

District 21
American Contract Bridge League
Virtual Regular Meeting of the District 21 Board of Directors
June 29, 2021

1. Call to Order. At 6:35 PM, President Sigrid Price called the meeting of the Board of Directors to order.

2. Roll call. Interim Secretary Ray Yuenger called the roll. In attendance were the following Directors and Presidents from their Units: 465, Ed Gould, Cornelia Gould; 473, Jill Wallace; 497, Joyce Burks, Mark Kornmann; 498, Bob Gleason, Danna Sorenson; 499, Jackie Zayac, Sam Earnhardt; 500, Carla Francis, Shailesh Shah; 501, Art Mirin; 502, Tom Pajak, Don Levine; 503, Kip Kado, Max Schireson; 505, Jim Coke, Barbara Somervill; 506, Thomas Stillman, Gail Gabiati; 507, Lynn Bartz, Ray Yuenger; 508, Tracey Bauer, Melanie Haddad; 509, Jackie Ortiz; 512, Sigrid Price; 522, Laura Da Costa; 524, Linda King, Patricia Stone; 529, Libby Longstreth, Roger Smith; 530, Susan Mazzei; 550, Carol Avenmarg, Joanne Wicker. Also present were District Director Stu Goodgold; Board of Governors Representatives Bruce Blakely, Marion Robertson; Executive Committee members Jean Barry, Nancy Boyd, Sandi Davis, Anne Hollingsworth; and guests Evelyn Holtz, Doug Hong, Pam Hughes, Chris Pisarra, Grant Robinson, and Lynn Yokel.

3. Approval of minutes. The minutes of the regular Board meeting of January 9, 2021 were approved as written. The minutes of the continued regular Board meeting of January 30, 2021 were approved as written. The minutes of the open session of the special Board meeting of May 1, 2021 were corrected to reflect that Mark Kornmann and Libby Longstreth were not in attendance and that Max Schireson was in attendance, but was not then representing U503. Those minutes were approved with those corrections.

Ray Yuenger made a motion to amend minutes that were previously adopted. Specifically, at the Board meeting on January 9, 2021, the Board approved of the minutes of the Board meeting of September 6, 2020. Item 18 in those minutes recited that the Board had approved of giving Pam Hughes 50% of her usual stipends for the canceled regionals in Santa Clara 2020 and Sparks/Reno 2020. In fact, the Board had approved of 50% stipends for those two regionals and also Monterey 2021.

The motion was to amend the last two sentences of item 18 to read: "A poll was posted with a choice of issuing Pam a payment of either 50% or 60% of her payment for the Santa Clara, Reno, and Monterey Regionals. Following a vote by poll the result showed Pam should be paid 50% of her normal payment for each of those three regionals."

****MOVED:** It was so moved and seconded.
MOTION CARRIED.

4. Elections. The President moved officer elections up from item 6 of the agenda to item 4. Nominating Chair Jackie Ortiz recited the nominations. Interim Vice-President Anne Hollingsworth was the only announced candidate for Vice-President. Without a nomination from the floor, Anne was elected Vice-President by acclamation. Finance Committee Chair Lynn Bartz was the only announced candidate for Treasurer. Without a nomination from the floor, Lynn Bartz was elected Treasurer by acclamation.

There were two announced candidates for Secretary, Barbara Somervill and Ray Yuenger. Each candidate spoke to the Board and answered questions while the other was out of the virtual room. At the end of this question time, the Board was asked to cast secret ballots by sending private chat to former Secretary Sandi Davis.

5. Officers' and Committee Reports. The President commended Tracey Bauer for her accomplishments during her four-month Presidency. She welcomed Nancy Boyd as the new Tournament Planning Chair and Libby Longstreth as Chair of the Policies and Procedures Committee. The President apologized for sending several agenda revisions.

Anne Hollingsworth spoke as **Vice-President, "Ombuddy,"** and **Sectional Coordinator.** She called attention to the master calendar of sectionals posted on the District 21 website and asked those planning sectionals to contact her.

Western Conference Representative Cornelia Gould explained that there was some confusion about Districts 17 and 22 intending to withdraw from the Western Conference. At the latest meeting, the member districts voted to stay in operation at least through the end of 2021 and to hold the STAC games scheduled for this year, including one in August.

National Tournament Chair Jackie Zayac said that plans are being made for the Reno 2022 NABC even though we are still awaiting a green light from the ACBL. More information was included in a written report she had sent out.

The President introduced Melanie Haddad and Bill Yeast of the **Communications Committee**, praising the work they have done. Melanie called attention to the written report she had prepared for the June 5 meeting that was postponed. An online version of the Diamond in the Ruff newsletter is scheduled to go out on July 12. Melanie thanked Bill for developing a new website for the District. Bill spent eight minutes showing how the new newsletter will be the springboard into the new website, D21ACBL.org. He explained that all the data from the old website has been preserved.

Mark Kornmann moved that the Board approve the upgrade of the website.

****MOTION:** It was so moved and seconded.

MOTION CARRIED by unanimous consent.

NAP Coordinator Susan Mazzei has already notified club owners and Unit Presidents that NAP games can be held in clubs from June through August. She asks Units to tell her of Unit finals scheduled between September 1 and November 7. The District final is scheduled during the Monterey regional.

