

**Unit 508 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 3:25 at Pickleweed Community Center by Gene Simpson.

Present: Jim Cohen, Ron Studen, Debbie Levine, Gwen Toso, Alex Kinas, Michael Nistler and Lynn Blankfort.

Absent: Richard Mani

Secretary's report: Minutes of the September 14th meeting were approved and will be forwarded to Laura Fraser for posting on the website.

Treasurer's Report: Ron handed out a financial analysis of the Barbara Seagram Seminar. The net profit was \$2867.85. We now have a total of \$16,161.00 in our bank account.

Education: Debbie reported that the Barbara Seagram seminar was a big success and the object of raising money is to be able to provide more free seminars to members of our Unit. The only problem was that our unit speaker system was not adequate to handle a group that size. There were 137 people at this event. It was fortunate that Michael Nistler brought his speaker system. Lynn made a motion to reimburse Michael for the use of his time and system. Debbie seconded the motion and \$100.00 was approved. Gene asked Michael to research the cost of a new system for us.

Debbie has been speaking with other National Professionals for 2010. She will keep us apprised of her progress. Jim suggested that any educational seminar could be broken into two sessions to accommodate two different levels of players.

Lynn proposed that we have a committee to help with hospitality, setup and cleanup of future educational programs. Debbie will be in charge of this committee.

It was also recommended to write thank you notes to the four people who volunteered to help with that day. Lynn will take care of this.

Ron wanted to thank Debbie for a superb job as education chair and to Richard Mani for all his help.

Membership report: Alex reported that the membership remains at 595.

Old Business: Web site committee. Debbie feels that we need an e-mail data base to disseminate information, which would be accessible only to the Board. Michael said that it is doable but specific information is needed to implement it and that Laura is able to set up a general e-mail list. Gene asked if Michael could set up a way for people to sign up for a Unit e-mail by accessing something on the web page. The bottom line result of this discussion seemed unclear.

Jim brought a list of points that the Web site committee had discussed.

1. A chat page. The consensus was that we do not want a chat page.
2. Posting of results. This is fine, as is.
3. Having certified teachers of ACBL able to announce their classes on our website. This is fine, but must go through Michael to Laura.
4. Any other "advertising" of classes, camps or cruises, should go through the board on a case by case basis. Gene also felt that some of this promotion should be paid for by the client

New Business: Gene nominated Lura Crossley to the Good Will Committee from Unit 508. The board approved.

Gene asked Jim if he would serve as recorder in the future and he agreed.

Gene said that there are ACBL forms available to file complaints and asked if it was possible to access these forms so that members of the Unit could file their own complaints. Michael said he would look into this.

Alex reported that one of the clubs in the unit had complained about information not appearing on the web site. The matter was referred to Michael Nistler as chair of the website committee.

Michael asked if the unit has a right to decide who, what, where and when sanctioned games are held. The consensus of the board was that it was up to the individual [directors] {club owners} to make this decision, whether or not they were in direct competition with one another.

Jim reported he had received information from the D21 secretary that Jay Magid was very sick and expected to die within a few days. The board agreed to send a sympathy card to his sister when the address becomes available.

Michael asked if the unit has a right to decide who, what, where and when sanctioned games are held. Gene felt that it was up to the individual directors to make this decision, whether or not they were in direct competition with one another.

The next meeting will be on TUESDAY November 17th at Pickleweed Community Center following the game.

The meeting was adjourned by Gene at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lynn Blankfort, Secretary