

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

Board Members Present: Raeann Koerner, Bunny Raymond, Kay Mendel, Suzanne Brenner, Jim Wall, Gerri Knilans, Craig Kavin, Buki Burke, and Ray Tsuyuki.

Absent: Gary Ansok

Guest: Susan Lang

The meeting was called to order by Raeann Koerner at 10:37a.m.

**Approval of Minutes** - A motion was made by Jim Wall to approve the minutes from March 10, 2026 and 2nd by Bunny Raymond, M/S/A.

**Treasurer Report - Kay Mendel**

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

Sheet 1: Monthly Income and Expense

We had a loss of \$1,370. Included in the Rent Expense is \$1,510 for the Saturday games. Also we donated \$100 to TBT for the fire insurance fund. The (\$100) game directors fee is for a voided check. We wrote a check in December for the additional director training which was then postponed.

Sheet 2: TBT Detail

We had a loss of \$150. This is due primarily to the higher rate we are paying directors (additional \$600 in March).

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

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

Prior to the meeting Jim sent the board:

The March Attendance Report

He also shared that the calendar has been updated to reflect the recent time changes to game times.

There was discussion regarding the In and Out Report, asking for clarification

as what we do with the data provided. The main concern was to determine if we are reaching out to those individuals that are not renewing their ACBL memberships to determine if there is reason or concern we should be aware of. Bunny clarified that this is something that she is currently doing, and will utilize Buki and Ray to assist in this area.

If anyone becomes aware that someone is not renewing their membership due to financial hardship, there is an anonymous donor that is willing to supplement fees for up to five players.

### **Director Liaison Report - Gary Ansok**

Prior to the meeting Gary sent the board the following report:

- Directors for Saturday games appear set for now. I will be directing all the games in May, with possible training/assistance of Diane Gunther. I will not be available on June 6; Rosemary Reitz has agreed to direct that game. There will be at least one other week in August (if the games are still going) where neither myself or Diane will be available. We will see how the Saturday games go, both in terms of attendance and Director availability (personally, I do not want to direct more than 2 Saturdays a month ongoing). We do need a Board decision on a director pay question. Should the bonus for making Flight B (or vision-impaired) boards also apply when making an additional Flight A set to be used in a Web or similar movement? (In other words, if the director makes 2 board sets for Flight A, and 1 for Flight B, should he get 2 bonuses?) If so, should it apply only when the board set is used, or any time one is prepared and ready for use. Arguments in favor are that the director does expend time/effort to prepare these board sets, and the players generally appreciate when these movements are used to reduce the number of boards missed. However, it is not the purpose of this bonus as expressed on the Director report form.

We are still thinly-staffed regarding Directors. I am directing every Tuesday, and it looks like I will also be continuing to direct Wednesday games, as Chris reports he is getting pushback from Santa Barbara. Chris is continuing on Thursdays, and we can generally fill in for each other for weekday games. I have made some inquiries on other possible Directors: Alex Fiore is not willing at this time; Jeff Goldberg is willing, but his schedule does not work with any of our games.

After board discussion, it was determined to table the questions that need to be addressed until our next meeting when Gary can be present to answer questions that we had.

The board agreed that a director should use a clock timer for each game - a 7 minute period for each board for the open game. The director will have the discretion to add extra time to a period if they deem necessary, i.e. late start, extenuating circumstances, etc.

It was suggested in regards to our needs for additional directors that Raeann will speak to Aaron Zaidoff, and Don Cline as well.

## **Old/Continuing Business**

**Beginning Bridge Class** has begun - Raeann  
And there will not be class on April 30th.

### **Saturday Game**

Director - Gary will be the primary director, Alternate Director Diane Gunther and Rosemary Reitz

There was discussion that some on the board see advantages that there be one director as the primary director for continuity for the Saturday game. More information is needed from Gary and Diane as to what their interests are - working a regular schedule or is there someone who would like to work the majority of the dates.

The board would like for the directors to announce the upcoming Saturday game at each of the games coming up. And that reservations need to be made with Bunny Raymond and that the start date is May 2, at 11:00am.

A Saturday "Box" will be created that will contain all Hospitality items - coffee pots, coffee, tea, needed items for the beverages, to include cups with lids. Bunny will transport the box to the 1st game. Ray offered to be available to get the box from Bunny and into the room. Gerri will be responsible for taking the box home that day. Directors are responsible to ensure that players only have beverages with a lid in the facility.

