

Minutes of Regular Meeting
San Luis Obispo Unit 540
November 14, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 AM, by Vice President Bill Ringbom. Present were Board members Pat Hallock, Doris Dunn, Bill Woodson, Bud Zeuschner, Bob Karriker, Torre Houlgate-West, and Charles Davis. Board President Fred Strong was absent.

1. Call Meeting to Order. Bill Ringbom reviewed the agenda and advised the board that we had a full agenda for the meeting, passing out copies of email correspondence from Bill Woodson that we would be reviewing under New Business later in the meeting.
2. Review and Approval of the October minutes. After a brief discussion, and an amended notation on how many free months the Unit would receive with the Pianola software the board approved the minutes from the October meeting.
3. Treasurer's Report. Pat Hallock distributed her October Treasurer's report to the board. It shows that the Unit had \$6126.36 in its checking account and \$3376.38 in its savings account, for a total balance of \$9502.74. In response to Charles' question regarding the refund of our security deposit for the Longest Day Event, Bill Ringbom advised the board that Pat Hallock's previous treasury report did in fact include that refund. With that clarification the Treasurer's Report was approved.
4. Old Business
 - A. Update on the 2015 Sectional Tournament. Doris Dunn advised the board that she will need assistance in moving the tables from both the Arroyo Grande and the Morro Bay clubs to the Elks Club in SLO for the tournament. Bill Ringbom suggested contacting Dick Rivera for the A.G. tables and Torre Houlgate-West volunteered to transport the Morro Bay tables in her vehicle. Doris advised that since food for the tournament would be reduced that the various clubs would not be asked to coordinate food for selected dates, but that we would accept donations in lieu of food or offer food provided voluntarily, but that we would be denied access to the Elk's kitchen. Bill Ringbom will provide Charles a copy of the tournament flyer and Charles will advise his unit mailing list recipients of these issues. Doris asked also to be relieved of her ancillary duties as Hospitality Chair for the many events sponsored by the Unit each year. It was determined that she would continue in her current capacity through the upcoming Sectional Tournament, and that Board President Fred Strong would solicit a candidate to serve as the board's Hospitality Chair beginning in March, 2015.
 - B. Nominating Committee Update. Charles advised that he had contacted Torre Houlgate-West after the last month's meeting and that she, too, would run for her seat on the board. With all five expiring board members electing to run again, the Board now has a full slate of recommended candidates to be presented to the attendees of the Unit's Annual Meeting in January, 2015. Nominations will also be taken from the floor during the meeting.

- C. Education Scholarships. Bill Ringbom advised the Board that instructors for the Bridge-In-A-Day classes would now have to pay a \$75 accreditation fee. If the Unit wishes to provide that type of instruction in the future he recommended we reimburse the instructors their fee under our Education Scholarships program. After a brief discussion, the board approved his recommendation, provided that the recipients apply to the Unit in advance for approval and then would agree in writing to provide the classes as needed in the Unit. Bill further suggested our program for director reimbursements be revisited. After a brief discussion it was apparent that the issue was sufficiently complex that additional time was needed and the item was tabled to our next Unit Board meeting.
 - D. Mentoring. Leda Fields attended the Board meeting as a guest and briefed the members on mentoring activities planned for early 2015. She advised that beginning in January she would be offering a class on defense at her home. She further advised she was working with Gina Kirk and Torre Houlgate-West to offer a new mentoring program from January-April 2015.
 - E. Pianola Update. Bill Ringbom updated the Board on his activities in support of the roll-out of the Pianola software. All four bridge clubs have now agreed to use the program. The SLO Club will be the first to implement it, in January 2015. The other three clubs would be implemented on a rolling basis in the spring of 2015 rather than all at once to ensure a smooth transition and education of the affected directors. Bill also advised that the Board needed to agree to a date for the Annual Meeting in January at the SLO club. After a short discussion it was agreed to hold it in conjunction with the month's Unit Game on January 10, 2015.
5. New Business
- A. Support for Gina Kirk and Barbara Hardin's Tuesday bridge lessons in the Morro Bay club. Bill Woodson asked for the board's support for payment to these two instructors for their ongoing lessons. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding which classes were involved and whether they were covered by funds already authorized by the Board in September. Also the issue of Supervised Play was brought up and whether the Board's previous position on reimbursement for instruction at the local club level was sufficiently detailed to cover the complexities of this issue. Given the many questions which arose the Board declined at this time to approve any further funds for ongoing instruction being provided by Barbara and Gina, but agreed that our position on such classes needed further clarification to ensure that funding decisions were made on a consistent basis. Bill Woodson and Torre Houlgate-West were asked to chair a committee to draft a recommendation for board review and approval at our next meeting.
6. Adjourn. Bill Ringbom adjourned the meeting at 12:26 PM, advising the members that our next meeting would be on December 12, 2015 at 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Davis, Unit 540 Secretary