

Unit 487 Meeting Notes from 9/18/2022

The meeting was called to order at 10:40 am by Unit president, Kristin Steinmetz. In attendance, were Tara McMahon, Jon Gassaway, Paul Walker, Linda Rountree, Mike Eyer, Paula Koeller and Kristin Steinmetz. Dee Poujade was absent. Notes from this meeting were taken by Paula Koeller.

Financials: The first item on the agenda was a review of the financials from the fall sectional (held 9/9-9/11/22). The Proposed/Actual Budget Worksheet and Current Account Balance Sheet were distributed by Paul Walker to all present. These documents will be posted in google documents. The net profit before club marketing coverage was \$1488.00. The division of the profit was discussed. Kristin moved that the profit from this sectional and future sectionals is split 1/3 , 1/3, 1/3 (1/3 each to Portland Bridge Club, the Ace and Unit 487), with a maximum of \$500 to each club for marketing coverage and the remaining amount to Unit 487. For the Fall Sectional 2022 the profit will be split 1/3, 1/3, 1/3. The motion was seconded by Tara McMahon and the motion passed unanimously.

Highlights from Fall Sectional: The fall sectional was successful. There were a total of 160 tables of bridge play for the weekend, which was an increase from the last two sectionals. Highlights from the sectional were : 1) The 300 and under game had good attendance, better than previously. 2) There were 15 teams in the B-C-D Swiss Team section which is an increase from the last two sectionals.

Hospitality: Hospitality costs were \$710 for food with the additional cost of providing hospitality staffing for all 3 days of the sectional, which was \$338. An increase in the hospitality budget for food for the next sectional was discussed. Jon commented that not promising lunch was a good idea. In general, it was agreed the idea of primarily snacks on Friday and Saturday with a light salad type lunch on Sunday was a good idea. Linda has volunteered to do hospitality again. Hiring someone for hospitality was helpful and it was agreed this should continue.

Venue Rental: There was discussion about possible other venue rental options. Paul plans to look into rental options to replace the Chess Club room, due to difficulty with setting up and taking down the room when using. There was discussion regarding whether to use an additional room for Sunday Swiss teams, to lower the noise level or not. There were several complaints about this and about the room on Sunday being too crowded. Paul brought up the point that the energy of the room was pleasant on Sunday. Paula raised the point of the crowd in the room on Sunday could increase the risk of spread of Covid or other illness and that with the density of tables and people there were greater issues with possible tripping and difficulty of movement around the room. Tara and Dee (in email correspondence) reported that they received several complaints about the noise from attendees. Linda proposed setting up salads on Sunday afternoon outside the room in the hallway to limit the noise in the room where people are playing bridge. This would need to be cleared by Lloyd Center officials and also there would need to be someone overseeing the table in the hallway. This issue will be revisited again before the next Sectional.

Health and Safety: The concern was raised by Tara that there were many walk ins to this sectional and vaccination cards were not checked. Tara heard from participants that they were concerned about the lack of vaccination completion verification. This issue will be addressed as needed after the ACBL board meets in December, as the vaccination requirement may be lifted at that meeting.

Update from Mike Eyer: Mike is the district representative to Unit 487. He had the following update for Unit 487 board (i.e., the board). 1) Still no word on the regional director results. 2) The “floating” regional for 2023 will be held in Eugene and will start May 15. The other two regionals have been in Vancouver (Oregon Trail) and Seaside and will remain there. 3) The district representative to Unit 487 needs to be elected again this year and Mike would be pleased to be re-elected.

Future Sectionals and Board related games: The January sectional was scheduled for January 20-22/ 2023, but Paul will talk to ACBL about moving the dates to January 27-29. Other proposed sectional dates for 2023 are: June 23-25 and September 7-9.

There was discussion about sponsoring a STAC week. Paul will talk to PBC about this. Kristin proposed that the election party be a part of a STAC week. Kristin reminded the board that at the election party, participants are encouraged to play with someone they haven't played with before.

Kristin proposed an increase in sectional fees. Paul proposed an increase to \$15. There was discussion that \$14 may be more palatable. Paula moved that the price of the sectional be increased to \$14, from \$12. Linda seconded the motion and Kristin, Tara, Linda and Paula vote aye for the increase to \$14 and Paul voted nay. The motion passed.

The issue was raised that people do not know what the “board” does and who is on the “board” and how it may or may not be separate from Portland Bridge Club (PBC), where it was held last year. Linda proposed setting up a poster board that describes the board and what the “board” does. It would be placed at the door when people come in to Portland Bridge Club. The Education and Marketing Committee will discuss and put together the poster board regarding the “unit board”.

OTHER: There was discussion about the election of the district representative to the Unit. Kristin will find out when the election of the district representative needs to occur.

There was discussion about board members that are going off the board. Kristin Steinmetz and Jon Gassaway and possibly Dee Poujalde will be going off the board. Recruitment will need to start. Recruitment coordinators are Paul Walker and Paula Koeller. Karen Douek had already agreed to join the board in 2023. One of the board members will speak with her and verify she plans to still join the board.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35. Plans were made to meet again in early November. A specific date and time will be decided on via email communication.