

Meeting Minutes
East Bay Unit 502 Board of Directors
January 16, 2022

The meeting of the East Bay Unit 502 Board of Directors was called to order at 10:20 am (via Zoom conference call) by President Libby Silver. Thank you to Marcia for making the Zoom arrangements!

Attending Board Members: Susan Bailey, Estelle Baum, Larry Bowerman, Cole Powell, Joseph Held, Tina Heldman, Don Levine, Gail Oraftik, Libby Silver, Grant Vance, Marcia Wasserman and Kathy Wolf.

Monica Deutsch recently resigned and didn't attend the meeting. **Libby thanked Monica for her service as a Unit 502 Board Member.**

At the beginning of the meeting, **Joseph welcomed the three new Unit 502 Board Members (Cole Powell, Grant Vance and Kathy Wolf).**

1) **Larry's minutes** for the November 7, 2021 meeting were approved.

2) **Treasury Report (Susan):**

Treasurer Susan Bailey reported on the current status of Unit 502 finances. Our current assets = \$30,841.35 (as of 1/16/22). This is a decrease of about \$72 from the 11/7/21 balance and reflects recent miscellaneous expenses such as internet access and the results of four Unit Games. Subsequent to the Meeting, the fourth quarter 2021 ACBL membership rebate check (\$314.41) was deposited on 1/18/22. The major sources of income during 2021 were the membership renewal rebates from ACBL (each Unit receives about 11% of the membership renewal fees paid to the ACBL) and the refund of the \$1500 deposit to the Masonic Center. The major outflows were donations to the EBCBC (about \$660), the monthly website/internet bills and a small loss at the NAP Finals on 9/12/21. Upcoming financial activities include the monthly website/internet bills and the likely deposit of \$500 to reserve the Elks Club in Alameda for the June 2022 Sectional. Donations to the EBCBC to support the Thursday 999er game were discontinued after June 2021.

3) **Old Business:**

***Location of Sectionals (Libby):** Discussions regarding this on-going topic continued. For context, attendance at the Monterey Regional was about 30% of normal, so our Sectional attendance could also be low. The Board approved a committee (Joseph, Cole, Estelle and Tina) to continue investigations of possible sites. Cole and Kathy also volunteered to help. Cole suggested the Hiller Highlands Club House, but someone else thought that it wasn't big enough. Joseph reported that at our last Sectional, the largest session was 55 tables, which requires a room with about 4500 square feet. The large room at the Elks Club in Alameda is

approximately 2700 square feet (about 33 tables). Marcia reported that the Transfiguration Church (an ideal site but outside of Unit 502 boundaries) was making no commitments on the use of their hall during the pandemic, so that option seems to be off the table for 2022. Kathy suggested another site, which she will investigate.

***Report on Status of EBCBC and Piedmont Online Games (Libby):** Prior to the meeting, Libby sent emails to the EBCBC and Doug Handler about the status of their games. Responses had not been received prior to the Board Meeting. The EBCBC's weekly newsletters continue to be the most up to date source of information about the EBCBC games.

Doug Handler's on-line games are: Monday and Thursday beginning at 7:10 pm, and Tuesday and Wednesday beginning at 2:10 pm.

***Support for the EBCBC (Marcia):** Marcia reported that the financial situation of the EBCBC is worsening as attendance at in-person games declines due to COVID-19 surges. The operating costs of the EBCBC when open are about \$10,000/month, about \$7,000/month when closed. As a result, Andy Wasserman is forming a committee to explore fundraising options, such as: 1) raising table fees, 2) targeted phone calls to players, 3) another letter from Libby to all Unit 502 members, 4) a GoFundMe page, 5) a ProAm game, 6) more on-line games, etc. Marcia will keep us informed. If anyone is interested in joining Andy's committee, please contact him directly. Grant indicated that some GNT games will be held at the EBCBC in late January.

***District 21 Report (Grant):** Grant Vance attended the most recent D21 Board Meeting on January 15, 2022. He reported that: 1) attendance at the Monterey Regional were about 30% of normal, 2) D21 and the Hyatt are in negotiations about how much money D21 owes the Hyatt for room cancellations, 3) planning for the May Regional in Sacramento is underway, 4) D21 officers remain the same, 5) a Committee was appointed and given the authority to make quick decisions on certain issues (like the pandemic) without having to call a Board Meeting for every decision, and 6) Nancy Boyd has taken over for Pam Hughes as the D21 Tournament Coordinator.

