

Unit 128 Board of Governors Meeting Minutes

March 30, 2023

Southeasterns Regional at Boca Raton Embassy Suites

Attending in Person:

Betty Sandifer – President, Athena Gordon – Vice President, Jeff Overby – District Director and Board Member, David Rogers – Treasurer, Tracy Nolan – Secretary, Jesse Laird -DIC, Jay Whipple – Board Member, Charlene Predmest – Board Member, Shannon Cappelletti – Adviser, Paul Matheson – Adviser, Harriet Morris – Adviser, and Paul Matheson – Adviser.

Attending via Zoom:

Sam Phillips – Board Member, Shirley Seals – Board Member, Bruce Lang – Board Member Elizabeth Harris – Board Member and Patty Johnson – Advisor, and Jim Hendry – Accountant.

Absent:

Jeff Edelstein, Theri Andino, Larry Rich.

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by President Betty Sandifer.

Betty Sandifer acknowledged Shirley Seals for her many dedicated years of service and for being a model volunteer.

Treasurer's Report: by David Rogers

YTD P&L, Monthly P&L, and the Tournament Financials through February 28th were all received by Board members.

On the P&L the Sam's Club expenditure relates to the second part of hotel deposit for Southeasterns Tournament.

Two checks were received from ACBL:

- \$311.88 may be a refund for advertising for Sanibel, which was canceled due to Hurricane Ian.
- \$3,339.99 was recently received. David will confirm with ACBL regarding both checks.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Reports and Financials made by Jeff Overby and seconded by Jay Whipple.

Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Jim Hendry, Unit 128 Accountant, was thanked and then excused from the meeting by President Betty Sandifer.

Approval of Unit 128 Board of Governors Meeting Minutes held on November 10, 2023 via Zoom: by Betty Sandifer

Motion to approve the minutes of the Unit 128 Board Meeting made by Athena Gordon and seconded by David Rogers.

Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Approval of Unit 128 Board of Governors Meeting Minutes held on February 15, 2023 via

Zoom: *by Betty Sandifer*

Motion to approve the minutes of the Unit 128 Emergency Board Meeting on February 15th, 2023 via Zoom made by Athena Gordon and seconded by David Rogers.

Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

CFFK Report: *Jeff Overby* advised that he would give this report at the District meeting on Friday, March 31, 2023.

Tournament Committee Update: *by Shannon Cappelletti*

There have been many difficulties dealing with hotels, including increasing demand for Florida hotels.

1. **Palmetto Manatee:** The hotel not a site hotel and the caterer's contract made it impossible to reach breakeven.
2. **Southeasterns:** The Corals Springs Marriott canceled with us via email. A new hotel (Hilton Embassy Suites in Boca Raton) had to be found. Therefore, hosting this tournament will cost more than it would have at the previously contracted site. Space restrictions and staffing issues at the Hilton Embassy Suites in Boca Raton have presented multiple problems.
3. **Palm Beach Gardens (Formerly PGA):** We will be at a new hotel (Marriott) in August on the 16th through the 22nd, 2023. New hotels always present their own special challenges.
4. **Sanibel:** The Marriott in Sanibel will be ready to host us again in October of 2023 after restorations from Hurricane Ian have been completed. They have already sent us links and are excited to have us back.
5. **The Shores:** Hurricane Nicole forced us to cancel last year, but we will be back at the Shores again this year.

We are working on next year and the following year. We have some contracts in place, but not all of them yet.

The following contracts are confirmed:

1. **Coral Springs Marriott 2024 and 2025:** Jeff Overby has negotiated with them.
2. **Palm Beach Gardens Marriott 2023, 2024 and 2025.**
3. **Daytona:** Shannon Cappelletti believes we have negotiated through 2024 or 2025. Options will need to be discussed.
4. **Sanibel:** Shannon Cappelletti believes we have these negotiated through 2025 and reports that the staff at the Sanibel Harbour are mostly long-term employees and they make things run very smoothly for us. They want us to be there and we want to host there.

Tournament Director Report: *by Jesse Laird*

Southeasterns:

1. **Attendance** is going up from last year. So far, we have 369 tables.
2. **Evening Games:** We started evening games again at this tournament. They have started small, as expected, but we are going to continue testing evening games for the year and see how it goes.
3. **Pre-duplicated boards for team games:** We are trying, per the suggestion/request of a player. We will start trying this on Friday March 31, 2023 and see what players' feedback is.

