

Meeting Minutes  
East Bay Unit 502 Board of Directors  
May 3, 2020

The meeting of the East Bay Unit 502 Board of Directors was called to order at 10:00 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, Joseph Held, Tina Heldman, Neal Mazaroff, Don Levine, Gail Oraftik, Esther Rubke, Pamela Sawyer, Libby Silver and Marcia Wasserman.

**Missing Board Members:** Monica Deutsch.

1) The **minutes** for the January 19, 2020 meeting were approved.

2) **Treasury Report:**

Treasurer Susan Bailey reported on the current status of the Unit 502 finances as of the end of April 2020. Assets are about \$700 above where they were at this time in 2019.

Susan also mentioned four recent changes/issues: 1) paid \$1500 deposit to Oakland Masonic Center for the June Sectional, 2) received an anonymous donation of \$2000, 3) received the fourth quarter 2019 membership rebate check from ACBL for \$318.00 and 4) the Board needs to decide whether to renew the Unit's \$10K CD at Bank of America which comes up for renewal in June.

There was discussion about what to do about the \$1500 deposit to the Oakland Masonic Center (OMC) for the June Sectional. We could roll it over for the November 2020 Sectional, or ask for it to be refunded. When Libby talked to the OMC about this after the Board Meeting, their preference was to retain the deposit for the November Sectional. If the November 2020 Sectional is ultimately cancelled, the Board will revisit this issue.

There was also discussion about whether to renew the Unit's \$10K CD at Bank of America which matures on 6/6/20. Given the current economic downturn, the interest rate on a renewal will be substantially less than it was last year (probably less than 1.0%, compared with 1.79% last year). If the interest rate is 1.0%, then we would earn \$100 in one year. There was general consensus that it would be better to have access to the money in these uncertain times rather than tie it up for a year in order to earn \$100 or less. The Board voted not to renew the CD.

3) **Old Business:**

**\*June 27-28, 2020 Sectional (Libby):** Given the COVID-19 pandemic, the shelter in place orders, etc. the Board voted unanimously to cancel the June 2020 Sectional.

\*While we didn't specifically discuss this at the Board Meeting, for the record our **Board Meeting scheduled for March 15, 2020 was cancelled** due to closure of the EBCBC as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

\*Again, for the record, on March 15-16, 2020 the Board conducted an **Emergency Email Vote** to: 1) increase the fees paid to our Unit Game Directors by \$5 to be consistent with what the EBCBC pays its Directors and 2) allow Libby Silver to negotiate with the Oakland Masonic Center about using their facility for Sectional Tournaments in 2021 and beyond. Both proposals were unanimously approved.

4) **New Business (Libby)**

**COVID-19 (Corona Virus) Pandemic:**

**\*Donation to EBCBC:** After some discussion, the Board voted to approve the donation of \$274 per month to the EBCBC. This payment would be in lieu of the rent that the Unit would normally have paid the EBCBC for its two Unit Games each month.

**\*Other Assistance to EBCBC Until In-person Bridge Resumes:** During the COVID-19 pandemic the EBCBC needs to average about 10 tables per day for its Virtual Club Games on BBO in order to keep itself financially viable. Libby has drafted an email message to be sent to all Unit 502 members encouraging them to play in these BBO Club games to support the EBCBC. There was some discussion on this issue. While a couple of reservations were expressed, the consensus of the Board seemed to be that we should proceed with Libby's email message. Libby said that she would send her draft email message to Board members again in order to give everyone another chance to review and comment on it.

**\*Notice on Unit 502 Website about BBO Virtual Club Games and Support your Club Games:** There was some discussion about posting a notice on the Unit 502 Website encouraging people to play in these BBO games to support the EBCBC games (6 per week) and Doug Handler's Piedmont game (once per week at 7:10 pm on Monday night). After some discussion, the general consensus was to proceed with having a notice added to the Unit 502 Website. Libby said that she would contact David Snyder to make that happen. Libby did contact David after the meeting, and as of Monday morning May 4th, the notice had been posted on the Unit 502 website. Thanks Libby and David!

5) Our **next** Unit 502 Board **meeting** is August 2, 2020.

6) The meeting was **adjourned** at 10:45 am.

Submitted by,

Larry Bowerman  
Secretary, Unit 502 Board

**Upcoming Unit 502 Board meetings:** August 2, September 20 and November 1.

**Upcoming 2020 Events:\*\***

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

\*Tunnel Tournament on October 3 (Susan Boyers)?

\*Charity Game (Estelle, Monica, Esther and Tina)?

\*Sectional: Nov. 21 & 22 (Julie Burnet and Gail Oraftik; as usual, numerous other volunteers will also be needed)?

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

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\*\*All of these events are subject to cancellation due to the COVID-19 pandemic.