

Unit 116 Western New York of the ACBL
Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors (approved)

August 26, 2016

Bridge Center of Buffalo, Amherst, NY

Members present: Carol Bedell, Howard Foster, Jim Gullo, Betty Metz, Dian Petrov, Tova Reinhorn, Paul Zittel

Members Absent: Chip Kean, Elaine Kurasiewicz

Guests: Judie Bailey

The meeting was called to order by President Betty Metz at 2:10 p.m.

1. The **minutes** of the meeting of July 22, 2016, previously distributed by email, were approved as amended.
2. The **Treasurer's Report** covering the period 7/21/16 to 8/23/16, previously distributed by email, was accepted. The balance was \$14,638, down from \$15,061 at the beginning of the period. Tova reminded the Board that we are transitioning to a new bank, Northwest Savings, which is taking over our service branch following the merger between First Niagara and KeyBank.
3. **Correspondence.** Betty noted correspondence from Mary Carns, Secretary of District 5, indicating that she had received payment for StaC fees from Airport Bridge Club on July 22.
4. **Committee Reports:**

Buff. Judie reported that the September Buff, the "Election Issue," will be out on or before September 4. There will also be a regular issue in October.

Judie also reported that 145 copies of the 2016 Unit Directory have been sold. A total of 250 copies were printed.

Fifth Column. Entry for the August issue is on line.

Unit Tournament Coordinator. Dian reported that the Unit still has three unit-rated games that can be assigned. He recommended that three slots be designated for clubs to use as club-run unit games, and he moved that these slots be Monday morning, October 10; Thursday evening, November 17; and Saturday afternoon, December 17. The motion was approved. Dian also noted that a sanction still has to be obtained for the previously approved Unit game on November 6. Howard will send in the request.

Sunshine. Tova reported that two cards were sent since the last meeting.

Publicity. Carol will talk to Dale about the upcoming sectional.

Education. Carol reported that the summer youth program, with 16 students, is going well, with a “mini-tournament” scheduled for next week. The “bridge buddies” love the assignment, and they have been especially useful in filling out tables when players are away on vacation. A long, complimentary article on the program appeared in the Amherst Bee on August 24, which quoted Carol, Christy Kellogg, and Betty Metz, along with some students and their parents. Some of the students want to continue in the fall, and a follow-up program is under consideration. A Saturday morning program taught by Linda Burroughsford will start on October 1.

Elections. The Elections Committee chaired by Jim Gullo is seeking candidates to run for three open slots on the Board. The slate to be nominated by the Committee will be determined by September 2 and then published in the Buff. Other players will then have until October 4 to submit petitions to be added to the ballot.

Volunteer of the Year. Honoree for this year must be determined before the Annual Meeting. Betty urged that there be an entry in the Buff encouraging nominations.

5. **Old Business:**

Unit Picnic. ACBL table fees have not yet been paid. Once they are paid it is estimated that the picnic will have run a deficit of about \$500, roughly consistent with expectations. The picnic was a very successful event, drawing 107 players to the Hamburg Fairgrounds. Because of an error in the computer set-up, the game results were submitted wrongly to the ACBL. This caused a double-billing from ACBL, which is in the process of being resolved. Masterpoints will be awarded once the proper charge has been determined and the Unit pays it.

Eight Is Enough Unit Game. The game at Airport Bridge Club drew 12 tables and ran smoothly. It generated a surplus of about \$46.

Fall Sectional. The sectional will feature a dupli-swiss event on Sunday, with pre-dealt hands played at all tables and hand records. Dave Hemmer is orchestrating this with Brian Meyer, who will be directing.

Mentor Program. The program is going well, with some pairs already completing the five games the Unit is pledged to underwrite. The question was raised as to whether we should subsidize additional games, but the consensus was that we should adhere to the previously set limit and revisit the rules for next year.

Buffalo Regional. Betty reported that the tournament will use the Unit’s BridgeMates, for which we will be paid \$0.50 per unit per day. It will also use our boards, with no reimbursement. We will also supply some paper products, for which there will be either replacement or reimbursement.

6. **New Business:**

November 6 Unit Game. This will be a swiss-teams game, with theme to be determined. Howard and Elaine are co-chairing.

Annual Meeting. A draft of the flier was shown the Board. It was moved that the entry fee be set at \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members, to include lunch (same as last year). The motion passed.

Picnic 2017. It was moved that this event be held at the Rescue Hall in North Tonawanda on August 20, 2017. The motion was approved. The cost is \$200.

7. **Next Board Meeting:** September 23, 2016, 2:15 p.m., at BCB.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Howard Foster, Secretary