

## Minutes

### Unit 540 Annual Meeting of the Members

**Date:** January 9, 2021

**Call to order:** 3:49 PM by Fred Strong, President

**Quorum:** A quorum of members was present (greater than 25).

**Minutes:** Mike Hughes, Secretary read the minutes of the Annual Membership Meeting of 1/17/20. Fred Strong moved, and Ann Sinsheimer seconded the motion that they be approved. Motion carried.

#### **Treasure's Report:**

- Carol Raimondo, Treasurer reported that there is an ending bank balance of \$20,256.31. The YTD profit is \$9178.14. Of this, \$8616.84 was from proceeds of the virtual games, which is being held by the Unit for the benefit of clubs. Carol said that the process for distributing the funds to clubs will be decided at a future board meeting. Carol also noted that December funds have not yet been received. [copy of: "Copy of 2020 Profit and Loss.xls"] on file.
- Marvin Weitzenhoffer moved, and Deb Cameron seconded the motion that the Treasurer's report be approved. Motion carried.

#### **President's Report:**

- Fred Strong provided a written report as follows:
  - Unit 540 Members,
  - The average age of our membership is 74.75 years, slightly higher than two years ago. We currently have a total membership of 267.
  - In the District we rank 4<sup>th</sup> out of 24 Units and 77<sup>th</sup> out of 294 Units in ACBL, I believe we can do better by finding more ways to serve our total membership.
  - Less than half of our membership is playing in our virtual games with many feeling very depressed over the lack of socialization that in person games provide. Please put on your thinking caps and start now mentally planning for this coming year.
  - Major medical organizations are now saying that the greatest devastation among the elderly this past year has been isolation which has led to an historic spike in both dementia and Alzheimer's disease. We also have significant evidence that playing Duplicate Bridge prevents Alzheimer's disease. We have a calling beyond competition and personal pleasure.
  - Having said that, I sincerely wish to thank my Board and the entire Unit membership for stepping up to the plate to the extent that they did this year. I was flattered to be asked by members of the Board to assume the Presidency once

again on the understanding that it would only be for the balance of the year as long as we had regained some stability. I believe we accomplished that and more. You all deserve the credit.

- Many of you know that I also have simultaneously had local, regional, state, and national political responsibilities which are ongoing. I appreciate those who have stepped up to keep things on the right track. It has been an honor serving you in this capacity and I wish you nothing but the best going forward. As you do so, I urge you to not neglect your roots nor the needs of all of your membership, even those who are not as technically able or as knowledgeable as you.
- I will be pleased to remain as the elder statesman for another year or so as needed. May you all continue your successes and overcome your difficulties as well going forward as you did this year. As a group I believe this Board could have served as a great role model for the political leadership of this nation. May God bless you all.

**Old Business:**

1. Election of Directors

- a. The Election Committee nominated the following members to fill the four (4) vacant positions on the board of directors for 2021-2022.
  - i. Deb Cameron (incumbent)
  - ii. Art Herbon (incumbent)
  - iii. Linda Seifert
  - iv. Bud Zeuschner
- b. After a Unit-wide email call for nominations, no further nominations were received. Fred called for nominations from the floor. None were received.
- c. Marvin Weitzenhoffer moved and Ann Sinsheimer seconded the motion to elect Deb, Art, Linda, and Bud to the Unit 540 Board of Directors. Motion carried.

**Adjourned:** 4:01 PM to a time and place in January 2022 to be determined.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Hughes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mike Hughes, Unit secretary

