

ACBL Unit 509 Santa Rosa / Petaluma
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
February 15, 2023

Call to Order and Roll Call

President Neill Ray called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. via Zoom. In attendance were Cathy Netz, Dave Pankratz, Harley Conner, Maxine Reagh, Patty Shribbs, and Roy Redlich. This constituted a quorum of Board Members. Jackie Ortiz and Kathy Venton were also present.

Approval of Minutes

A motion passed to approve the January 18th meeting minutes.

Treasurer's Report

Maxine Reagh reported treasury activity and current account balances. In addition, Maxine revised the proposed budget for 2023 by adding estimated expenditures for food at Unit Games, and by revising the amount estimated for lectures at Unit Games.

District Representative Report

Jackie Ortiz reported that District 21 is looking at two sites for the Memorial Day Regional Tournament. One is near Fresno; the other is in Sacramento. Jackie also reported new officers have been selected at the District level.

Committee Reports

Tournaments – Harley Conner

The Spring Sectional has a separate session on Sunday limited to 300 masterpoints. Cathy Netz said that a team with members from the Petaluma Senior Center planned to play in that event. Kathy Venton volunteered to make a presentation to the Senior Center to encourage others to participate in the Sectional. In addition, Harley Conner will send an email about the Sectional targeted at those under 300 masterpoints.

The expenses for the Spring Sectional have already been obligated. Whether or not this tournament will make money is, of course, dependent on attendance which is difficult to predict. Jackie Ortiz will be providing lunch on Sunday.

Membership – Harley Conner

Harley Conner reported that membership continues to decline gradually. Harley also reported that he will be securing membership materials that Jim Duport held. Jackie Ortiz reported that she learned that the average age for ACBL members is now 75. The Board discussed various approaches to increase membership, especially among younger people.

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Education – Kathy Venton

Kathy Venton reported that there were two people interested in becoming mentors, one of whom recently completed a 6-week mentorship and is interested in doing a second round with the same mentee. The Board agreed to continue to provide the usual mentorship incentives.

The Supervised Play Program is designed to provide “over-the-shoulder” coaching during online play. Kathy wants to see how many people are interested in providing coaching before promoting it.

Tony Jackson will teach a class on slam bidding before our Unit Game on Sunday, March 26th. Kathy will send an email to potential teachers with the goal of scheduling lessons before all Unit Games.

Hospitality – Maxine Reagh

Maxine Reagh reported hearing complaints regarding the fee differential charged at the annual Holiday Party. As a result, the Board passed a motion to charge all participants the same fee regardless of Unit 509 membership.

Unfinished Business

Unit 509 and 512 Merger – Harley Conner reported no update on the proposed merger, and this item will be removed from the ongoing agenda.

Potential Unit-run Santa Rosa Game – Maxine secured a business license and ACBL sanctions for a potential Unit-run game in Santa Rosa. One of the sanctions is for an open game, the other for a limited game. She is waiting to hear about the availability of the proposed venue.

New Business

Communication Chair

Cecelia Zachar writes a monthly Unit 509 newsletter and an article for the *Diamond in the Ruff* District 21 publication. Board members expressed appreciation for Cecelia’s fine work. She is interested in having someone be a backup for her and has been showing Maxine how to use the software to produce these publications.

Maxine Reagh said she will contact Kathy Juarez to discuss updating and possibly enhancing the Unit 509 website. Therefore, the Board will not create a Communications Chair role at this time.

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Next Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12th at 4:30 p.m. Neill Ray will host the meeting on Zoom.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy Redlich, Secretary