

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Unit 540 Executive Board
November 13, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 11:35 AM by President Fred Strong. Present were Board members Bob Karriker Bill Ringbom, Bud Zeuschner, Pat Hallock, Charles Davis and Education Chair Leda Fields. Torre Houlgate-West joined the meeting at 11:45 AM and Louise Abbott at 12:05 PM. Bill Woodson was absent.

1. Call the Meeting to Order. Fred Strong handed out copies of the agenda to the board members, and advised that Louise Abbott was going to be arriving late and that we would postpone discussing her agenda item until she arrived.
2. Review and Approval of the October minutes. Charles distributed copies to all board members, noting that new suggested corrections to the initial draft were received. After a brief discussion, the minutes were approved as written.
3. Treasurer's Report. Pat distributed copies of both the September and October treasurer's reports. In September, after income of \$115 and expenses of \$62.50 the Unit ended the month with \$7891.51 in its checking account and \$3377.13 in its savings account, for a total balance of \$11,268.64. In October, after \$180 in income and \$35.25 in expenses, the Unit ended the month with \$8036.26 in its checking account and \$3377.39 in its savings account (including earned interest of \$.26), for a total balance of \$11,413.65. After a brief discussion both months' reports were approved.
4. Old Business
 - A. Update on 2016 Sectional. No new information.
 - B. Discussion on lessons/reimbursements. Leda briefed the board that a new 6 week series of beginning classes would take place at the Vet's Hall in Pismo Beach beginning in January 2016. She also advised that she and Torre were determining the need for a series of Two over One classes, which would be held in Leda's house. Fred advised the board that Bud would be attending the March ACBL Nationals in Reno, NV in response to a disciplinary appeal hearing and that his travel expenses would be reimbursed in accordance with the board's decision last month.
5. New Business
 - A. Report on District Breakfast. Bob Karriker discussed and distributed his memorandum regarding the November 8, 2015, meeting at the Ventura Regional, where he represented Fred Strong. The meeting's principal target was increasing membership growth, and Bob reviewed several initiatives being considered. More meetings are scheduled before specific decisions will be made.
 - B. 2016 Unit Election. After discussion the Board agreed that our annual Unit Meeting would take place at the Morro Bay bridge club on Wednesday, January 20, 2016, after concurrence by the club's manager. The Unit will present a slate of

candidates for the five positions whose terms are expiring, for election/re-election at that meeting. Two board members are retiring, Charles Davis and Bill Ringbom. Candidates to fill their positions on the board will be Jan Zinner and Leda Fields. Bob Karriker and Fred Strong advised that they would run again for their seats on the board. Torre Houlgate-West advised she was still evaluating her candidacy. The board also decided to add the Black Lake bridge club to its rotation of sites hosting the Annual Meeting, subject to their ability to accommodate the numbers of people attending.

C. Authorization to get ACBL award items for the 2016 Annual Meeting. Fred Strong proposed that the board again distribute to the individuals being recognized a small gift from the Unit. The board concurred and authorized the purchases.

D. Snacks at the Unit Game. Fred led a brief discussion of the need for these refreshments. The board authorized Louise Abbott to spend \$50 per game for the purchase of these items, effective December 2015.

E. Special discount for veterans at the November Unit game. After discussion the board agreed to provide that when the date of the Unit game fell on November 11. That discount would be in addition to the recognition provided by the local bridge clubs during that week.

F. Efforts by the Unit to increase local membership. Gail Lapins joined the meeting and made presentation on additional actions the board could take to bring new members into the Unit. The board will take her recommendations under advisement.

G. ACBL Update on Pianola. Bill Ringbom led a short discussion on the recent announcement by the ACBL to adopt this software in 2016. The Unit had previously considered its purchase but deferred action based upon the ACBL's intention of introducing its own software. That decision has apparently been reconsidered, and the Unit looks forward to the availability of this program next year.

6. Club Activity Reports. Morro Bay, N/A; Paso Robles will hold their Holiday Party on December 10; SLO will hold theirs on December 4; Five Cities will hold one, but the date is uncertain.
7. Adjourn to meeting of December 11, 2015. Fred adjourned the meeting, advising that our next meeting would be on that date at 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Davis, Unit 540 Secretary