

Unit 531 Board Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2018

President Rick Gold called the meeting to order at 10:33 am.

Present were: Rick Gold, Louise Manganelli, Lorraine Gordon, Gene Katz, Joe Houde, Maria Marshall, and Joan Kroener

The minutes of the January 2 meeting had not been reviewed by enough members for approval and will be sent out to the board by President Rick Gold for review. The treasurer's report was not available.

Old Business:

Sectional dates of May 4-5 and November 9-10 were confirmed. These will be held at the church as previously. Gene Katz discussed the stratifications and proposed: A 3000 and above, B 1000-3000, C under 1000. There will also be a NLM section. Team games are being cancelled due to too few teams. There will be no separate NLM sectional this year.

Unit game dates were confirmed to be: March 18, April 18, no May due to sectional, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9, and October 14. We were unable to get dates for November and December at Ocean Hills. Efforts will be made to find another venue for these unit games. Joe Houde and Maria Marshall will pursue this.

Joe Houde proposed possibly adding a second unit game each month for NLMasters. Maria Marshall suggested a different format at some of the unit games, possibly Swiss teams or 8 is enough.

Gene Katz notified the board that Unit 549 has requested to share our storage shed at the church and all members were in accord with this.

The subject of having bridge classes was discussed at length. Joe Houde has proposed having classes prior to Ida Burcham's games on Monday or Tuesday or prior to the Friday game at El Corazon. He has a several curricula: a 17 day course for beginners, a 14 day course for intermediates, and individual lectures/topics for advanced players. There are course books available for the first two courses which cost \$25. The possibility of subsidizing the cost of the books was discussed. The issue of cost of the lessons was discussed at length. It was suggested that the first introductory class be complimentary. The goal is to promote bridge to new players and increase interest and amount of play for current players. Teaching bridge at local high schools was also discussed. Joe Houde will be putting together a full formal proposal for the teaching program for the next meeting.

The issue of food at the unit games was next discussed. Louise Manganelli, who is in charge of food, will not provide sodas, but will provide dessert. Jeanette Bentley has declined to join the board but will continue to assist Louise with the food for the unit games. It was noted that we all need to acknowledge the hard work of the volunteers providing food and to formally thank people at the unit games. Food for the sectionals was also discussed. Rick Gold will clarify whether Diana Cleary and Louise Manganelli will still do the food or whether food will be ordered from an outside provider.

Notification of dates for unit games and sectionals will be increased by flyers and by email thru the ACBL site. Gene Katz will be in charge of the latter.

New Business:

Rick Gold noted a member's concern about partnerships for people of color. This was discussed.

The possibility of hosting a one day teaching program by an expert (as unit 549 has done with Audrey Grant) was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned by President Gold at 12:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Joan Kroener, Secretary.