

District 21
American Contract Bridge League
Annual Meeting of the District 21 Board of Directors
January 5, 2019

The Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of District 21 was called to order by President Tom Pajak at 10:03 A.M.

1. **ROLL CALL:** The following Unit Representatives and Presidents were in attendance: Unit #465 Ed Gould, Cornelia Gould; Unit #473 Diane Todd; Unit #497 Mark Kornmann; Unit #498 Janelle Van Rensselaer, Sue Papilion; Unit #499 Lyn Sacco, Karen Corburn; Unit #500 Carla Francis, Andy Sass; Unit #501 Art Mirin; Unit #502 Doug Couchman; Unit #503 Kip Kado, Prue Saunders; Unit #505 Sharon Neff, Jim Coke; Unit #506 Marion Robertson; Unit #507 Stu Goodgold; Unit #508 Tracey Bauer, Bill Yeast; Unit #509 Jackie Ortiz; Unit #510 Marilyn Minden; Unit #512 Sigrid Price; Unit #522 Richard Meffley; Unit #524 Linda King, Patricia Stone; Unit #530 Richard Papst. Also in attendance were President Tom Pajak, Vice President Ray Yuenger, Secretary Sandi Davis, Treasurer Jean Barry, District Director Jackie Zayac, Tournament Manager Pam Hughes, 2019 SF NABC Chair Jim Leuker, Web Master Grant Robinson, and Caddy Master Doug Hong. Honored Guests: Dave Wilmott, Anne Hollingsworth, Paul Davis, Kevin O-Leary, and McKenzie Myers.
2. **GOODWILL:** Chairman Ginny Wailes thanked the members of her committee - Tom Pajak, Sandi Davis, Anne Hollingsworth and Prue Saunders - for helping her select the recipients of the 2018 Awards. Ginny presented Goodwill Awards to Kevin O'Leary of Unit #503 Palo Alto and Sigrid Price of Unit #512 Sonoma Valley. Also receiving the award but not in attendance were Susan Powell of Unit #473 Reno, Libby Silver of Unit #502 East Bay and Kathy Juarez of Unit #509 Santa Rosa/Petaluma. Tom Pajak presented the Presidential Goodwill Award to Janelle Van Rensselaer of Unit #498 San Mateo.
3. President Tom Pajak introduced the new ACBL Area Manager McKenzie Meyers, who is the point of contact for all tournament directors in the west. He is also happy to discuss any questions on tournament schedules. His email address is mckenzie.myers@acbl.org and also welcomes questions on the upcoming 2019 SF NABC. He has worked in operations on past NABCs behind the scenes.
4. **ELECTION OF 2018 OFFICERS:** Chairman Jackie Ortiz announced the nominees for officers to serve for one year. Jean Barry is a candidate for Treasurer. There were no nominations from the floor. She was elected as Treasurer for 2019. Sandi Davis is a candidate for Secretary. There were no nominations from the floor. She was elected as Secretary for 2019. Ray Yuenger is a candidate for Vice President. There were no nominations from the floor. He was elected as Vice President for 2019. Tom Pajak is a candidate for President. There were no nominations from the floor. He was elected as President for 2019.

5. **MINUTES OF THE 9/2/18 MEETING**: The minutes of the 9/2/18 meeting were presented. On motion made and seconded, it was:

**MOVED: The minutes of the 9/2/18 minutes are approved as written.
MOTION CARRIED

6. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND PRESIDENT'S REPORT**: Tom Pajak reported that several items from last night's ExCom meeting will be addressed later in this meeting. A new fee schedule for Sectional supplies provided by the District and delivered by Calvin Harper was approved by the ExCom. Calvin loads and unloads the supplies including tables, bidding boxes, boards, Bridgemates, pencils, and paper supplies (Convention cards, computer printer paper) to many of the Units for their Sectional events. Calvin pays for his own gasoline and receives a per table fee for his work. He has not received a raise in his payment since gasoline was \$.83/gallon, according to the Treasurer's records. The new fee schedule will be \$1.75/attendance table. In addition a travel surcharge of \$60 per tournament .will be added to costs for five units in the District that are farthest from the central supply storage unit in El Sobrante to offset the round trip cost to Calvin. Those five Units are Santa Cruz, Sacramento, Stockton, Gilroy and Modesto. In addition, Calvin will now receive \$.85/table and \$.85/mile travelled, which will increase the cost to all Sectionals of roughly \$100 per tournament. For the past 40 years, participating Sectionals have been charged \$1.25/ table. All fees will continue to be paid to the District Treasurer who will then compensate Calvin. Jackie Ortiz noted that Calvin has been serving the District tirelessly for forty years and she does not recall him ever receiving a bonus for his exceptional work. She feels that we should give him some sort of bonus. Sigrid Price also spoke to the fact that we would be in terrible shape without him and that there are no other Districts that provide this kind of support to their Units. Sigrid moved that we give Calvin a Valentine's Day bonus of \$1,000 as a thank you for his 40 years of service. Motion was seconded. Art Mirin asked if there was a precedent for this and Jackie O. responded that there have been one-time gifts given in the past. The motion was amended and seconded prior to the vote.

