

Minutes for Unit 195 Board Meeting on Sept. 9, 2024

Attendees:

Board Members: Dennis Carman, Steve Reed, Allen Schwenk, Mike Sears, Joanne Fiedler,
Bill Northrop, Lou Slyker, Joanne Molt, Suzanne Baker, and Lynn Larson
Guests: Nancy Wood and Kathy Jernigan

Called to Order: 7:02pm

Secretary Reed advised that Board Member Allison White has proxied to Mike Sears for this meeting – and Mike may cast up to 2 votes per voting matter at this meeting.

Approval of minutes from June 18 – no comments – moved to Accept Slyker, 2nd Sears. No discussion or corrections – approved without objection.

Financial Report by Treasurer Reed:

- As of Sept 3, the Unit hold approximately 31.8K at 5/3 Bank;
- The Traverse City Sectional netted \$780.33 Profit;
- \$20K was invested in a 5-mo CD (matures in January 2025);
- Suggested the Board might consider setting a “ceiling” for bank assets, which could trigger an associated, future policy where overages would be re-invested to players and/or clubs; and
- Advised that bank requires combined funds of \$25K to avoid monthly fees.

President’s Report by President Carman:

- GNT and NAP have changed significantly, the starts are now C: 0-750 NLM, B: 0-3000, A0-6000; Open. ACBL will subsidize the additional pairs;
- Two D-12 STaCs are coming up (June and September). Dennis provided details for clubs to signup. (Both links on District 12 site are broken);
- The 2025 STaC schedule opens November for a potential Sectional;
- ACBL stipends for NAP/GNT are \$750 for first, \$300 for 2nd, D-12 subsidies additionally, as does Unit 195;
- ACBL’s 5-5-5 reimbursement system was instituted Q2 of 2024. Prior to that, ACBL automatically reimbursed 11% of players’ dues to their home Unit. The new method is 5% automatically. Two retention categories (each up to 2.5%) that total up to 5% and a third category that can total up to 5% for a potential 15% grand total. Dennis had Secretary Reed explain how the various categories are calculated and which are able to be affected via proactive communication.

New Business:

Financial Discussion

- Traverse City Sectional: Director Larson advised that 17 people who had planned to play were unable due to COVID. As Tournament Chair, she believes that \$15 session fee did not hurt attendance at the Traverse City Sectional;
- Unit 195 currently has about 935 members, 6 years ago, membership was 1,270;
- General Revenue and Expense discussions (Board Members spent time discussing expenses and ideas to lower them) did not result in any votes/actions at this time;
- Bank Threshold discussion: General discussion about the topic from Financial Report. No specific actions taken – the general consensus was to not pursue such at the present time;

Election-Related Discussion

- Directed Northrop inquired about the recent election and procedures. Dennis explained the discussions and process that had been identified during the June 2024 Board meeting. Steve described the e-mail blasts and the processes outlined in those e-mails;

Election of Officers:

- President: Bill Northrop nominated Dennis Carman for President. No other nominations were put forth. Lynn Larson moved for election by acclamation Steve Reed seconded the motion. No objections. Carman elected President;
- VP: Bill Northrop nominated Joanne Molt for Vice President. No other nominations were put forth. Lynn Larson moved for election by acclamation Steve Reed seconded the motion. No objections. Molt elected Vice President;
- Treas/Secy: Dennis Carman nominated Steve Reed to be appointed as Secretary/Treasurer. No other nominations were put forth. Bill Northrop requested vote by roll-call:
Larson Yes; Sears No Response; Slyker Yes; White No Response; Fielder Yes;
Molt Yes; Reed Yes; Baker, Yes; Carman (no vote as elected president.. Yes, if voting); Northrop No; Schwenk Yes.

Reed appointed Sec/Treas – vote tallies... Yes: 7 (8), No: 1; Abst: 2

- 2 Board Vacancies – 1 in Precinct 3 and 1 in Precinct 4
 - Suzanne Baker, of Precinct 3, put forth Kathy Jernigan to fill the vacancy for Precinct 3. All voting members voted Aye. Jernigan appointed.
 - Board Members from Precinct 4 did not put forth any names to fill. That position currently remain vacant.
- Bylaws – Dennis suggested that Unit Bylaws might need review; he created a sub-committee of Directors Reed, Larson, and Slyker to review the Bylaws and bring forward suggested revisions if any.

Tournament Etiquette

- Molt inquired about clubs running games when Regionals are within X miles.

Old Business:

Sectional Entry fees – no motions to change – discussed idea of re-addressing this annually.

Bridge Tables and Unit Inventory – Dennis noted that they are stored across Unit in individual's homes ... no suggestions for consolidation – Dennis noted that if someone can no longer store such, the Unit would see about alternate storage for those items.

Molt moved to adjourn, Norhtrop seconded – no objections.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm