

Meeting Minutes
East Bay Unit 502 Board of Directors
May 15, 2022

The meeting of the East Bay Unit 502 Board of Directors was called to order at 11:30 am by President Libby Silver. The meeting was held at the EBCBC.

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

Board Members Not in Attendance: Estelle Baum.

1) **Larry's minutes** for the March 20, 2022 meeting were approved.

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

Treasurer Susan Bailey reported on the current status of Unit 502 finances. Our current assets = \$31,077.60 plus \$275 in cash (as of 5/15/22). This is an increase of about \$345 from the 3/20/22 balance. The increase reflects the receipt of a \$2000 anonymous donation for the June Sectional, payments to the EBCBC (for Unit Game cleaning and support of the Tuesday 499er online game at \$3.00 per player), recent miscellaneous expenses (such as internet access) and the results of recent Unit Games.

3) **Old Business:**

***June Sectional (Kathy):** Kathy and Don reported that preparations are progressing well. There was discussion led by Don about the mailing list for the email "blast" to ACBL members that live fairly close to Oakland. It was suggested that Don talk to Tom Pajak about this. Don also talked about his efforts to recruit two caddies for the Sunday Swiss Teams games.

***Location of Sectionals (Joseph/Libby):** Joseph and Libby reported that no other suitable venue has been found for the Sectionals beyond 2022. The Alameda Elks Club will be the site for the June and November 2022 Sectionals, and it could be the "front runner" for future Sectionals. The search will continue for a venue that is closer, larger and cheaper than the Alameda Elks Club. Cole suggested that we might want to relook at Holy Names College.

***Report on Status of EBCBC and Piedmont Online Games (Libby):** Libby reported that she hadn't contacted the EBCBC or Doug Handler about any updates on the status of their games. However, she had no indication that there have been any significant changes affecting either of the clubs. The EBCBC's weekly newsletters continue to be the most up-to-date source of information about their

games. Doug Handler's online games are: Monday and Thursday beginning at 7:10 pm, and Wednesday beginning at 2:10 pm. Table fees are \$6.00.

***Support for the EBCBC (Gail):** There was some discussion about the issue of whether the Unit should continue to subsidize the EBCBC's Tuesday online 499er game at the rate of \$3.00 per player. Gail reported that this game has been consistently successful, averaging 6.5 to 7 tables each week. Gail's efforts have resulted in a committed group of players for this game. A motion was made and seconded to continue to subsidize this game at the current rate from June 2 to September 30, 2022. The motion was approved unanimously. Gail will continue to promote and monitor this game.

***District 21 Report (Grant):** Grant indicated that the D21 GNT Flights A and C finals were taking place at the EBCBC today. He also reported that D21 had met their commitment to the Sacramento Regional host hotel regarding the minimum number of rooms booked. Sigrid Price (D21 President) has a waiting list, so any room cancellations should be made by contacting Sigrid, not the hotel! Sigrid is also in the process of forming a committee to investigate whether we need to continue to run regionals based on the current "host hotel system" to avoid the problem of having to satisfy a minimum number of room reservations at the hotel (a payment by D21 to the hotel would be due if the minimum number of rooms isn't booked). If you are interested, please contact Sigrid directly.

***November 19-20, 2022 Sectional (Libby):** Libby said that we needed a volunteer to run this Sectional and wondered if Kathy would be willing to do that as well as running the June Sectional. Kathy agreed to run the November Sectional.

4) **New Business (Libby):**

***Unit 502 Board Vacancies (Libby):** There is currently one vacancy on the board due to the resignation of Monica Deutsch in January 2022. Gail Oraftik and Estelle Baum intend to resign effective January 1, 2023. In response to Libby's question, Susan Bailey indicated that she also intends to resign effective 1/1/23. Further, Libby indicated that she doesn't intend to be President in 2023, and Joseph indicated that he is considering whether or not to remain on the Board in 2023. Libby indicated that resigning Board members should make every effort to recruit their own replacements. In addition, Libby appointed a nominating committee (Marcia and Don) to help recruit candidates and recommend them to the Board not later than the August 7, 2022 Board Meeting. Gail and Grant also indicated that they will help with the recruiting effort.

***Unit Game Dates and Who Works Them (Gail):** Gail continues her efforts to get volunteers to work the Unit Games for the rest of the year. At the Board Meeting, Gail distributed a summary of volunteers for all of 2022. All Unit Games are currently covered. Thanks Gail!

***Unit Game Issues:** There was a long discussion about whether the June 5 Unit Game (also a NAP qualifier) needed to be rescheduled because it conflicts with the last day of the Sacramento Regional. It was agreed that the June 5 Unit Game would remain as scheduled. Marcia and Gail indicated that NAP Games are scheduled for June 5, July 17, August 21 and October 11 (final). Marcia has already obtained the June 5 NAP game sanction from D21, which also covers the other NAP games.

***Tunnel Tournament:** Grant indicated that the Tunnel Tournament will take place at the EBCBC on October 23, 2022. Grant is working with Sam Erhardt (Unit 499) to finalize details.

***The Future of Bridge:** There was some discussion about the relative roles of F2F bridge at clubs versus online bridge on BBO. Grant indicated that there are now few incentives for people to play in club games instead of on BBO. Grant and Stu Goodgold (D21) are advocating that the ACBL should increase the incentives to play at clubs. However, since the ACBL is making money from the online games, they seem to be reluctant to take actions that would favor the club games.

***Calendar of Unit 502 Events 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 on June 5, July 17, August 21 and October 11 (final) [Marcia Wasserman]

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

*Sectional on November 19 & 20, 2022 (Kathy, Marcia and Don)

*July 3 Independence Day Picnic/BBQ (Marcia Wasserman and possibly two others)

*Charity Game (Estelle and Tina)

*Pizza Swiss Games: Oct 16 (Joseph Held and ??)

*Tunnel Tournament at EBCBC: Sunday, October 23 (Grant Vance)

*Holiday Banquet: December 4 (Marcia Wasserman, Libby Silver and Kathy Wolf)

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

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

6) The meeting was **adjourned** at 12:25 pm.

Submitted by,

Larry Bowerman
Secretary, Unit 502 Board