

## ACBL UNIT 508 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

### Minutes April 21, 2021

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**Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by President Gail Haar on Wednesday, April 21, 2021, at 3:35 pm. Due to shelter in place restrictions, the meeting took place via Zoom video conference call.

**Present:** Tracey Bauer, Gail Haar, Melanie Haddad, Judy Leedy, Ann Schweichler, Bill Yeast

**Absent:** Steve Levinson, Bob Thomson, Don Tusel

1. **Minutes. MOTION** (Ann/ Judy): That the Minutes of the Unit 508 Board of Directors Meeting of March 17, 2021, be approved as distributed. Carried.
2. **President's Report.**
  - a. Officers for 2021-2022
    - i. 7 of 9 Board members are up for reelection in 2021: Ann, Bob, Don, Judy, Melanie, Steve, and Tracey. Other than Don, all will run for re-election. Gail will check with Don whether he wishes to remain on the Board.
    - ii. Bill is resigning from the Board at the end of his term, June 30, 2021. He currently serves as Vice President, Membership Chair, and writes the weekly blast. Replacements will have to be found.
    - iii. A Nominating Committee (Gail, Ann, and Judy) was formed to identify potential board members with the skills needed to fill available positions: Membership and Special Events. An announcement seeking nominations during a specified nominating period will be included in the weekly blast.
    - iv. Elections for board members will be held in June. An in-person election is not possible due to covid restrictions and mailing ballots to Unit members is cost-prohibitive. Alternatives will be explored.
  - b. Preparing for F2F bridge

Marin has not yet entered the less restrictive yellow tier. The Unit's clubs have not indicated when they plan to reopen for F2F bridge. It was felt too early to try to hold a Unit game. A survey will be sent to the Unit membership in June to assess interest in returning to F2F bridge and timing. A task force will be formed to prepare guidelines for the return to F2F bridge.
3. **VP & Membership.**
  - a. Discussion of Unit BBO help email. Bill reported there have not been any requests for help from Unit members for BBO help in many months. Most players using BBO are familiar with BBO at this point. Bill will continue to monitor the email but it may be time to close the BBO help desk.

- b. Unit membership. Unit membership has dropped. We have had an 11% decrease in membership (compared to 6.55% for District 21 and 7.65% ACBL-wide.) This may be due to covid and players allowing their membership to lapse while they are not playing online. However, our new member retention figures are not good. This should be monitored, and if membership does not pick up after the return to F2F bridge, efforts should be made to engage (and retain) current membership and attract new members.
- 4. **Unit Sectional.** Ann reported that she checked with the City of San Rafael. They are hoping for re-opening on July 6, but nothing is definite.
- 5. **Website.** Tabled.
- 6. **Development.** Tabled.
- 7. **Unit Coordinator.** Nothing to report.
- 8. **Treasurer.** Tabled.
- 9. **Social Media & D21 Report.**

Tracey reported that District 21 Board is working hard on a variety of projects. Governance has been the Board's initial priority, and the District's first budget and policies and procedures manual will be presented to the Board for approval. The District is also prioritizing the return to F2F bridge. It has a forum for club owners as well as a task force exploring the return to in-person bridge and the hybrid model as things slowly open up. The ACBL is also working on a strategy at the national level. The District is working on raising participation in the Grass Roots program to raise funds for the GNT and NAP. Tracey's next Town Hall meeting is on June 12, at 10 am.

- 10. **Any Other Business.** None.

The next board meeting will take place on May 19, 2021.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:25.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Haddad  
Secretary