

MINUTES OF ACBL UNIT 547 BOARD MEETING

January 2, 2020

Present: Rose Buckley, Dennis Charles, Josh Rosenbluth, Lorraine Salvatore, Ken Thompson, Barry Brenner, Barbara Fitzgerald, Jody Shapiro, Susan Lang, Kay Mendel, Mark Eckhout, Anne Conn and Charles Clark.

Meeting called to order: Rose.

Minutes of 12-5-19 Board meeting reviewed. Barbara moved that the minutes be approved. Ken seconded. All in favor.

Club manager's report. Barry distributed the attendance report. The Wednesday 1499'er and the Thursday open game are down slightly. There was discussion of a system for guaranteed partner at our other games, in addition to 49'er and 299'er. Mark stated that if we adopt this, it needs constant reinforcement. Mark will be the point person and develop a proposal.

Barry and Lorraine reported on website proposals. Barry said that Ken and Lorraine developed a link on the results page to ACBL Live. Barry checked with all the clubs and his recommendation is that we move forward starting tonight. Josh so moved that we tie our official club results page to ACBL Live. Ken seconded. All in favor.

Rose recommended that instead of \$100, Chris Gillmon be paid \$50 for the maintenance of our dealing machine and being on call for directing advice. Dennis moved and Anne seconded that Rose be paid \$50 a month (until a permanent director liaison can be assigned) for the work she is doing organizing the director's schedules and providing director training for new directors. All voted in favor of it being effective immediately. Rose will contact Arlene Harvey to send us a tournament director to do a training class. Barry said that the novice class of 0-20 MP can get MP.

Lorraine discussed the criteria for a new website platform. The criteria are: **cost; ease of use**-development and maintenance; **flexible** user permission so that designated people can update specific information; **design**-look and feel; **and positive end user experience**-availability of appropriate content and ease of use by members and guests. Lorraine will send some potential websites to Barry, Josh and Rose. Josh will start working on a mockup of the new site.

Bob Gruber keeps an email list of unit members, non-ACBL players and others. Josh reported that effective 1-1-20 ACBL will charge one cent for each recipient to send out email blasts: recipients can be targeted by MP level (say below 500 MP), geography or unit. Josh will look into our current email procedures including our email "blasts" and make a proposal to the Board.

Barry brought up the matter of the March-April Club calendar as he will be out of town on an extended trip. Barry will hand-off the Excel document to Josh who will fine-tune it and get it printed. Barry will interface with Martha Richardson at the Temple to ascertain if there are conflicts with Temple activities. Dennis will contact Denise at PVPR to see if they can handle a Pi (pie) day theme game on Saturday March 14.

Josh will coordinate distribution of the Strawberry Sectional flyers (April 17-19, 2020) with Susan. We need leads on who might be hospitality chair, and all Board members were tasked to work on finding a chair.

Speaking as chair of the nominating committee for 2020 Board members, Mark said that his committee was proposing Parker Mann and Larry Pelletier.

Jody reported on the 2-15-20 Valentine's 499'er Sectional. She has the insurance through ACBL, ACBL sent out email to prospective players, and she and Gary will get volunteers to help with hospitality. Mark will help with cleanup. Food and \$ donation sheets will be prepared. Josh will explore how to get the Tournament results to ACBL.

Mark will get back to work on guaranteed partners and mentoring persons. Josh will work up a newcomer-novice email list.

Charles gave the Treasurer's report and listed the persons we gave \$50 holiday gifts to, such as our directors. We lost \$869 in December 2019. Charles has prepared his remarks for the Annual Meeting. In particular, he will point out how low our \$6 card fees are compared to other clubs. Our classes and tournaments also help the clubs bottom line. Lorraine moved approval of the Treasurer's report and Dennis seconded. All approved

Play at the Annual Meeting will be free to all Club players. Dennis will coordinate with Louis Fox at Crosspointe church for his bringing in 20+ card table from storage for the room setup on Friday January 24 at 11 am. Barbara's son Steve and Floyd Richards will help with the room setup.

Respectfully submitted

Dennis Charles, Unit Secretary