

ACBL UNIT 508 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Minutes of January 18, 2017

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order by President Arti Bhargava on Wednesday, January 18, 2017, at 3:45 pm in Terra Linda.

Directors Present: Arti Bhargava, Richard Riezman, Hilde Meislin, Ellen Coll, Bill Yeast, Melanie Haddad, Jeff Slavitz, Gail Haar, Chris Koehler, Rita Schaulat, Lani Valentine

Absent: Tracey Bauer

2. Minutes. MOTION (Richard/Hilde): That the Minutes of the Board Meeting of December 21, 2016, be approved as distributed. Carried.

3. Education.

- Bruce Blakely. This session is in place for Saturday, Jan. 22, from 10:30 – 12:30 pm prior to the Unit Game. Only 39 sign-ups have been received, but attendance is expected to be 60+. Board members will lend assistance for set-up, lunch, and clean up.
- Jerry Helms. Chris and Rita announced that this all-day seminar (Thurs., May 11, 2017) will take place at Homeward Bound in Novato. There is ample parking, and a fixed fee that includes facility rental and lunch. \$80 is the probable cost per person. Jerry's topic will be "Maximizing your Tricks – Expert Declarer Play and Defense." A flier promoting the event is in preparation.
- Barbara Seagram. Scheduled for Thursday, November 16, 2017, at Pickleweed.
- Larry Cohen. Scheduled for May 10, 2018.
- Debbie Rosenberg. She has expressed an interest in being a local speaker for the Unit in the fall.
- "Learn Bridge in a Day". Arti announced that ACBL had approved our grant application for this event whereby Unit expenses will be matched up to \$500. Arti expressed her thanks and appreciation to Melanie for preparing and submitting the application. Melanie is looking at either September 16 or 23 for the all-day event, and will contact Homeward Bound as a possible venue. Teaching this immersion bridge class for beginners is Patty Tucker (ACBL). The charge to participants will be in the \$25 – \$30 range. Mentors will be needed at each table. Patty Tucker will need a lapel microphone.

4. Membership.

- Roster Update. Gail and Bill have assembled and integrated all membership information received. The Board agreed that 500 copies should be printed and

that they would be sold for \$2 each at the bridge clubs (honor system). Cost estimates for printing are being researched.

- Web Page listing Teaching Professionals. Bill announced that the prototypes for this Web listing are complete and will be sent to the pros, with notice to Jeff, Melanie and Laura Fraser that changes will be coming.

- 5. Sectional. Ellen will be placing a quarter-page ad for the Marin Sectional in both the March and April FORUM. Fliers can be distributed to Bay Area Sectionals via Calvin. Caddies are only needed for the Sunday Team event. It was agreed to contract to have the chair cushions delivered and picked up from Redwood. Ellen will need Board help for set up and take down. She expressed her wish that the person/s who will take charge of the 2018 Marin Sectional could be in place now to facilitate the transition later.

- 6. District 21. Arti noted that the District is running into difficulties with hotels booked for ACBL tournaments because of last minute cancellations by people who decide not to attend. The hotels do not maintain waiting lists, and thus revenue is lost when cancellations occur. The District would like those who need to cancel to notify Pam Hughes (District 21 Tournament Director) so that an effort can be made to fill those rooms.

- 7. Website. It was agreed that Melanie will exchange jobs with Jeff, so that Jeff will take over Mentoring, and Melanie will assist Bill with the Website. Bill noted that modernizing the site is a primary concern. There was a suggestion to take a look at the excellent website of the Duncan Bridge Club in Palm Springs for ideas.

- 8. Nominating. Arti commented that there are probably 4 Board members who will retire the end of June. A Nominating Committee to suggest replacements will be considered at the next meeting.

- 9. Next Meeting. The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2017, in Terra Linda.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35.

Respectfully submitted, Lani Valentine, Secretary