

## Unit 356 Minutes

September 11, 2016

The meeting of Unit 356 was called to order by Vice President Ken Grafton, 11:20 AM, Greater Tucson Bridge Club. Present were: Ken Grafton, Mindy Hawkins, Joan Merrill, Steve Reynolds, Ann Shaylor, Cindy Shoemaker and D17 Representative Darwin Afdahl.

The August minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's report:** Steve stated that \$2500 was spent on member appreciation games (four games over two years) and \$2500 was spent on new bridge mates for tournament usage. Steve provided clarification that the print costs of \$900 allocated to the NLM Regional include printing for three additional tournaments. Print costs for the NLM regional were approximately \$320.

**District 17 update:** Darwin stated that there is nothing new to report for the district unit and to contact him with questions.

**Membership report:** Tabled for November.

**Tournaments:** Steve said we are prepared for our next tournaments with set-up for the November sectional on Wednesday evening. Steve reminded the Board to help Sunday evening after play. A discussion of future venues has been tabled for October.

Flyers have been created and distributed for upcoming sectionals and ads have been scheduled for placement in the Scorecard. Flyers are available on the unit website.

**Tucson Winter Regional:** To increase attendance, Steve stated he is working with the Radisson to provide a free Sunday stay for attendees who book rooms Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Steve said he is working with the Radisson to provide two Sunday stays for those who book rooms for the entire tournament.

Joan pointed out that cards used at the Phoenix regional, Talking Stick, were dirty and stressed that we should provide clean cards for the Tucson Winter Regional.

Cindy stated we need to have a timeline and a plan for the Tucson Winter Regional.

Cindy and Mindy will work with Mary Primeau to create a design/logo for our Tucson Winter Regional that will be used for the patch and for the T-shirts awarded to "winners".

Cindy stated that we can use Fast Results to create a daily bulletin for the regional. Fast Results provides templates where board members can add copy and columns before the regional adding only results daily. This option requires a minimum donation to the ACBL Educational fund, reduces print costs and supports District objectives of looking for ways to go green.

Mindy stated that flyers for the Tucson Winter Regional and upcoming sectionals have been mailed for distribution. They have been added to the ACBL website, Facebook and to our unit website. An ad will be created and placed in the Scorecard.

**Cactus Flower Non-Life Regional:** Cindy reported that marketing has been completed for the regional. Along with Constant Contact emails to unit NLMs, she created a Roadmap to the regional that was sent out electronically by Fast Results to attendees for the last two years at no cost to the unit. The Roadmap was also placed on the unit website. The ACBL also sent out an e-mail blast. An article, photo and an ad for the regional ran in the Scorecard.

**Club Manager:** Joan had nothing new to report.

**Hospitality:** Joan made a request for help with clean-up after unit games.

**Education:** Ann Shaylor stated that the speakers are set for November. She is working on obtaining speakers for the January sectional. Adair will secure speakers for the Tucson Winter Regional. Speakers are set for the NLM regional. Flyers have been distributed. Cindy suggested we consider cost-effectively videoing speaker presentations and providing access to the videos via our website as an educational opportunity to our unit members.

**Publicity:** See information under event headings.

**I/N representative:** Publicity for the pro-am is in full force with Constant Contact blasts being made to past attendees, to unit NLM members, instructors and directors. Flyers have been distributed to clubs and are available on our unit website. To date, we have 10 teams.

**Caddy status:** Tabled for October.

**New business:**

Print costs: Carolyn raised whether we should reduce our print costs by lowering the quantity of Unit event flyers distributed at outside sectionals/regionals focusing on electronic sources. Joan stated that she and Adair use the ability to pick up flyers at events as their primary source of information and that Joan would like this option to continue. Cindy stated that Barry asked for a cost comparison of printing in the area using set criteria to reduce our costs. This comparison was made and it has resulted in cost reductions. Mailing costs will be reviewed.

Cindy asked for board feedback on giving outside vendors the opportunity to sell product/services at unit events. She asked for board feedback on selling of raffle tickets at the NLM Regional. The board made a motion without a second not to participate in these ventures.

Discussion of upcoming board elections: Cindy will seek a full board position. Ken is resigning as vice president of the unit board to hold a leadership position on the bridge board in Green Valley. Ken will speak to Barry about his current board position and the potential conflict of being on the unit board and the Adobe Bridge Club board at the same time. Carolyn will also seek a board position.

The Tucson Senior Olympics Bridge Game will be held Sunday, January 29, 2017 at the Adobe Bridge Club and is now on the calendar as an official unit event.

A motion for adjournment was made by Mindy. All approved.

Next meeting will be October 2, 2016, 11 AM at the Adobe Bridge Club.