** MOVED: A \$1,000 thank you gift be given to Calvin Harper concurrent with the notification regarding the new fee schedule for support services.
MOTION CARRIED

7. **TREASURER'S REPORT**: Jean Barry reported that everything on the Treasurer's Report distributed two weeks ago is unchanged. We are earning interest on our accounts as well as receiving money from the Western Conference STaC games. The Regional table count is lower but we are still making money or breaking even. Bob Gould asked for clarification on where in the spreadsheet the new fees for sectional supplies are shown. Jean responded that the income is shown under Income – Sectional supplies and the expense is under Administrative – Supplies. It is not allocated under any of the Regionals.

****MOVED:** The Treasurer's Report is approved as submitted.
MOTION CARRIED

8. **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Ray Yuenger says email delivery of the *Diamond in the Ruff* continues and asked for email contact from anyone still not receiving the notice. A suggestion was made that a notice could be posted on the D21 website regarding contacting Ray about the notification issue. Ray has not yet made a connection with anyone who responds to the questions regarding the Pianola service we use. He suggested Units could print out copies for members not receiving the notification until the issues are resolved. Grant Robinson added that the ACBL has an available discount for print services through FedEx/Kinko's as well as other companies such as Office Depot, hotels, restaurants, etc. If you look at your ACBL benefits on the ACBL website, you can find many offers are available.
9. **TOURNAMENT MANAGER'S REPORT:** Pam Hughes reported that we have three new DICs this year – Matt Koltnow in Sacramento, Lynn Yokel in Reno and Ken Horwedel in Santa Clara – and McKenzie Myers will be the DIC at Monterey 2020. This was Nancy Boyd's final Regional DIC with D21 and we purchased large quantities of Peet's coffee as a farewell gift. While reviewing the new contract with the Doubletree in Sacramento, Pam found several items of concern. First, if you want a room with a King bed, the price is \$10 more than the flyer advertised price. Second, the price of a room in the Cal Expo wing, previously \$10 additional, will now be \$40 additional. She will continue to negotiate with them on the King bed issue. The Hyatt Santa Clara is implementing parking fees this year for the first time. They threatened this last year but Pam was able to talk them out of it. Now they have ticket validation machines and will charge \$15 for both the parking structure and the parking lots with no in and out privileges. Pam asked for suggestions from the local Reps on finding a better solution. The question of subsidizing by the District was discussed. The Reno/Sparks Regional will be only a 10/3/7 schedule this year.
10. **2019 SF NABC REPORT:** Chairman Jim Leuker announced the event will be held from November 28 – December 8, 2019 at the Marriott Marquis in San Francisco. There are pencils here with the dates of the SF NABC and Jim asked that everyone take some to try and spread the word. ACBL has made many changes to the financial handling of the NABC following several money losing events. Previously the ACBL would give the committee a budget based on expected table count and the committee would handle all of the expenses. Starting this year, almost everything is handled through Horn Lake. Jim stated we have a variety of expenses such as the badges, pencils, planned I/N events, etc. Jim would ask the ACBL to reimburse these but would like the board to give the committee a \$10,000 reserve fund to cover items in the meantime. The Executive Committee voted to allow a reserve fund of \$10,000 as requested. Most committees, such as Volunteers, will follow the same as 2012 planning with units being asked to provide volunteers on a particular day. Jim announced the committee chairs: Chairman Jim Leuker, Secretary Sandi Davis, Treasurer Jean

Barry, Food and Entertainment Jackie Ortiz, I/N Cheryl Haines and Janelle Van Rensselaer, Transportation and Parking Stu Goodgold, Caddies Pam Hughes, Volunteers Sigrid Price, Registration Sharon Neff, Information Marion Robertson, Prizes Joan and Bob Rouse, Partnership Andy Straus and Kevin Liberg, Program/Restaurant Loren Nordlund, Internet /Website Tom Pajak, and District Director Jackie Zayac. A question was raised about who schedules what events are held. Jim responded that is done through Horn Lake but we can make suggestions such as I/N games, Mid-Flight games, etc. A question was asked about parking rates. At the Marriott, valet is \$74 and the 5th & Mission garage is \$34 so attendees should be encouraged to use public transportation. Tracey Bauer suggested that we strongly recommend this as car break-ins in San Francisco are happening frequently. Bob Gould confirmed that this is a problem throughout the bay area and those parking at BART or Cal Train parking lots should also be advised. A question was asked about the naming of an event. Jim responded that this is an option and anyone interested should contact Jim. Pam noted that the money from naming comes to our committee and could be used to offset costs. Marion Robertson added that anyone connected to a corporate sponsor would be welcome to place an ad in the welcome directory. When asked about the deadline for game schedule and naming rights, Jim said he believes it is March but will confirm the date.

