

Unit 499 BOD meeting January 19, 2014
Rossmoor Creekside Room

Attendees: Trisha O'Connor, Beth Eggers, Lyn Sacco, Andy Fine, Lisa Assoni, Jane Malcuit, Larry Lange, Lynne Humphrey, Ted Gunn, Pete Boss.

Absent: Judy Keilin, Jackie Zayac, Bruce Johnsonbaugh, Anne Hollingsworth, Carroll Brooks.

Meeting called to order at 11:00 by Trisha O'Connor.

Minutes: Accepted and approved Jane Malcuit and Beth Eggers, unanimous approval.

Treasurers Report: Unit 499 has the following balances in its accounts as of December 31, 2013:

Current Cash Balances:

Savings: \$17,611.00

Checking: 6,716.00

TOTAL: \$24,327.00

Youth Bridge Restricted Funds \$ 4,321,

AVAILABLE CASH \$20,006.

Unit Activities:

Highlights of the Year:

2012 vs 2013 Recap:

In general, the unit receives the majority of its monies from a portion of ACBL membership dues paid by continuing members, game fees at our sectionals and special events (such as the Tunnel Tourney) and lunches at our sectionals. The unit spends funds on costs related to our sectionals and special events (such as the Tunnel Tourney and ProAm), unit games, free play coupons for new members, the mentoring program, maintaining our website, and general costs (such as postage, mailing, etc).

Revenues: 2013 revenues are down this year vs. 2012 by ~4%, primarily resulting from decreased games fee receipts (slightly fewer total tables) at the two sectionals and because the unit did not sell lunches at the Fall Sectional. These were somewhat offset by the game fees for the Tunnel Tourney, a new event this year.

Free Play Coupons: Members new to the unit are given two free play coupons, which expire 6 months from issue. New ACBL unit members were much more active this year in using these coupons than 2012.

Mentoring Program: Unit members eligible to participate in our mentoring are given six coupons to pay the table fees for their mentor. We had several members mentored this year.

ProAm – The unit supported two ProAm games by providing funds for refreshments (similar to unit games). These events are well attended and very popular with both the players with less than 300 MP's and the experienced players.

Treasurers report accepted and approved, unanimous approval.

Monterey Sectional Report: Beth Eggers. The new President of the ACBL is making it her mission to replicate "best practices" that she sees around the country. As a separate issue, the ACBL is working on marketing, website improvement, and technology. As part of this push for new members, they are going to start concentrating on "Baby Boomers and retirees" because that's where the money is. She did not specifically say that the ACBL is going to cut back on the youth programs, but several comments she made led Beth to think that the ACBL is going to emphasize reimbursement for retirees and new players rather than youth bridge specifically. That's why Beth thinks we need to continue exploring new avenues for Youth Bridge while we know the reimbursement is available.

ACBL will be activating a new Score Plus System to improve scoring. They have asked all Units to please be sure to thank Directors at the end of each Sectional.

Youth bridge programs; The most successful youth bridge programs are in San Francisco and Reno. All three have an afterschool program with a credentialed teacher from the school present. We're going to keep exploring ways to get into the schools.

in general advertising not successful in attracting youth. Oakland has done a good job of getting new players. Youth bridge seems to be the most successful in Reno and San Francisco. San Francisco has a teacher present and paid during the instruction for bridge for youth. Some of the reimbursements for youth bridge might go away; youth bridge programs are difficult to get off the ground.

I Love Bridge programs and Bridge Plus sanctioned games are free for people with less than 5 points.

During the D21 board meeting, the subject of bridge club ownership came up. The new Oakland club is privately owned. Mention was made of some clubs throughout the United States which are owned by the members who buy shares. Beth is going to find out more information.

The cost of hotels has gone up significantly for Regional and National Tournaments in many locations. Santa Clara, with its new stadium has been most uncooperative in negotiating rates. ACBL may move the venue to Reno.

Unit Game Report: Andy Fine, 24 unit games per year; have used all 24 games. Minor discrepancies ironed out at meeting.

Spring Sectional signup: Signup for setup for spring sectional passed around. Jane is investigating how to serve some type of egg dish. She will send out the recipes for 9 x 13 pans. Folks are encouraged to try to prepare it the night before.

We will be renting at least 100 chairs for the Spring Sectional.

The board agreed to try to make our Sunday morning food more like a brunch. Jane has found several recipes for stratas, egg dishes which can be prepared the night before. Several people volunteered to make them. Jane will forward recipes to the volunteers.

Goodwill dinner and play: Beth will research having a Wednesday night award dinner and play for winners of goodwill pin at DVBC. Motion made and seconded to find out how Common Game works and how points are awarded in Florida games. Time frame is initially set for April because winners are awarded pins in March.

499er-NLM Sectional: Ted will chair and September 20 seems to be the right day for this event. Trisha will get the sanction number for this game. Beth so moves to have Ted Gunn chair, Lynne Humphrey seconded, unanimous approval.

Motion to adjourn: Andy Fine so moved, Beth seconded, unanimous approval.
12:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Lyn Sacco
January 21, 2014