

## ACBL UNIT 508 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Minutes October 20, 2023

Call to Order. The meeting was called to order by President Arti Bhargava on Friday, September 22, 2023, at 3:30 pm at the Terra Linda Recreation Center, San Rafael, CA.

Present: Arti Bhargava, Cindy Blum, Shirley Ehrlich, Carolyn Farren, Steve Levinson

Absent: Tracey Bauer, TJ Campbell, Melanie Haddad, Tricia Maas

1. Minutes MOTION (Arti / Carolyn): That the Minutes of the Unit 508 Board of Directors Meetings of September 22, 2023, be approved as distributed. Carried.
2. Treasurer's Report  
Steve created a very comprehensive financial picture of the Unit, and the big picture points are:
  - a. Table counts currently (face-to-face participation in clubs) are at 20% of pre COVID levels
  - b. The only revenue that the Board is currently receiving is from the ACBL based on our membership numbers (appx \$2000/year)
  - c. Pre-Covid revenue (fiscal years 2016-2019) averaged \$8,000/year and included speakers, the Unit Games, the Marin Sectional, and ACBL Memberships. In fiscal year 2023 we have no revenue from Unit Games (they're too small); we lost money on the Marin Sectional, and we haven't had any speakers.
  - d. In fiscal year 2023, the Marin Unit lost \$4,500 and reduced the overall balance to \$20,500 and this fiscal year, 2024, the unit is projected to lose another \$5,000 reducing the balance to \$16,500.
  - e. We clearly need to reduce costs, and the biggest upcoming cost will be the Holiday Party. We are going to investigate if the cost of the party can be covered.
  - f. We need to find ways of generating income. (Our next sectional will hopefully be better attended and we should make a profit.) Arti will talk to speakers to see what kind of attendance they're getting, and also potentially do Zoom speakers if the financials work out.

Decided to remain with the current free plan on Mailchimp and to close the Unit post office box.

3. Membership Report  
Carolyn received a list of lapsed members from the ACBL. It recommends that the unit contact each lapsed member by telephone and encourage them to return to the ACBL.
4. Website Report  
Arti reported that the website was up to date, but our webmaster does not know how to

jazz it up a little, and claims she cannot do it within our current budget of \$75. Shirley volunteered to look into this to determine whether she can find better software to help us build a better website.

5. Sectional Report

Shirley brought up several points about our next sectional:

- a. She plans to put together a flyer that can be put out at the Monterey regional, and any other close by sectionals/unit games that occur before our sectional.
- b. She is investigating lunch options for purchase, so people don't have to leave the premises.
- c. She is also considering finding a speaker for 20-30 minutes, so people have something to listen to during the break between sessions.

6. Monthly Meeting Times

The Board unanimously approved a new monthly meeting time. It is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month after Henry's game at 3:30PM; our next meeting is November 15.

7. President's Report

Arti will reach out to other Unit Presidents and potentially set up a Zoom meeting to brainstorm ideas about increasing the attendance at live games. She will also be talking to some National speakers to gauge what sort of attendance they're getting.

8. Any Other Business

Several Board members thought that our food was not adequate at our unit games, so for the next couple months, the Board has approved \$30 for Peggy. It's also an experiment to see if better food increases attendance.

The next board meeting will take place in person on Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at the Terra Linda Recreation Center, San Rafael, CA. If Board members are unable to attend in person, they may attend via conference call.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,