



Minutes of the District 17 Board of Directors Meeting April 11, 2023, via Zoom Video Conference

Present: Liz Hamilton (President), Cindy Shoemaker (National Board), Bill Curtis, Lakin Hines, Neil Hunter, JoAnne Lowe, Steve Nordberg, Jennifer O'Neill, Bill Phillips, Steve Reynolds, Sharon Smith

THE PRESIDENT CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 9:00 AM PDT

Opening Remarks

Liz Hamilton

Liz expressed appreciation to Neil Hunter, District 17 Board Vice President, for filling in while she was on travel. She also welcomed Steve Reynolds back to the Board. Steve was elected by Unit 356 to replace Diana Galis, who resigned from the Board. She praised Jack Shoemaker, Tucson Regional Tournament Chair, on the great financial and experiential success of the tournament.

Approval of January 19, 2023 Minutes

Bill Phillips

Motion by Jennifer O'Neill to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2023 Albuquerque Board meeting. Seconded by JoAnne Lowe. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Jennifer O'Neill

Both the Albuquerque and Tucson Regionals turned a profit, thereby improving District 17's financial status. STaCs also yielded a profit. We have received money from the December 2022 Phoenix NABC. We will be giving money to Unit 373 for the upcoming NABC in December 2023. Money raised to support NABC tournaments must be kept separate from District 17 funds. Liz expressed appreciation to Jennifer for her time and effort in maintaining accurate and appropriate control of finances. Motion by Jennifer O'Neill to accept the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Steve Nordberg. Motion carried unanimously.

Email Motions and Votes

Neil Hunter

Motion by Jennifer O'Neill via email to allow local sponsors to decide whether to require tournament participants to provide proof of vaccination in light of ACBL's decision to leave this decision up to tournament sponsors. The motion was approved by a majority vote.

Regional Tournament Committee Report

Liz Hamilton

Upcoming Regionals for 2023 are Denver, Phoenix, and Taos. District 17 will support the Taos tournament fully. Denver signed a contract for 2024 and Phoenix and Taos have contracts for 2023. Denver will move to a new location in 2024. Albuquerque signed a contract for January 2024 at the same location as in the past. District 17 provides one Pianola mailing for each Regional. The mailing is to be sent to ACBL members within a 500-mile radius of the venue.

Taos Regional

Jennifer O'Neill

Jennifer, Neil and Winifred Stebbins meet weekly for planning and updating. District 17 Board members will need to help with various tasks. Neil is also recruiting volunteers from Los Alamos and Santa Fe.

Pianola

Cindy Shoemaker

Jerry Keeran, District 17 Pianola Coordinator, has requested that tournament chairs send him the tournament flyer and some highlights for potential Pianola mailings. Jerry is interested in helping with the District 17 website as well as with Pianola. Liz stated that Pianola users should work with Jerry Keeran and Cindy Shoemaker rather than going directly to James Ward (the owner of Pianola). Motion by Liz Hamilton to provide one free Pianola mailing for each I/N Regional, the mailing being sent only to members of District 17. Seconded by Jennifer O'Neill. Amendment to restrict the mailing to the Pianola rate of one cent per mailing. Amendment accepted by the seconder. By implication, the mailing would go only to D17 members who are eligible to participate in an I/N event. Unfortunately, ACBL's database is not up to date, so inevitably the mailing will be received by some people who are not eligible. Motion carried unanimously.

We don't want to inundate people with emails. We *do* want to maximize effective use of our other communication tools such as the Buzz and the website. Jennifer mentioned that there is an economy of scale when purchasing Pianola credits. Specifically, if we purchase 100,000 credits we receive 200,000 credits. However, District 17's future use of Pianola has yet to be determined. It appears to be premature to invest \$1,000 in Pianola credits at this time.

National Board Report

Cindy Shoemaker

Cindy recently sent the report to Board members and District 17 players. ACBL Executive Director search is making progress. (*n.b.* On April 14th it was announced that Bronia Jenkins will be installed as ACBL Executive Director effective April 25th.) An NABC will be held in Phoenix in 2027. It may or may not be at the Sheraton Hotel.

Hospitality Budget

Liz Hamilton

Social get-togethers of District 17 Board members and local tournament sponsors have proven to be good for team building. Motion by Liz Hamilton that \$750 be allocated for each regional at which there is a District 17 Board meeting and that the attendees be Board members plus one guest and active unit tournament participants plus one guest. Seconded by Jennifer O'Neill. After discussion Liz amended the motion as follows: "District 17 approves funds not to exceed \$500 for a social event at regionals where there is a District 17 Board meeting." Motion carried unanimously.

Board Member Elections

Lakin Hines

Lakin has notified Units that have District 17 Board representatives whose terms are expiring that an election will be held this year. Sharon Smith is running; Steve Nordberg is running; Lakin Hines is *not* running. Announcements regarding impending elections will be included in the July Buzz. Cindy is familiar with the format and content of these announcements and will work with Lakin to prepare the material.

Informational Signs for Regional Tournaments

Liz Hamilton

There was a discussion about creating signs for the welcome/registration desk, partnership desk, and locations for paying entry fees for pair events and team events. These signs would be applicable to all regional tournaments and transported to the tournaments by Bill Phillips along with the other tournament supplies. There was also some discussion about the possibility of purchasing a PA system for use at regional tournaments.

District 17 Logo

Cindy Shoemaker

A new District 17 logo has been designed. (*n.b.*, see the masthead on this document.)

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Jennifer O'Neill. Seconded by Steve Nordberg. Carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.

Next Face-to-Face Meetings (at the Denver Regional):
Wednesday, May 24, 2023, 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM MDT
and
Thursday, May 25, 2023, 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM MDT

Respectfully submitted,

William D. Phillips

Scribe