

Five Cities Duplicate Bridge Club - Board Meeting Minutes – April 26, 2018

I. Meeting called to order at 11:15 AM. Attendance:

Eli Zinner, President – Present	David Crampton, Member - Present
Mike Carroll, Vice President - Present	Jim Borland, Member - Present
Art Herbon, Secretary – Present	Patricia Kowal, Member - Present
Donna Kimber, Treasurer - Present	

A quorum was declared.

Also in attendance: Jim Solomon; Tom Snow

II. March 22nd Minutes (Art Herbon) - Approved with no changes.

III. Treasurer's Report (Donna Kimber) – approved with the following comments -

- A. \$14,405 on hand (up from \$13,862). Outstanding checks \$4,410, primarily because Jim Solomon is behind on cashing checks. \$9,995 available.

IV. Club Manager Report (Jim Solomon)

- A. Weekly emails now show schedule one month out, including the announcement of special game days in future weeks.
- B. New refreshment plan is working well: Jim is sending a separate weekly email to groups assigned to bring something. There are four email groups, one used each week.
- C. Summer Thursday games: Jim in process of confirming that Arroyo Women's Club is available due to unavailability of Pismo Veteran's Hall.

V. Director's Report (Jim Solomon) – none

VI. Old Business

- A. Alternate plans for when Vets Hall unavailable – 4/5 and 4/12 we will be at Woman's Club.
- B. Special Game Calendar – no comments
- C. On time starts – general observation is that games are starting within five-minutes of goal.
- D. Condition of bridge tables – Have not yet obtained the five tables approved in March.
- E. Longest Day, Thursday 6/21/18
 - 1. Board decided (motion by Carroll, second by Kowal) to call the 6/21 regular game a Longest Day charity. Members will be requested to “donate” a minimum of \$5.

VII. New Business

A. EZ Bridge Graduation

1. \$100 request approved. Four “Free Play” coupons for Thursday bridge approved (to be raffled off at graduation).
2. Art shared Deb Cameron’s (District 22 board member) observation that a club gave all newcomers three free plays, and then offered to pay first year’s dues and retroactively award points from the three games ... very successful in recruiting new active members.
3. We have more than 75 participants in this year’s program. Jim recommend continuing some form of Wednesday bridge/education this summer, perhaps with a different name than EZ Bridge. The Pismo venue is not available in the summer, so the club would incur facilities rental costs. There was no decision by the board.

B. Future plans for Wednesdays. EZ Bridge vs. something new –

1. Last meeting is mid-June. Last lesson is mid-May.
2. Tom Snow is not available June, July and August (traveling). He can teach Thursdays through May. Donna will ask Barbara Weiss to teach in May/June.
3. EZ Bridge (Snow teaching, Solomon directing) was disappointing this year using a criteria of the number of people that have transitioned to Thursday bridge. Main cause is that people are less serious and seem to prefer home games.
4. What is our mission for education ... More Thursday participation (we’ve gained at least four steady pairs) or general bridge appreciation, even if play is ultimately at casual level?
5. Tom advised against EZ Bridge next season if mission is to promote Thursday participation. He suggests holding EZ bridge (or another bridge class for beginners) on Thursdays, at same time as normal Thursday game. More discussion needed on this subject.
6. No decisions on this. Continue discussion on on Old Business next month.

C. Board members began discussing the need for the unit to actively support members taking a bridge instructors’ class.

D. The club’s cake knife is missing. Dave will purchase another one.

E. Next meeting is May 31st. Art is on vacation. Jim Borland will take minutes in May.