

Unit 356 Board Meeting

October 16, 2024

Minutes

Present: Jack Shoemaker, Steve Reynolds, George Harger, Sheri Morris, and David Pearlman; Tara Evans, Suzanne Greenwood, and Ken Grafton were absent.

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 AM.

The minutes of the September 2024 meeting were approved.

Reports

Steve Reynolds presented the District 17 update: Goodwill award nominees will start at the first of year; nominations should be sent to Steve. Steve gave examples of past awardees.

Taos tournament: Jennifer said earnings were in the positive. There were 644 tables, and they made around \$10 per table.

GNTs: The board discussed the possibility of unit-run GNT tournaments. There will be a GNT qualifier at Adobe in October. There will be a cash incentive for GNT finalists. The District is holding online qualifiers via Steamboat website.

George presented the Treasurer report: The Unit has a current balance of around \$98,000. The Unit has earned \$4,000 on its CD investments.

Sectional at NW made \$200. They had 10 tables.

ACBL membership renewal payments – in past we got 11% of renewal. Now we get 5/5/5 5% for retention 5% for recruiting 5% whatever. They have lowered their threshold for doing a cash payment – we will now get money every three months.

Jack presented the Membership report: We currently have 872 members. Only 2 new members.

Tournaments: There was a discussion of the NLM Sectional (October 5-6). Smaller attendance – what is future of this? David said Adobe has an interest in hosting this but doesn't have directors. Adobe is likely to be more expensive. Agreed to leave at NW – primarily because of the director issue – with a possibility of doing a second

NLM Sectional at Adobe if they want to try it, again if an appropriate director is available.

The October Unit game will now be on October 20, not the 26th (originally the 27th).

The NLM Regional/Life Master Fall Sectional will be held on November 21-23. Suzanne has gotten people for set up and tear down. Jack won't be there on Saturday. Staffing (directors and caddies) was briefly discussed. Sheri is handling the Welcome Desk. Steve and Suzanne will work on food. Morning food is not important – better to do something mid-session in the morning. Lunch be supplied by Fortunatos; and Egees on Saturday.

There was a discussion of how to drive more attendance at tournaments. Can we do something more than give them a patch?

The Annual Meeting will be held between morning and afternoon sessions on November 23.

Unfinished business

We have to move spring regional. Alternatives: Jan 4-9 2026 at Convention Center/Hotel Doubletree Inn. \$2,500 a day for rent (cap it at \$19,000). Convention Center could provide food. Guarantee 333 rooms. \$189 a night.

Other option is Marriott University. Right after Easter April 6-11. Room rental \$3900 for entire tournament, \$159 rate for 370 rooms with a 70% guarantee, \$9600 must-pay for food.

Jack will set up site visit for the Marriott.

The new contact at the church has not been very responsive. Jack and Suzanne met with him. Hard to get hold of. Doug Cain is seeing who else at the church we could work with.

Unit games: Jack has circulated a list. There was a general discussion of the assigned dates.

There was a brief discussion of the patch for the tournament.

On motion by Mike, seconded by David, the meeting was adjourned at 11:01 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Barry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail that extends towards the upper right corner of the page.

Michael Barry, Secretary