

Meeting Minutes
East Bay Unit 502 Board of Directors
March 20, 2022

The meeting of the East Bay Unit 502 Board of Directors was called to order at 10:15 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, Tina Heldman, Gail Oraftik, Libby Silver, Grant Vance and Marcia Wasserman.

Board Members Not in Attendance: Joseph Held, Don Levine and Kathy Wolf.

1) **Larry's minutes** for the January 16, 2022 meeting were approved.

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

Treasurer Susan Bailey reported on the current status of Unit 502 finances. Our current assets = \$31,008.01 (as of 3/20/22). This is an increase of about \$167 from the 1/16/22 balance. The increase reflects the fourth quarter 2021 ACBL membership rebate check (\$314.41) that was deposited on 1/18/22, recent miscellaneous expenses (such as internet access) and the results of three recent Unit Games.

3) **Old Business:**

***June Sectional (Kathy):** Since Kathy wasn't able to attend the meeting, Marcia reported that preparations are progressing well. The typical "flyers" have been printed, paid for and are being distributed. The next important step is to send an email "blast" to ACBL members that live fairly close to Oakland.

***Location of Sectionals (Joseph/Libby):** Since Joseph wasn't able to attend the meeting, Libby reported that no other suitable venue has been found for the Sectionals beyond June 2022. The Alameda Elks Club will be the site for the June 2022 Sectional, and it now looks to be the "front runner" for future Sectionals.

***Report on Status of EBCBC and Piedmont Online Games (Libby):** Prior to the meeting, Libby sent emails to the EBCBC and Doug Handler requesting any updates on the status of their games. Doug Handler reported that there are no changes to his online game schedule. The EBCBC had not responded by the time that the Board Meeting started. 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 Wednesday beginning at 2:10 pm. Table fees are \$6.00.

***Support for the EBCBC (Marcia and Gail):** There was a lot of discussion about the issue of whether the Unit should reimburse the EBCBC \$63 for each Unit Game to cover their additional, pandemic related cleaning costs. Marcia and Gail presented their reasons for supporting this additional payment to the EBCBC. The principal reason for the payment is to return financial responsibility for the additional cleaning expenses associated with Unit Games back to Unit 502. The extra cleaning cost being borne by the EBCBC is especially burdensome, since the pandemic has resulted in substantial declines in their income. Even though the EBCBC has been open since late June 2021, their table counts have decreased about 50% from pre-pandemic levels. Libby indicated that she felt that it would be a better use of our funds to try to encourage more players to return to F2F bridge. A motion was made and seconded to reimburse the EBCBC \$63 for their cleaning costs for each Unit Game retroactive to the November 2021 Unit Games and going forward. The motion passed by a vote of 8 to 1. Subsequent to the Board Meeting, Gail sent an email message to the EBCBC informing them of this decision. They are pleased with and very appreciative of our support!

***Website (Andy/Grant):** Andy Wasserman reported on his efforts to clean-up and update the existing website. It is now less cluttered and much improved. Thank you Andy! There was discussion about whether we needed to develop a new website. The existing website is no longer supported technically, but the site works (with some limitations on what can be done on it) and people are familiar with it. After some discussion, the consensus opinion was that we didn't need to develop a new website at this time. We can revisit this issue in the future if we want to add new features that can't be accommodated on the existing website.

***District 21 Report (Grant):** Grant indicated that there had been no D21 Board Meetings since our last Unit 502 Board Meeting on January 16, 2022, so nothing new to report.

4) New Business (Libby):

***Email Vote on \$3/Player Subsidy for the new EBCBC 499er game on Tuesday through May 2022 (Larry):** Larry gave a brief summary on this email vote, which took place between January 26 and 29, 2022. He sent an email to all Unit 502 Board Members on January 29, 2022 summarizing the motion and the results of the vote. The motion passed by a vote of 11 to 0, and the subsidy took effect beginning with the 2/1/22 game. During this Board Meeting, the issue of when to send the money to the EBCBC was discussed. Either Libby or Susan will contact the EBCBC to ask if they would prefer to get monthly checks or just wait until late May to get one overall check (the current subsidy expires on June 1, 2022).

***Increase Unit Game Table Fees to \$10 beginning 4/3/22(Libby):** After a brief discussion a motion was made and seconded to increase our Unit Game table fees to \$10 per person to be consistent with the EBCBC fees effective April 3, 2022. The motion passed 9 to 0.

***Unit Game Dates and Who Works Them (Gail):** Gail continued her efforts to get volunteers to work the Unit Games for the rest of the year. As of the Board Meeting, there were four unfilled slots. At the meeting Cole and Estelle volunteered to cover two of the slots. Subsequent to the meeting the last two slots were covered by Marcia and Don.

***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 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 (need volunteers)

*July 3 Independence Day Picnic/BBQ (Marcia Wasserman and possibly the Cabrera's??)

*Charity Game (Estelle and Tina)

*Pizza Swiss Games: May 15 and Oct 16 (Joseph Held and ??)

*Tunnel Tournament: date TBD (usually in September or October) (Grant Vance)

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

A couple of notes about some of the events:

*For the **NAP Games**, Grant will help Marcia obtain the sanction from D21.

*For the **June 2022 Sectional** an email blast needs to be sent to ACBL members living near Oakland using a company called Pianola. Grant will assist Kathy, Marcia and Don in getting this done. It reportedly will cost about \$500.00.

*For the **Pizza Swiss Games**, we need to decide whether these games will be Swiss Teams or Pairs. It makes a difference because the sanctions are different for each type of game.

*For the **Holiday Banquet**, Marcia requested help, since she will be traveling for several weeks prior to and up to 11/20/22. Libby and Kathy volunteered to help.

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

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

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

Submitted by,

Larry Bowerman
Secretary, Unit 502 Board