

FORT WESTERN UNIT 183  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OCTOBER 24, 2016

The meeting was held at 6715 Camp Bowie Boulevard, Fort Worth, TX. President L. Spangler called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Directors L. Spangler, J. Montgomery, D. Pearlman, J. Jordan, J. Floyd, M. Tryon, L. Brown and S. Shirey attended. Director K. Jones was absent.

Supplies Committee chair Sue Rowe was also present by invitation.

### **Minutes**

Upon motion duly made and seconded the minutes of the meeting of September 19, 2016 were unanimously approved.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Tryon presented the Treasurer's report, covering the months of August and September. He noted that the statements showed small losses in both months, due mostly to the timing of cash flows and the expense of printing and mailing ballots for the annual election of directors. Mr. Pearlman was tasked to review the Unit's bylaws to see if this expense could be reduced or eliminated in 2017, and to propose revisions to the bylaws if needed to accomplish this goal.

M. Tryon reported that the Unit had a year to date deficit of approximately \$9,000. Without the improvements to the Studio the Unit would show a year to date profit of over \$10,000.

Responding to a question from J. Jordan, M. Tryon noted that the figures for the October sectional would be included in the report to be presented to the Board in November.

### **Tournament Committee**

J. Jordan stated that for future regionals the Unit would probably want to buy additional tables. This would eliminate the need to borrow tables from Unit 176. She noted that Baron Barclay was currently having a sale on tables, marked down to \$34 from \$50 apiece. She also reported that Tim Alby was looking into the purchase of a trailer suitable to haul tables to and from the tournament site.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was resolved that J. Jordan was authorized to purchase 70 tables from Baron Barclay at \$34 each, provided (1) delivery of the tables could be delayed until the trailer situation was resolved and (2) the table purchase could be canceled if the board declined to purchase a trailer by the time delivery of the tables was required.

J. Jordan circulated a draft of the flyer for the next sectional and took comments from Board members. The point limits for flight B and X will rise, from 2,000 to 2,500 for B and from 4,000 to 5,000 for X.

J. Jordan noted also that the Unit should purchase new boards, after identifying which of the current boards were still useful and which were not. L. Spangler tasked J. Jordan with accomplishing this project.

### **Education Committee Report**

L. Brown reported that her current Easybridge class was entering its fifth week, a critical one because that is when students are charged a fee for the first time and this is when students are most likely to drop out.

### **New Business**

L. Spangler reported that a member of a Unit board in California had written a letter to ACBL protesting the amount of recent fee increases on Units, which are disproportionately higher than other fee increases adopted by ACBL. She asked D. Pearlman to draft a letter to be sent by the Unit to Dan Morse, District 16's representative on the ACBL Board of Directors, urging him to ask ACBL to reduce the amount of the fee increases on Units.

### **Old Business**

Sue Rowe reported on issues concerning keeping the Studio adequately supplied. She asked that Directors be requested to report when they remove the last package of any item from the supply closet so that she will know to buy more of the given item. She also noted that she has a difficult time keeping the Studio supplied on short notice because the checkout procedure at Sam's Club for tax-exempt organizations is very cumbersome. She asked that the Board approve a change to Costco instead, since she can check out there in about fifteen minutes instead of forty-five at Sam's.

After considerable discussion, and motion duly made and seconded, the Board authorized J. Montgomery and S. Rowe to obtain an Executive membership at Costco and a Costco credit card with a credit limit high enough to purchase supplies without fear of being turned down. M. Tryon urged that the card's credit limit not be so high as to put the Unit at significant risk for a user's personal shopping spree. J. Montgomery and S. Rowe were directed to ask Costco for a way to have more than one person authorized to use the credit card.

L. Spangler noted that L. Brown had identified a member who had offered to serve as Unit bookkeeper for a fee of \$200 per month. There was much discussion concerning the proper division of labor between Treasurer and a bookkeeper. L. Spangler will contact the proposed bookkeeper and report back at the November meeting, at which time further action will be considered.

L. Spangler stated that she would like to designate Saturday of the February sectional as Volunteer Appreciation Day. No individual volunteers would be identified, so that none would be inadvertently omitted. The Board was unanimously in favor.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted  
David J. Pearlman  
Secretary, Fort Western Unit 183