4) New Business (Libby):

***The Board elected its officers for 2022, as follows: President: Libby Silver; Vice-President: Joseph Held; Secretary: Larry Bowerman; and Treasurer: Susan Bailey. All were elected unanimously. Libby indicated that 2022 would be her last term as President.**

***The Board designated the following people to fill the other required ACBL positions:**

Electronic Contact

Larry Bowerman

Tournament Coordinator	Libby Silver
Membership Chair	Gail Oraftik
STAC Coordinator	Estelle Baum
Webmaster	Andy Wasserman
Business Manager	Marcia Wasserman
Publicity Chair	Shirley Rodenborn
Hospitality Chair	Joseph Held
IN Coordinator	Don Levine
Charity Chair	Tina Heldman
Education Liaison	Don Levine
NAP Coordinator	Marcia Wasserman
GNP Coordinator	Grant Vance
District 21 Representatives (2)	Tom Pajak & Grant Vance

By the end of January, Larry will complete the ACBL's electronic form for each Unit to designate their officers and the other required positions.

***The Board approved the following calendar for 2022:**

Unit 502 Board Meetings in 2022: January 16, March 20, May 15, August 7, September 18, and November 6.

Upcoming 2022 Events (This list is based on our yearly pre-pandemic schedules. All events are subject to cancellation due to COVID-19):

*Unit Games on first and third Sundays each month in 2022.

*NAP Games in June, July, August and September (final) [Marcia Wasserman]

*Sectional on June 25 & 26, 2022 (Kathy Wolf, Marcia Wasserman and Don Levine)

*Sectional on November 19 & 20, 2022

*July 3 Independence Day Picnic/BBQ (An event coordinator and volunteers are needed for this event.)

*Charity Game (Estelle and Tina)

*Pizza Swiss Games: May and Oct (Joseph Held and ?)

*Tunnel Tournament: date TBD (usually in September or October) (lead person?)

*Holiday Banquet: December TBD (Marcia Wasserman)

***The Board voted unanimously that the terms of two Board Members (Estelle Baum and Don Levine) would be continued for another year, through 2022.**

***Unit Games (Libby and Larry):** Several issues were discussed: **First, the free play policy** – the Board member in charge of the game plays for free. In addition, the N/S and E/W winners from the most recent Unit Game also play for free. **Second, the list of game dates and who works** – Gail is now in charge of this list. It is mostly complete for the first half of the year and Gail asked everyone to review the list and volunteer for the dates that they can work. **Third, proof of booster** – Larry raised this issue stating his belief that booster shots are now highly recommended because immunity declines steadily and significantly beginning about 5 months after the second shot (or first J&J shot). He suggested that the Unit require proof of a booster shot for Unit Games beginning as early as 2/2/22. Cole made a motion to require proof beginning with the 2/16/22 game. During discussion, several people wanted to first coordinate with the EBCBC on this issue. Cole's motion was voted down 5 to 4 with one abstention. Subsequent to the vote Marcia volunteered to talk to Betty Kael about this issue, which she did at the Unit Game later that day. Marcia reported back that Betty was firmly against requiring proof of a booster shot for the EBCBC games. Marcia also surveyed the players at the game (4 tables, 16 people). All but 2 had already received their booster shots and the remaining two had their shots scheduled for this week.

***Sectionals (Libby):** 1 or 2 people are needed to run the two Sectionals this year. Kathy, Marcia and Don volunteered to do so. Estelle and Libby previously prepared a detailed summary of the tasks necessary to run a Sectional Tournament. This should be an excellent starting point to help Kathy, Marcia and Don get started.

***Unit 502 Website (Libby):** Retiring webmaster, David Snyder has suggested that the Unit develop a new website. Incoming webmaster (Andy Wasserman) and Grant Vance will talk to David to get his sense of what needs to be improved. They will report back to the Board with their recommendations. If we decide to proceed with the development of a new website, we may need to hire an expert to design and implement it.

***Other Business (Libby):** None

5) Our **next** Unit 502 Board **meeting** is March 20, 2022. The other Board meetings in 2022 will take place on 5/15/22, 8/7/22, 9/18/22 and 11/6/22.

6) The meeting was **adjourned** at 11:30 am.

Submitted by,

Larry Bowerman
Secretary, Unit 502 Board