11. **REPORT OF THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR:** Jackie Zayac started by asking Reps to talk to their Unit boards about phishing scams reported in the bridge community where someone purporting to be the Unit President contacts the Treasurer with a dire emergency. Jackie is working with Pam to create a special day at the All Western Regional in Santa Clara on Friday, August 30, for 0-99 and 0-299 players. They can play one session for \$10 or two for \$15 and prizes will be awarded. Jackie will distribute flyers in Sacramento re the event. Jackie gave an abbreviated report. There will be mentors available after each session to discuss hands and answer questions. The 2019 Aileen Osofsky Goodwill member of the Year was awarded to Mark Sorenson from Unit 498 San Mateo. In addition both Michael and Debbie Rosenberg received honorary member awards. The new ACBL president is Russ Jones. The NABC table fees for Regional events are \$20, NABC events are \$30 and "Behind the Screen" is \$35 beginning in Las Vegas in July. There will no longer be late fees charged to clubs turning their reports in late. If the District finals in the GNT in Flights B and C events field were larger than 8 teams, the 2nd place finishers are now eligible to compete in the NABC finals. She referred board members to either the condensed *DIR* article or the full 27 page version posted on the D21 website as players' areas of interest vary and the report holds something for everyone. Doug Couchman asked Jackie her opinion of the re-instatement of cheater Massimo Lanzarotti to the ACBL. She did not support the decision.
12. **WESTERN CONFERENCE:** Marion Robertson had her final meeting online last year. The WC distributes the profits from STaC games and is trying to increase the number of participants in the game. Cornelia Gould now represents D21 starting on January 1, 2019. Jackie Z. reported that the WC website is being held

hostage by the current webmaster. Jackie was able to open up a new website but needs help in building it. Grant Robinson volunteered to help with this.

13. **TOURNAMENT COORDINATOR**: Richard Meffley emailed copies of the current calendar to the Board. It shows the schedule for the next two years. Jean asked Richard to be vigilant about not scheduling Calvin for two tournaments on the same weekend. She said that in 2018, Calvin provided services for 22 Sectionals plus the Regionals. The question was raised about what rank Director is required for the NLM Regional. McKenzie Myers responded that a local director is fine for under 500 NLM but if it is an under 750 event, an ACBL ranked Director is required. There may be some exceptions.
14. **GNT/NAP/ COORDINATORS AND REGIONAL PLANNING**: Stu Goodgold gave Grant Vance's GNT report. The GNTs will start in February. The Open and Flight A will be four day events and Flights B and C will be one day, two session events. Registration is required by eight days prior to the event. The NAP schedule is complete and posted on the website. Changes were made to move the finals out of December due to many complaints last year. The finals are now being held in November (11/2 and 11/3, 11/23) so the Unit finals must be held in September or October. A discussion followed of finals in November versus January it was approved that the finals will be held in November. Stu said that dates for the 2 Day NLM Regional have been confirmed as March 14 and 15, 2020, at the Palo Alto Bridge Center. There is a 50 table capacity and awards 30% gold points.
15. **CHARITY**: Tom gave Jeff Hack's report that he will defer his report to Sacramento.
16. **YOUTH BRIDGE**: Ray Yuenger is preparing the updated application documents to send out in March for the grant requests being reviewed prior to the Sacramento Regional. The other part of the process is review of the survey to be completed by all those who received grants. He received 4 replies and relied on the SiVY programs comments.
17. **D21 WEBSITE**: Grant Robinson asked how many read the Daily Bulletins at the Regionals promptly such as the next morning. Response was many do. He will try to get it posted earlier in the morning. IoS is difficult to scroll unless you open the online *DIR*. Grant added that the ACBL has a new web service which he could adapt to the District. He could send each Unit a list of players that won at a Sectional/Regional soon after the event. This was enthusiastically supported.
18. **SOCIAL MEDIA**: Tracey Bauer is getting more information about Sectionals and special events but often not until weeks later. You can contact her via email or text. She needs more of this. Once she gets information it is usually posted on the website within a couple of minutes.

19. **ADJOURNMENT**: The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 P.M. The next meeting of the Board of Directors of District 21 will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday, June 1, 2019, at the Doubletree Hotel in Sacramento.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandi Davis, Secretary
District 21