**ACBL UNIT 559**

**BOARD MINUTES**

**March 4, 2024**

1. The Zoom meeting of the ACBL Unit 559 Board of Directors was called to Order by President Lisa Walker at 7 PM. Present were Morris Jones, Lisa Walker, Miriam Harrington, Angela Peters, Kathy Cresto, Sherry Hansen, and new elected Board members Don Garner, Patricia Luehrs, Gloria M Rommel, and Liza Billington. Michael Rodrigues and Doug Senour were absent. Also present at the meeting were Roy Wilson, Webmaster, and Richard Halverstadt, an outgoing Board member.

2. As a matter of old business, Angela Peters moved that the Board ratify the decision made earlier by the Board by email that the Unit provide free play for all players at the Election Party on March 3, 2024. The motion was seconded by Richard Halverstadt and unanimously passed.

3. Also, as a matter of old business, Morris Jones moved that the Board ratify the decision made earlier by the Board by email approving a $500 donation to ACBL District 23 to provide financial assistance for the Long Beach Regional in July 2024. The motion was seconded by Angela Peters and unanimously passed.

4. Richard Halverstadt moved that the minutes of the January 8, 2024 meeting be approved. Morris Jones seconded the motion, and it was unanimously passed.

5. The current financials for the Unit as of March 3, 2024, prepared by Miriam Harrington, were disseminated to the Board prior to the meeting. The financials report that the Unit has $13,158.07 in the bank after paying for free play for all participants at the March 3 Election Party. Upon motion by Angela Peters and seconded by Don Garner, the financials were unanimously approved by the Board.

6. The meeting moved on to the election of Unit officers to serve for the next year. After discussion concerning Board members’ personal preferences and availability, upon motion duly made and seconded the following officers were unanimously elected:

President: Lisa Walker

Vice President::Liza Billington

Treasurer: Miriam Harrington

Assistant Treasurer: Michael Rodrigues

Secretary: Don Garner

7. The next order of business was the appointment of Committee Chairs by the President. After soliciting Board members’ areas of interest and their expressed willingness and availability to serve the Unit, the President appointed the following Committee Chairs to serve for the next year:

Friendship Chair: Gloria M. Rommel

Membership Chair: Kathy Cresto

Publicity Chair: Patricia Luehrs

Sectional Co-Chairs: Angela Peters & Sherry Hansen

Holiday Party Chairperson: Michael Rodrigues (subject to his acceptance) or Sherry Hansen

8. During the course of consideration of Chair appointments, a discussion ensued concerning the role of the Unit 559 ambassadors in supporting the Membership Chair’s responsibilities in welcoming new members to Unit 559. The Membership Chair has promulgated procedures under which the ambassadors are to assist her in carrying out her role. After the lively sharing of views and proposals concerning how the ambassadors might be utilized, the discussion was concluded by mutual agreement that Kathy Cresto, as Membership Chair, will be responsible for working out appropriate and mutually agreeable arrangements with the volunteer ambassadors, Sherry Hansen and Gloria M. Rommel. These will include the process for sending welcoming communications and extending the invitation to new members to have a free pay game at a Unit event. Upon motion by Morris Jones, seconded by Sherry Hansen, the Board authorized that no more than $100 per month may be expended by the Unit to provide a free play game to welcome each new member to the Unit.

9. On a motion by Morris Jones and seconded by Patricia Luehrs, the Board unanimously determined that the Unit games for March, April and May 2024 will be held on the first and third Sundays of those months.

10. On a motion by Angela Peters and seconded by Kathy Cresto, the Board unanimously voted that the Unit should have an Over/Under game again this year. Since a manager for this game still needs to be identified, however, the decision on going forward with and making plans for such a game will be contingent upon finding a manager to oversee the event.

11. As the final matter of business to come before the meeting, the Board discussed how the Unit’s financial assistance to the Long Beach Regional tournament should be identified. That is, whether the contribution should merely be described as a gift given by the “Pasadena-San Gabrial ACBL Unit 559” or as a contribution in the memory of a specified member of the Unit. The consensus was that – in light of the fact that ten members of the Unit had passed away during the past year – singling out only one such member would be difficult and possibly controversial. Recognizing this dilemma, upon motion of Angela Peters seconded by Don Garner, the Board unanimously determined that the gift should be characterized as a contribution from the Pasadena-San Gabriel Unit 559.

There being no other business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Garner, Secretary