District Report: *by Jeff Overby*

The ACBL National Board met in New Orleans. Jeff Overby will generate a full report in writing. Some of highlights are:

1. ACBL Covid policy is changing. A survey will be sent to members as to NABC policy preferences.
2. After May 15th vaccine requirements will be a local option for Regionals and Sectionals.
3. Jay Whipple will be honored at the summer NABC in Chicago on Thursday, July 13th, for his outstanding service to the ACBL.
4. NABC sites: Everything is done up through 2025 and some sites past 2025.
5. Negotiations with some hotels including Sheraton Phoenix are ongoing.
6. Over 7.100 tables at New Orleans. This is a huge successful comeback for NABC's and bodes well for Chicago.
7. The Edgar cheating program is operational.
8. Member attrition has slowed significantly.
9. District board member, Paul Cuneo, volunteered as Interim Executive Director until a replacement is found.
10. The ACBL is going forward with three online Regional Tournaments a year for 2023 and 2024.

Jay Whipple reported that the ACBL approved Districts' adding a small online component to be run in conjunction with a Regional, either as a one-day two-session set of events OR over two days with single-session events each day. The first one will be at Gatlinburg. Jay Whipple recommends we consider this District wide. The rationale behind this is that the online Regionals are becoming less popular because they are so large that people feel they cannot win. Perhaps smaller online Regionals may be more appealing to players.

LBIAD: *by Betty Sandifer for Elizabeth Harris*

Learn Bridge In A Day for 2024 we contracted for four different sessions: Southeasterns, Palm Beach Gardens, Sanibel and Daytona.

The suggestion was made that we track the students who take LBIAD.

LBIAD Southeasterns had 14 students signed up with about 20 paid. Patty was very well prepared and we had excellent helpers, including Linda Green, Allison Freeland, Harriet Morris, Helena Fine, Lou

Trautwein, and Betty Sandifer. Betty Sandifer encourages all board members to help with at least one LBIAD program.

99er's/199'ers: *by Jesse Laird*

We have a pretty good program set up. While the game is making money or breaking even, we should continue it because it is great for our novice players. Table counts fluctuate. We do well when we have extra point weeks. Next month we have two weeks of extra points: 1 week of charity, where they get double points and at the end of the month, and one week of silver points. These extra point games should bring a lot of people into our games. We charge a little bit extra on those weeks. The games are every night at 7 p.m. Lynn Berg does a lesson from 6:30-6:50 every Monday through Thursday and these lessons are very popular.

Betty Sandifer added that she is also present at the 99'ers game. She recommends board members experience this. Some of the 99'ers come and play at the come to play in the limited Sectional Tournaments. This shows the work we are doing is paying off.

Jay Whipple added that the library of Zoom lessons from Lynn Berg is extraordinary and we have not begun to tap into this. At some point we should consider recognizing Lynn Berg for all her hard work.

New Business:

Motion to allow the change of signatures for the Unit 128 bank accounts to reflect the current officers made by Jeff Overby and seconded by Athena Gordon.

Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Elections: *by Athena Gordon*

A spreadsheet was created by Athena Gordon showing the current election cycles and Covid related term issues.

Motion to defer elections, except for Officers, until 2024 by Jeff Overby and seconded by David Rogers.

Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Current Cash Investment: *by David Rogers*

Motion to approve laddering the CD's according to David Rogers' recommendation made by Jeff Overby and seconded by Jay Whipple.

Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Board Member Stipends: *by David Rogers*

A committee will be formed to suggest decisions as to stipends and these stipends will be decided upon prior to Palm Beach Gardens Regional in August of 2023.

Update of Contracts and Board Member Stipends: *by David Rogers*

The audit revealed that no one could find a written copy of Shannon's contract. It is time to put all contracts in writing. Shannon's salary has not been adjusted in several years. A committee will approve a job description. A committee will approve stipends and contracts.

YNABC Report: *by Betty Sandifer*

Per Berg, 2023 District 9 youth Coordinator will take our District 9 youth to the YNABC in Chicago. A special meeting will be called to approve stipends for the Unit 128 Youth going to the Summer YNABC in Chicago.

Motion to adjourn the Unit 128 Board of Governors meeting made by Jeff Overby and seconded by Athena Gordon.

Motion to adjourn unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy H. Nolan
Secretary Unit 128

Documents distributed prior to the meeting via email for discussion at the meeting:

Minutes for November 10, 2022, meeting via Zoom

Minutes for February 15, 2023, meeting via Zoom

Treasurer's reports:

File 1:

- *Feb month P&L report*
- *Feb YTD P&L*
- *Balance Sheet as of 2/28/23*

File 2:

- *Palmetto-Sarasota 2023 Tournament Report*
- *99er Report*

Election Schedule

Update to Vaccination Policy

Updated Unit 128 Board of Governors List