Raeann will send out two Pianola's regarding the Saturday Game, one this week and one by 4/29/26.

**Communication with members and non-members who play regularly at the Temple-** this was tabled until our next meeting

### **New Fees-Raeann**

This had been discussed previously and Raeann reintroduced that topic. After discussion, it was agreed that the fee for the limited game will be increased to \$8.00 as of May 1, 2026, to match the fees for the open game. It was noted that regular games in Santa Barbara are \$10.00 and the 750 Club are \$15.00.

### **New Business**

#### **Safety at TBT- Suzanne**

Prior to the meeting Suzanne had sent a report to summarize the meeting with Rabbi Lisa. It was agreed to make available to the membership the map information that we were given by putting the maps on the bulletin boards we display at our game days. It was agreed that the reminder to our membership that in case of an emergency, all players should follow the instructions of the director as to what they should do. All future directors should be made aware of the maps and their responsibilities in an emergency. It will be noted on the map information, that players with limited mobility should consider moving to the closet area where the chairs are kept because this door can be locked from the inside.

The safety information will be shared with those attending on June 3 at the meeting day, and that in the future at every Annual Meeting as well.

Susan Lang will create the information that will be made available on the bulletin board, and this can be discussed again at our next meeting.

#### **Mini-Mckinney and Ace of Clubs Presentation - June 3, 2026**

It was not decided as to what the start time should be, so needs to be discussed at the next meeting. And this needs to be advertised to the membership, by way of director announcements and Pianola's.

#### **Game Start Times**

There was discussion about the possibility of having all games in Ventura begin at 12:00. Raeann is going to check with Gary and Chris to ensure that the 12:00 start time will work for them. If they do not have an issue with the start time, it was decided that at the June 3 meeting we would like to have a written vote provided to the membership. The ballot would read:

\_\_\_\_\_ In favor of all games to begin at 12:00

\_\_\_\_\_ Only the Wednesday game will begin at 12:00

\_\_\_\_\_ No preference as to when the game begins

It should be noted that the topic came up for 1:Consistency - all games beginning at same time, and 2: for those members coming from further distances being able to leave earlier which is a benefit with the increased traffic on the freeways.

This needs to be announced to the membership at the games as well as via a Pianola, giving players an option to vote if they will not be present at the meeting. If there is a preferred method please utilize, but you may allow members to send their vote to [suzanne3734@gmail.com](mailto:suzanne3734@gmail.com) before June 4, 2026.

### **Next Board Meeting**

Will be on May 12, at 10:30am.

**April birthdays** to be celebrated on April 21st. Kay will be responsible for the cake.

### **Hospitality Chair**

We do not have a chair currently. Jim has been and has offered to continue to be responsible for purchasing the snack items we have at the club.

There is a concern about what is planned for the upcoming tournament, and Raeann will contact Mark to gain further information.

### **Strawberry Tournament**

Mark sent the board an update regarding the upcoming tournament. There were questions regarding the decision that Brandon made for the need for an additional director for the games on Saturday, and in addition wanting Gary to assist with directing that day. The decision was made on the basis of having the maximum for 50 tables that day, and it was brought up that if we had fewer tables possibly we would not need the added expense of an additional director - is that a viable consideration? And at this time there has been advertising recently in the District 22 magazine announcing the

tournament, but we do not have flyers at our club or to distribute to anyone else. Raeann will discuss with Mark.

Mark's email mentioned that he would be in contact with people soon asking for support. It was discussed that the "Kitchen Brigade" is vital, as well as in the past the items that people brought from home to share. In the past we have had a sign up at the club for donations as well, and a method for people to make cash donations.

It was mentioned again, as it was last year, that having a tournament check list of what needs to be done, what is needed in the way of supplies, food, etc, and the timeline for everything to make the tournament a success would be very important to have. It was agreed that Mark is invaluable, and he is our walking tournament guru - but heaven forbid anything happen to Mark, if something did, we would be in dire straits.

**By-laws** have been reviewed

Our next date to review has been tabled to the next meeting

### **Other**

Gerri requested assistance in possibly finding someone who could be interviewed for an article in the District 22 Connection Magazine.

Also Raeann will give a few names to Gerri from her new bridge class players to be interviewed as well.

President, Raeann Koerner, adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Suzanne Brenner, Secretary.

