

November 2022 membership Meeting

November 17, 2022

Steve Moese called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Attendees: Betty Torello, Bob Letourneau, Jim Barrett, Cecilia Kloecker, Gary Harrington, Lewis Temples, Chloe Altman, John Altman Jr., Steve Vogel, John Williams, Judy Crotty Hall, Liz Lin, Steve Moese, Larry Newman, Bruce Tepper, Kay Mulford, Barabara Levinson, Judy Barron, Larry Klein, Steve Messenger, John Altman, Nalin Mehta, Mike Ma, CBA Board members.

Steve mentioned that there was no quorum present, but that the Board of Directors is very interested in feedback from our members.

Steve made a [formal report to the membership](#) about the status of the Unit. ([Link](#) provided as reference).

Comments/Questions

Cecilia Kloecker stated that she believes it is counter-productive to raise the price that people pay for bridge when we are trying to attract new people.

Larry Newman mentioned that you do not have to register with U.C. in order to attend his beginner's bridge lessons. Larry was asked if he does advertising separate from the OLLI newsletter. He stated that he did not. Larry stated that his classes were well attended, and that advertising the classes may bring in more people than he is able to teach at any one class. He also stated that there was an issue with holding classes while bridge games were going on. Steve said that the Board would be happy to help with the latter issue. Larry also stated that the Wednesday limited masterpoint game has about 10 players who got their start through his bridge classes.

Judy Crotty Hall asked if the websites could be updated, and stated that some of the information on the websites is outdated. Steve replied that the websites are regularly updated and that older information on the website is there for historical purposes.

Bob Latourneau asked if we had asked the current landlord for a decrease in our rent and/or could we break the lease. Steve replied that there is no provision in the contract to break the lease, and that breaking the lease would be cost-prohibitive. Steve also said that we got a concession from the previous landlord in 2020-21. We have not asked the present landlord for a decrease in our rent. The current landlord has made many improvements to the building, making the possibility of a rent decrease very unlikely.

Betty Torrello asked what efforts have been made to contact members who are not attending the games at the CBC. Steve replied that both the membership committee and the directors have spent a considerable amount of time contacting members. The reality is that many people do not answer their phones, thereby making it impossible to know why they are not interested in playing at the CBC.

Kay Mulford said that she has not been receiving emails from the Bridge Center about meetings such as the one that is taking place tonight. Steve stated that if a person has an unblocked email with the ACBL, then they should be receiving emails from the Bridge Center. Kay stated that she was receiving emails from the ACBL, but not from the Bridge Center. Steve stated that the problem might be with her email service. He also suggested that Kay check her spam folder.

Barbara Levinson stated that Directors have not been making announcements about other games at the Bridge Center at the end of their games. Steve agreed that these announcements/encouragements should be happening.

Bob Letourneau asked if it was worth relaxing the Covid vaccination restriction in an effort to increase the number of players at the games. Steve replied that the ACBL sent out a survey asking if their vaccination policy at tournaments should be changed. The survey showed, by a 58% - 42% margin, that members wanted the current policy to stay in place. John Meinking mentioned that he had made an informal survey about the CBA's vaccination policy. John stated that there was no consensus on what members wanted the CBA's policy to be. Steve Moese said that the Board voted to postpone the discussion about the CBA's vaccination policy until January 2023.

Liz Lin stated that the result sheets that are printed after the games are very hard to read. Steve acknowledged that there are problems with the printer, and that people are trying to fix the printer. We may have to get a new printer.

Nalin Mehta asked if the Bridge Center was a non-profit organization. Steve replied that the Bridge Center is a 501c(4) non-profit organization, not a 501c(3) non-profit. Therefore, donations to the Bridge Center are not tax-deductible.

Bob Letourneau encouraged members to make everyone aware that he runs a non-sanctioned game on Friday morning. He believes that it would be a good game for people who just want to play bridge for the joy of it. No masterpoints are awarded. Snacks are provided.

Steve Moese motioned that the meeting be adjourned, it was seconded by Cecilia Kloecker. No objections to the motion were made.

Respectfully Submitted, Bert Luken