

Minutes

Unit 540 San Luis Obispo Meeting of the Board of Directors

Date: January 8, 2021

Call to order: 3:46 PM

Present: Fred Strong, (president); Deb Cameron; (vice-president); Carol Raimondo, (treasurer); Mike Hughes (secretary); Jack Phirman; Jim Borland; Kathy Borland; Art Herbon

Quorum: A quorum of directors was present.

Minutes: Deb moved, and Carol seconded the motion that the minutes of the membership meeting of 12/11/20 be approved. Motion carried.

Treasure's Report:

- Carol reported that there is an ending bank balance of \$20265.31. The YTD profit is \$9178.14. Of this, \$8616.84 was from proceeds of the virtual games. [copy of: "Copy of 2020 Profit and Loss.xls"] on file. Carol noted that December funds have not yet been received.
- Mike moved, and Kathy seconded the motion that the Treasurer's report be approved. Motion carried.

President's Report:

- Fred provided a written report as follows:
 - According to the latest ACBL report our membership, as a Unit, is not doing very well. We should be somewhat concerned, relatively speaking. The average age of our membership is 74.75 years, slightly higher than two years ago; about a year and a half older than the ACBL average; but about the same as the District average. In member losses we compared well. We ranked fourth in the District and 75th in ACBL having lost 8.96% of our membership while the District lost 11.52% of its membership in the past year and ACBL lost 10.23%. However, these losses were offset by gains in new members at 4.66% for our Unit compared with 4.02% for our District and 4.89% for ACBL. In actual numbers we lost 25 members and gained 13. Two members, a husband and wife, transferred in from another Unit. We currently have a total membership of 267 of which 242 have paid their dues giving us a \$1,117.35 share of their ACBL dues from those renewals.
 - While this is reasonably good within both the unit and the District ranking us 4th out of 24 Units and 77th out of 294 Units in ACBL, I believe we can do better by finding more ways to serve our total membership.
 - That said, we still suffered greatly from this past year's events as compared to the previous two years. The year before last we gained 30 and lost 37 and the year before

that we gained 15 and only lost 7. We, as a Unit Board, must try to do more to overcome the effects of this pandemic. Please put on your thinking caps and start now mentally planning for this coming year.

- Major medical organizations are now saying that the greatest devastation among the elderly this past year has been isolation which has led to an historic spike in both dementia and Alzheimers disease. We also have significant evidence that playing Duplicate Bridge prevents Alzheimers disease. We have a calling beyond competition and personal pleasure.
- Having said all that, I sincerely wish to thank this Board for stepping up to the plate in perilous leadership situations and responding appropriately to restore order and normalcy to our Unit. I was flattered to be asked by you to assume the Presidency at a very difficult time and also pleased at your response—overcoming old divisions, restoring traditional procedures and recruiting new and effective members for this Board. I believe we came out of the darkness and back into the light of reason and positive policies. You all deserve the credit for accomplishing those extremely difficult feats.
- Many of you know that I also have simultaneously had local, regional, state, and national political responsibilities which are ongoing. I stated from the beginning that I hoped others would step up to the plate in this new year. You have made that happen and deserve a tremendous amount of thanks for that accomplishment as well.
- It has been an honor serving you in this capacity and I wish you nothing but the best going forward. As you do so, I urge you not to neglect your roots nor the needs of all of your membership, even those who are not as technically able or as knowledgeable as you. I will be pleased to remain as the elder statesman for another year or so as needed. May you all continue your successes and overcome your difficulties as well going forward as you did this year. As a group I believe we could have served as a great role model for the political leadership of this nation. God bless you all.

Old Business:

1. Virtual Game Committee.
 - a. No report
2. Education Committee.
 - a. No report.
3. Annual Meeting
 - a. Jim pointed out that the bylaws require a minimum of twenty-five (25) attendees at the Annual Meeting in order to constitute a quorum. There was discussion about what to do should fewer than 25 players attend the 1/9/21 meeting. It was noted that two emails went out to all Unit members, one asking for nominees to board positions and then a second notifying them of the Annual Meeting via Zoom with the login information. Further it was noted that other units are changing their meetings to reflect the realities of meeting the demands of COVID-19 physical distancing requirements. Finally, it was noted that the

four candidates proffered by the board to fill the four vacant positions are running uncontested.

- b. Carol moved and Art seconded the motion that for the purposes of conducting business at the Annual Meeting, a quorum shall be the number of members and directors who attend, regardless of whether there are fewer than 25 members present (as is required by the bylaws). The motion carried. **ACTION:** Deb will follow up with ACBL and ask that they ratify the board's action in this matter.
- c. The agenda that Fred sent out via email for the meeting was reviewed and approved. **ACTION:** Jim will email the prospective new board members, Linda Seifert and Bud Zeuschner, to inform them that if they are elected, they should attend the meeting of the board immediately following the Annual Meeting to elect officers. Jim will email them the Zoom entry information and will cc the rest of the board.

Adjourned: 4:12 PM.

Upcoming Meetings:

1. Annual Meeting of members: January 9, at 3:45 pm via Zoom. meeting ID will be **689 341 2377** with a pass code of **278454**.
2. Meeting of the board to elect officers: January 9, immediately following Annual Meeting via Zoom meeting ID will be **840 6254 0292** with a pass code of **549352**
3. Next regular meeting of the board: February 12, 2021 at 3:45 pm via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Hughes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mike Hughes, Unit secretary