

# **ACBL Unit 506 Meeting Minutes**

**Sept 18, 2019**

## **1. Call to Order**

Tom Stillman, Unit President, called to order a meeting of the Unit 506 Board at 4:00 pm at the Sunset Bridge Club in San Francisco, CA.

The following persons were present: Tom Stillman, Joanne Allen, Kris Wong, Lauren Friedman, Gail Gabiati, Martin Kaye, Donna Neff, Steve Smolen and Libby Noronha.

## **2. Treasurer's Report**

Kris Wong, Treasurer, reported that the checking account has a bit over \$21,000, basically the same as at the last meeting.

Beginning in 2020, St. Mary's has raised our rent to \$519. for each Unit game.

The Pomeroy Center has doubled our rent for each Sectional to \$5000. There was discussion about the minimum balance to maintain in the Unit checking account. Discussion was had about the minimum balance that should be maintained. At previous meetings, the number of \$15,000 had been discussed, but no decision was made. Since there is a comfortable margin in the account, the Board decided it was not necessary to raise the table fee for the unit games even though we usually lose a small amount of money on each game. (spread sheet attached)

## **3. Unit Games**

### **Survey**

Tom circulated a survey to attendees at the September unit game which had a record 34 tables. A blank survey and survey results are attached to these Minutes.

### **Food and Coffee**

As the number of attendees has risen, it is impossible for one person to be in charge of the entire meal. There was discussion concerning preference to buy premade food from Costco or other stores and restaurants. Instacart is another idea. Tom and Steve will investigate that possibility. No matter how much food is available, there is a problem with attendees taking seconds and thirds before others have even gone through the line.

Tom will look into the idea of buying our own coffee makers and preparing the coffee. The coffee provided by St Mary's is sub-par and insufficient. As long as someone is willing to store the coffee making equipment, our initial financial outlay will be recouped quickly.

#### Directors

The Directors for the years will continue to alternate among Edmund Wu, Will Watson, Sharon Lee and Evelyn Holtz, depending on availability. The decision of whether there will be one or two Assistant Directors will be left up to the Director in charge and staffed by Lauren.

#### Boards

Due to the high turnout for the September game, it was decided to buy a fifth set of boards.

#### **4. Election of Officers**

Since there were no new volunteers offering to serve on the Board, we were fortunate that all Board members and officers were present at the meeting and agreed to serve for another term.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30.



## Unit 506 Customer Survey

The board of Unit 506 is interested in your opinions to see if we are on the right track with our Unit Games or if changes should be made. Please take the time to answer the few questions below, and let us know what you think. Thank you.

*Circe the best answer in each case*

### Monthly Lessons

For several years, the unit has provided lectures on a variety of topics before each unit game.

- a) Do you regularly attend these lessons? Yes No  
b) What is your opinion of the difficulty level of the lessons?

Too easy                      Easy                      Just Right                      Difficult                      Too Difficult

- c) How would you feel if the unit decreased the number of lessons given throughout the year:

Strongly disagree              Disagree                      Neither agree nor disagree                      Agree                      Strongly Agree

### Lunch

Each month, thanks to a few volunteers who prepare the food, we have been able to provide a full lunch..

- a) Do you regularly eat lunch at the unit game? Yes No  
b) How do you feel about the lunches? (Circle all that apply)

Not enough food              Just enough                      Too much food                      Wrong kind of food

### Fees

- a) We have been able to hold our fees steady at \$12 for quite a while. However, as we know, prices for everything go up, and the unit may eventually have to follow suit. How would a \$3 increase (to \$15) affect your attendance?

Could no longer attend                      Would attend grudgingly                      Would attend happily

- b) If we kept the fees at \$12 and had to reduce one of the following features, which feature would you prefer:

No coffee                      Light snack in lieu of full lunch                      Fewer lessons

### Environmental issues

It has been suggested in "Diamond in the Ruff," the District 21 newsletter that bridge clubs require members to bring their own cups for coffee and tea. How would you feel if the unit required attendees to bring their own cups for coffee, hot water, and cold water (no cups would be available at the game)?

Hate the idea, I'd stop attending              Don't like it, but I'd come to game                      I don't drink liquids provided by the unit                      It's a great idea

Feel free to make any comments on the back of this page or share them with our president, Tom Stillman

## Unit 506 Customer Survey

The board of Unit 506 is interested in your opinions to see if we are on the right track with our Unit Games or if changes should be made. Please take the time to answer the few questions below, and let us know what you think. Thank you.

*Circle the best answer in each case*

### Monthly Lessons

For several years, the unit has provided lectures on a variety of topics before each unit game.

- a) Do you regularly attend these lessons? Yes (26) No (40) No response (8)  
 b) What is your opinion of the difficulty level of the lessons?

Too easy 1	Easy 4	Just Right 28	Difficult 3	Too Difficult 0	No Response 38
---------------	-----------	------------------	----------------	--------------------	-------------------

- c) How would you feel if the unit decreased the number of lessons given throughout the year:

Strongly disagree 8	Disagree 12	Neither agree nor disagree 35	Agree 6	Strongly Agree 3	No Response 10
------------------------	----------------	----------------------------------	------------	---------------------	-------------------

### Lunch

Each month, thanks to a few volunteers who prepare the food, we have been able to provide a full lunch..

- a) Do you regularly eat lunch at the unit game? Yes (46) No (19) No response (9)  
 b) How do you feel about the lunches? (Circle all that apply)

Not enough food 4	Just enough 50	Too much food 1	Wrong kind of food 5	No Response 14
----------------------	-------------------	--------------------	-------------------------	-------------------

### Fees

- a) We have been able to hold our fees steady at \$12 for quite a while. However, as we know, prices for everything go up, and the unit may eventually have to follow suit. How would a \$3 increase (to \$15) affect your attendance?

Could no longer attend 3	Would attend grudgingly 16	Would attend happily 45	No Response 10
-----------------------------	-------------------------------	----------------------------	-------------------

- b) If we kept the fees at \$12 and had to reduce one of the following features, which feature would you prefer:

No coffee 16	Light snack in lieu of full lunch 28	Fewer lessons 22	No Response 8
-----------------	---	---------------------	------------------

### Environmental issues

It has been suggested in "Diamond in the Ruff," the District 21 newsletter that bridge clubs require members to bring their own cups for coffee and tea. How would you feel if the unit required attendees to bring their own cups for coffee, hot water, and cold water (no cups would be available at the game)?

Hate the idea, I'd stop attending 3	Don't like it, but I'd come to game 23	I don't drink liquids provided by the unit 7	It's a great idea 36	No Response 5
--	---	---	-------------------------	------------------