Unit 547 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 30, 2026
Temple Beth Torah

Board Members Present: Raeann Koerner, Kay Mendel, Suzanne Brenner, Jim Wall, Gerri Knilans, Gary Ansok, Craig Kavin, and Buki Burke.

Absent: Ray Tsukuki

Guest: Mark Eckhout

The meeting was called to order by Raeann Koerner at 11:05 a.m.

Approval of Minutes - A motion was made by Craig Kavin to approve the minutes from June 9, 2026 and 2nd by Jim Wall , M/S/A.

Treasurer Report - Kay Mendel

The month had not concluded, so there is no regular monthly report. Kay reported that there were donations made by Rosemary Reitz and Bunny Raymond. Notes of appreciation will be sent.

Rosemary's donation was ear-marked for a tangible item for our club's utilization. Jim made a motion for the club to purchase two white tables, to replace the black ones that currently are needed regularly.

After discussion, it was decided that Kay will research the costs for purchase of tables as well as shipping costs and report at our next meeting.

Raeann will research the costs involved in potentially purchasing more brown side tables.

We need to research with TBT if we can possibly store tables in the area where the chairs are currently located.

Club Manager's Report - Jim Wall

The month had not concluded, so there were no regular monthly reports. Jim did note that attendance for the Thursday game is still in decline.

Director Liaison Report - Gary Ansok

Gary reported that Aaron Zaidoff is intending to take the director's course with the ACBL in August. Gerri shared that Marilyn Usher may also be interested, and she will contact her.

Gary announced that he will be gone in August for a week.

Gary shared that we currently have a sufficient number of Bridgemates for our club games, but not for tournaments. There are a variety of issues to consider before making the decision to purchase more/new bridgemates.

Gary was asked to remind players that when a game is in progress, that scores should be kept private/ covered.

Gary shared that he had been informed that Teresa Moore will not be returning to play at the club at this time. Cards will be made available for members to send her well wishes.

Gerri offered to investigate a light device that might be made available for member use at a table if a member had limited vision issues.

Old/Continuing Business

Birthday Cake

It was decided that informal polling should occur with the membership to determine if this is something that should occur on a monthly basis.

New Business

Vote for Game Start Times

Raeann shared the results from the voting:

- 24 - wanted all games to begin at 12:00
- 43 - wanted 12:00 start time on Wednesday only
- 18 - had no preference for start times

Our game schedule will remain as it is at this time.

Fall Harvest Festival - Mark

Mark shared the flyer that he had created to send to the ACBL for approval. The method for how to best proceed with the team game was discussed. Craig offered to call Brandon Sheumaker and discuss what he thought might be the best option for us.
The flyer will be sent to the ACBL after this final decision can be made.

Mark shared he wanted to have a focal snack, similar to the strawberry shortcake for the Strawberry Festival. He suggested pumpkin pie, but there was concern shared regarding the availability and costs for pie.

The low attendance from our 499'er and 299'er players was discussed. It was proposed to potentially provide a free game pass for any player who plays in the tournament to be used at a future game at our club.

It was suggested that our board members should personally greet and thank these new attendees at the tournament for participating.

Gerri volunteered to try to gain the names of potential players for the tournament from clubs/games in the area.

Mark was thanked for all of his efforts, and it was acknowledged that if for some reason something happened to Mark, we would definitely struggle to move forward easily. A check off list with detailed information as to what needs to be done, by when, and by who would be extremely beneficial as a resource. Mark said that Josh Rosenblum had given him a list at one time. Raeann suggested that Mark could possibly contact Josh to see if he still has the original file for him to update.

Raeann shared the difficulties she has encountered in trying to work with Pianola - that they still have names of individuals on the account that are not even alive anymore, and now she is the only individual that can send out Pianola's on our account. She did share that the company does offer a service that we have not utilized in the past - that we can get data that tells us the number of people who actually open the emails that are sent out. It was asked that she possibly get more information about what types of services they do offer and the costs involved since it might be a resource to utilize in the future.

Vote for Vice President
Due to Bunny Raymond recently resigning from the board, the board discussed how to best proceed. After discussion, Suzanne Brenner made a motion to nominate Buki Burke for the position of Vice President, and was 2nd by Craig Kavin, M/S/A.

Raeann also shared that she is not intending to remain on the board at the end of her current term, and that we should actively look to add board members. It was decided that this would be announced by the directors to the membership at the upcoming games, and that we as board members should make personal inquires to members as well. Raeann also said that she will include that announcement in the next Pianola blast.

New Membership Chair
Ray Tsuyuki has volunteered to assume this role.

Other

Camarillo Saturday Game
After email conversations with the board, Raeann made an executive decision to suspend at this time our current Saturday game in Camarillo due to lack of participation.

It was suggested that possibly at the Fall tournament that we could again, poll our members about their interests for a Saturday game to begin after the first of the year.

Table Fees
The discussion to increase our table fees was tabled until our next meeting. In addition, there has been discussion to create a fee for those attending the supervised play because they utilize the services provided by the Temple and our club. Raeann will discuss with the Cline's prior to our next meeting. The service that the Cline's provided is greatly appreciated by the board, and valued by all that participate.

July Board Meeting

The next meeting will be held on July 14th at 11:00 a.m.

President Raeann Koerner adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Suzanne Brenner, Secretary.