All-Western 99er NiteClub liaison Ray Yuenger reported that table counts for this game are in the mid-20s. The game is paying back \$3.50 of a player's \$6 table fees to their home clubs. From the beginning of the game in October 2020 through May, District 21 clubs have earned \$17,880.

The Chair of the Compensation Committee, Art Mirin, presented a slide summarizing the Committee's six-page report as revised on June 12, 2021. Two of the recommendations -- creating a travel allotment to the District President (or the President's designee) for "ambassadorial" functions and authorizing the President to award free plays in recognition of special volunteer services -- were deferred for consideration at a later Board meeting.

Art made a motion to accept the Committee's recommendations that was seconded. There was discussion of the motion.

Libby Longstreth made a motion to table Art's motion. There was discussion of the motion to table. Lynn Bartz mentioned that she has drafted a Travel Policy that incorporates some of the recommendations. Stu brought up a point of order that there is no discussion of a motion to table.

****MOTION:** It was so moved and seconded.

MOTION FAILED with 20.5 weighted "ayes," 42 "nays," and one abstention.

Discussion resumed on the motion to accept the Committee's recommendations. Art explained the report was intended to be a philosophical document with the implementation details to be worked out later by the Policies and Procedures Committee. Anne Hollingsworth proposed a motion to amend the motion that was seconded.

Art restated his motion as phrased in a chat message, "that the Compensation Committee's report is to be used as guidance for the Policies and Procedures Committee."

****MOTION:** It was so moved and seconded.

MOTION CARRIED. By voice vote the "ayes" have it.

6. Palo Alto NLM Regional. Stu Goodgold made a motion to allow Unit 503 to hold a Non-Life Master Regional on February 19-21, 2022, as it was originally allowed to hold an NLM regional before the pandemic forced its cancellation. There was discussion

about the merits of the motion, whether there should be revenue-sharing with D21 and oversight by D21 and whether this regional would impact the Monterey Regional.

****MOTION:** It was so moved and seconded.

MOTION FAILED with 13 weighted “ayes,” 30.5 weighted “nays,” and six abstentions.

Sandi Davis announced the **election result** that Ray Yuenger was elected Secretary by a vote of 28 to 27 with two abstentions.

At two hours and 16 minutes into the meeting, there was a motion to hold an executive session.

****MOTION:** It was so moved and seconded.

MOTION CARRIED. By voice vote the “ayes” have it.

Melanie Haddad, as meeting host, removed those in attendance who aren’t entitled to vote. Stu Goodgold brought up as a point of order that the Executive Session should be separately recorded via Zoom.

EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD

EXECUTIVE SESSION CONCLUDED after 30 minutes.

7. The 2021 Reno/Sparks Regional and its Budget. The President reported that the Executive Committee at its last meeting agreed that the District should hold the Sparks regional at an increased table fee of \$14. Finance Committee Chair Lynn Bartz presented her projections of possible profits and losses of the Regional based on the tables fees of either \$14 or \$15 and various percentage of attendance, with 100% being the attendance at the last Sparks regional in 2019. We would lose money with 60% attendance charging \$14, but not \$15.

Roger Smith moved to not hold the 2021 Sparks Regional. Jackie Zayac seconded the motion. The motion was discussed by Board members. Former Tournament Manager Pam Hughes and Director in Charge Lynn Yokel spoke in favor of holding the tournament.

****MOTION:** It was so moved and seconded.

MOTION FAILED. By voice vote the “nays” have it.

Max moved to hold the Sparks regional with a \$14 table fee.

****MOTION:** It was so moved and seconded.

MOTION FAILED. By voice vote the “ayes” have it. About four “nays.”

8. Vanguard Proposal. Max made a motion to remove from the table the proposal to open a brokerage account at Vanguard. There was no second to the motion so the proposal remained on the table.

9. The Budget. Roger Smith moved to postpone the budget till the next meeting. There was no second. Max Schireson pointed out that the Board has had the budget in front of it since April 26, 2021.

Lynn Bartz summarized six proposed changes to the budget as written. The changes are specifically: in the Member Services category, add volunteer appreciation gifts for (1a) Bill Yeast (\$500) and (1b) Rich Luttrell (\$300); (2) employ a website administrator for \$900 quarterly plus employer taxes and workers' compensation insurance (approximately \$100 more quarterly); (3) eliminate \$400 quarterly for outside service website support; (4) move \$5,000 for website development from Q2 to \$2,500 each for Q3 and Q4; (5) in the Member Development category, delete from Q4 \$3,000 for hotel reimbursements for youth players; and (6) in the General and Administrative category, move \$6,000 for the governance attorney from Q2 to Q3. Stu moved to amend the budget with these six changes.

****MOTION:** It was so moved and seconded.

MOTION CARRIED. By voice vote, the "ayes" have it.

Stu moved to accept the budget as amended.

****MOTION:** It was so moved and seconded.

MOTION CARRIED by unanimous consent.

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent. The President explained that the next meeting would not be scheduled on the Labor Day weekend, but the Board would receive ample notice.

--Ray Yuenger

District 21 Secretary