

Meeting Minutes
East Bay Unit 502 Board of Directors
January 19, 2020

The meeting of the East Bay Unit 502 Board of Directors was called to order at 10:15 am (as scheduled) by President Libby Silver.

Attending Board Members: Susan Bailey, Estelle Baum, Larry Bowerman, Monica Deutsch, Tina Heldman, Neal Mazaroff, Gail Oraftik, Esther Rubke, Pamela Sawyer, Libby Silver and Marcia Wasserman.

Missing Board Members: Joseph Held and Don Levine.

David Snyder also attended the meeting, since he was still the Treasurer until Susan Bailey was elected during today's meeting.

1) Libby Silver welcomed **new Unit 502 Board Members** Susan Bailey, Tina Heldman, Gail Oraftik and Pamela Sawyer.

2) The **minutes** for the September 15, 2019 meeting were approved.

3) **Treasury Report:**

Treasurer David Snyder reported on the status of the Unit 502 finances as of the close of 2019. At year end, total assets were \$29,676, with no liabilities. Unit net in 2019 was +\$5105, mainly due to: 1) generous contributions, 2) ACBL membership rebate, 3) successful Unit events and 4) no unusual expenses.

David also mentioned four issues that the Board should consider going forward, namely: 1) free plays at Unit Games, 2) the Unit's \$10K CD at Bank of America which comes up for renewal in April, 3) do we want to do anything further to benefit our membership given our nearly \$30K balance, and 4) the potential cost increase for our Sectional venue after 2020 (current cost is \$2500 per weekend as negotiated by Libby).

3) **Old Business:**

***Unit Game Lunches** (Joseph and Libby): Since Joseph was not in attendance, Libby addressed this issue. We have sign-ups to cover us through the first half of the year. Libby circulated the sign-up sheet in case anyone wanted to sign-up for slots in the second half of the year.

***Making Boards** (Libby): Libby expressed her concern that some former Board Members might be upset that current Board members are receiving free plays at Unit Games when they weren't making the lunch or the boards that day. This issue was discussed at the September 15, 2019 Board Meeting. At that Meeting "[t]he Board approved a motion to have Fred Schwartz prepare the Unit Game boards (at \$10/board) through 2020, as needed and at the discretion of the Board President."

After some discussion, Neal made a motion that the Unit continue to pay Fred to make the Unit Game boards at \$10 per board. The motion was seconded and passed with one vote against the motion.

***Unit 502 Board Vacancies and Election Status Report** (Larry): Larry briefly summarized the election process that was followed in early October 2019. This process was summarized as part of the agenda for this meeting. On 10/11/19 Larry sent an email message to Libby and the other Board members indicating that no one else (besides Susan Bailey, Tina Heldman Gail Oraftik and Pamela Sawyer) had expressed interest in becoming a Board member. Since the number of people expressing interest in becoming Board members matched the number of vacant Board positions, no formal election was necessary, and the four volunteers would become Board Members in 2020. Finally, Larry indicated that Libby and David did most of the work on this matter and thanked them.

***Tunnel Tournament Report, 9/22/19** (Estelle): In 2019 Unit 502 scored a narrow victory over Unit 499 in this two-session event. There were many complaints that the day was too long, and there have been discussions about reducing the number of boards per session from 28 to 22 or 24. The Board agree to continue discussions with Unit 499 about reducing to 24 boards for the 2020 Tunnel Tournament on October 3, 2020 (a Saturday). Susan Boyers will be in charge of the 2020 Tournament, and she will continue these discussions with Unit 499.

***October 20, 2019 Pizza Swiss Report** (Pam): Pam reported that this event was a success. There were 80 paid players and we made \$51, which were improvements from the May event. There was some discussion about the event running too long because of playing 7 boards per round. The Board voted to reduce this to 6 boards per round. There was also some discussion about using pre-made boards for this event, but the Board decided not to make this change.

***November 16-17, 2019 Sectional Report** (Libby and Estelle): Libby and Estelle reported that the Sectional went well. Julie Burnet was in charge of food preparation on Saturday and Libby Silver was in charge of Sunday. As previously reported by David Snyder shortly after the event: 1) we made about \$800, 2) lunch sales were about \$1000 over two days and 3) the number of tables were up somewhat from 2018. Finally, Julie Burnet and Gail Oraftik have volunteered to plan and implement the June 2020 Sectional.

***December 15, 2019 Holiday Banquet Report** (Marcia): Marcia reported that the Holiday Banquet went well and that we made \$300! The profit was the result of many people not requesting reimbursement for food provided and by Andy Wasserman's efforts to find extremely good prices on the turkeys! In order to avoid losing money in 2020, the Board voted to increase the fees from \$10 to \$12 for Unit 502 members and from \$15 to \$17 for non-Unit 502 members. Finally, the Board decided that the Holiday Banquet this year will be on December 6, 2020.

***Volunteers at San Francisco NABC (Joseph):** Since Joseph was not in attendance, Libby reported that Unit 502 had plenty of volunteers that helped at the SF NABC, and that the D21 and ACBL were pleased with our level of involvement.

