Gary announced that Paul Markovitz, from the Santa Barbara Club who plays at our club, may be willing to assist with our needs for additional directors.

There is no new status regarding Aaron in regards to directing.

Gary shared that we are in need of a new set of boards for our use in tournaments. Suzanne Brenner made a motion to allow Gary to purchase what he needs, and 2nd by Jim Wall, M/S/A. Gary estimated the cost to be approximately $100.00.

Old/Continuing Business

Progress Report from the New Members Committee - Ray

Grant Program - Ray shared information that had been prepared by Carol Haverty for the organization of the program. It is not known at this time when the program will be open for us to apply. Carol, Ray and Raeann have planned to look further into what we need to do to participate.

Carol had also created a welcoming letter that could be given to an individual when they first begin to attend one of our classes. Ray will

send a copy via email to the board for review.

Social Media - Ray is looking for someone with technical experience- focusing on Facebook and/or other social media sites - to work with Ray to establish our club on social media. It was agreed that possibly he can make that request at our games during announcements in hope of finding someone that might be interested.

Fall Harvest Festival

Mark shared that at the time of our meeting, that registration for the tournament is lower than expected, but is hopeful that will still increase. He did express frustration that a Pianola had not been sent out this week, and shared that he had specifically asked previously that more than one person needed to be able to send out Pianola's so that coverage would be guaranteed if necessary. He had sent out an email to a list that he put together for individuals that have participated in the past, but he definitely preferred the option of sending out a Pianola. It was decided that Buki would attempt to contact Raeann to see if she might have success in doing so while she is out of town. Another suggestion was to contact the Santa Barbara club to see if they could send a Pianola on our behalf.

Mark confirmed that there has been no further discussion with PVRD regarding our purchase and gifting of tables to PVRD for some type of monetary compensation for our use of their facilities. And that he is continuing to pursue with PVRD a final determination regarding our credit/bill from the Saturday games.

It was determined that copies of the restaurant list are still needed for the tournament.

Mark shared that he will purchase the pumpkin pies from Costco- 10 pies was determined to be sufficient due to a grid plan created by Susan Lang.

Sue Houk will work with Kay regarding the shopping list for the event.

Mark is working with Lamya regarding the Halloween Regional for volunteers.

New Business

Supervised Play

On September 2nd, we recognized Anne Cline's service to our club and the Supervised Play program. Gerri and Buki presented her with flowers and certificates for free plays, and a cake was provided to add to the festivities.

On September 8th, Kay Mendell was responsible for the Supervised Play group. Gerri Knilans will be responsible for the group until the end of 2026. If she cannot be present, Kay offered to be her back up. At this time, the fee of $5.00 will be collected by the director.

Suggestions for Newsletter Topics - Gerri

Gerri did contact Finn Kolesnik about possibly interviewing him, and he said he would be in contact with her.

Gerri had written an article about Rose, but it will be utilized in a different manner; so she did submit an article about Gary Ansok which was recently published.

Holiday Party - Kay

Kay, on Susan Lang's behalf, asked if we could decide upon the day for our Holiday Celebration in December. After discussion, we would like to hold the event on December 15th as our first choice, and the 17th as a backup. We need to confirm with TBT about the dates and availability.

Next Meeting

Our September board meeting will be on Tuesday, October 20th at 10:30 a.m.

Vice President Buki Burke adjourned the meeting at 12:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Suzanne Brenner, Secretary.