***Board Vote to Increase Unit Game Table Fees by \$1 (Libby):** Libby reported that she initiated an emergency email vote on this issue with her 11/23/19 message to Board Members. Larry's 12/8/19 email message to the Board reported that all but two Board Members participated in the vote and that all voted in favor of the proposal to increase Unit Game fees by \$1 beginning on January 1, 2020.

***Other Old Business?** There was no other old business to discuss.

4) **New Business** (Libby)

***Additional Two-Year Terms for Five Board Members:** The Board approved an additional two-year term for the following five Board Members: Larry Bowerman, Joseph Held, Neal Mazaroff, Libby Silver and Marcia Wasserman.

***Election of Officers for 2020 (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer):** The Board elected the following officers:

President: Libby Silver

Vice President: Joseph Held

Secretary: Larry Bowerman

Treasurer: Susan Bailey

***ACBL Positions (Libby):** The following selections and assignments were made for 2020:

Electronic Contact: Larry Bowerman

Disciplinary Chair:* Libby Silver

Recorder:* Libby Silver

Tournament Coordinator:* Libby Silver

Membership Chair: Esther Rubke

STaC Coordinator: Estelle Baum

Webmaster: Andy Wasserman and Don Levine

Business Manager: Marcia Wasserman

Publicity Chair: Shirley Rodenborn

Hospitality Chair: Joseph Held

IN Coordinator: Monica Deutsch

Education Liaison: Esther Rubke

NAOP Coordinator: Marcia Wasserman

GNT Coordinator: Grant Vance

By the end of January, Larry will complete the necessary electronic ACBL form to inform them about the results of our elections.

***Proposals to Restrict Unit Game Free Plays** for Board Members and Winners (Libby): Libby reported that she has received some complaints about Board Members and Unit Game winners receiving free plays. David presented some cost information on this issue, namely that in 2019 these free plays cost the Unit a total of \$1140 of which \$395 was for the non-board member first place finishers. David also projected that given the \$1 fee increase, the total cost of continuing this policy in 2020 would be \$1350. There was lively discussion on this issue, but in the end the Board decided to continue its existing policy on free plays for Board Members and Unit Game Winners.

***Board Calendar for 2020** (Libby): We briefly discussed the Unit 502 events for 2020 and volunteers agreed to take the lead on most events.

***Unit Game Director Fees** (David): Since the EBCBC recently increased the amount paid to Directors by \$5 per day, should the Unit 502 Board consider a similar increase? There was little discussion of this issue and no decision was made. Libby will add this issue to our March 15 Board Meeting agenda.

5) Charity Game for 2020: Libby initiated some discussion about whether we should sponsor a Charity Game this year. There was universal agreement that we should, especially given our strong financial position. Esther, Estelle, Monica and Tina all agreed to work together to investigate and work on this issue. They will coordinate with Betty Kael and decide on the date, the amount of additional fees (probably \$2 per person), promotion and which charity. The Alameda County Food Bank was mentioned as a possibility for the designated charity, but no decision was made.

6) Unit Webmaster:

*David Snyder reported that Andy Wasserman will soon begin training to become the Unit 502 Webmaster. Don Levine is the back-up Webmaster.

7) District 21 Board Meetings (Marcia):

For 2020 the Board decided that Tom Pajak and Marcia Wasserman will be our representatives to attend the District 21 Board Meetings (which occur at or near the Monterey, Sacramento and Santa Clara Regionals).

Marcia attended the District 21 Board Meeting which took place in Monterey in early January. Marcia reported on the following issues that seemed to be the most important:

*Ray Yuenger is the new D21 President.

*Goodwill Award Winners were announced.

*D21 revenues are down about 2%, but we made money at the San Francisco NABC.

*Reno Regional revenues were down 22%.

*Regional hotel cancellations are an on-going issue in D21. If we don't meet our room commitments, D21 incurs substantial penalties. If you need to cancel a Regional hotel reservation, you need to do that by contacting Pam Hughes, not the hotel! We should ask Betty Kael to post announcements to that effect at EBCBC games leading up to all of our Regionals.

8) Our **next** Unit 502 Board **meeting** is March 15, 2020.

9) The meeting was **adjourned** at 11:20 am.

Submitted by,

Larry Bowerman
Secretary, Unit 502 Board

Upcoming Unit 502 Board meetings: 3/15, 5/3, 8/2, 9/20 and 11/1.

Upcoming 2020 Events:

Charity Game (Estelle, Monica, Esther and Tina)

Pizza Swiss: May 17 and Oct 18 (Joseph Held and Pam Sawyer)

NAP Games on June 7, July 19, August 16 and September 13 (final) [Marcia Wasserman]

Sectional on June 27 and 28 (Julie Burnet and Gail Oraftik; as usual, numerous volunteers are needed)

July 5 Independence Day Picnic (Karen and Bob Cabrera will continue to do the grilling, and Tina Heldman has signed up to shop, etc. An event coordinator and more volunteers are needed for this event.)

Tunnel Tournament on October 3 (Susan Boyers)

Sectional: Nov. 21 & 22 (We need one or two volunteers to be in charge of the tournament; as usual, numerous other volunteers are needed)

Holiday Banquet: December 6 (Marcia Wasserman; Andy is in charge of purchasing and cooking the turkeys)