



Bridge - The Game That Gives Back

**ACBL CHARITY FOUNDATION
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
AUGUST 7, 2025 ZOOM MEETING**

Call to Order:

The ACBLCF (CF) Board Meeting was called to order by Paul Cuneo at 8:03 PM ET. In attendance were Rebecca Brown, Mitch Dunitz, Stu Goodgold, Kathy Kimmerling, Cindy Shoemaker and Jamie Southerland. Absent: Doug Simson. A quorum was met.

Minutes:

The minutes from the April 1, 2025, board meeting were delivered by email for review and corrections. All corrections were made prior to the meeting.

Motion to accept: Shoemaker/Dunitz

Motion carried

Ratification of Email Vote:

Approval for a \$10,000 donation to the Central Texas Food Bank for disaster relief (Texas Flooding) July 2025 Email

Motion to accept: Shoemaker/Dunitz

Motion carried

Treasurer Report:

Jamie Southerland, Treasurer presented his report.

Reports were emailed prior to the meeting. The largest item is the receipt of ~\$80.3K from the ACBL for Charity games. The comparison of income from last year to this year: 2024 – \$148K received vs \$106K for 2025; decrease of \$42K. This decrease may be attributed to the fact that in 2025, the virtual clubs were not required to run the April Charity games and there has been an overall decrease in the number of and participation in virtual club games.

Discussion followed on posting interim financial reports on the Charity Foundation website; the thought is that the end of the year, audited report should be sufficient.

Charity Volunteer of the Year Guidelines:

Shoemaker: History - in 2024, the ACBL executive Director, Bronia Jenkins, granted the CF the opportunity to honor a "Volunteer of the Year" at the annual Goodwill Dinner. Due to circumstances at the time, the CF did not have the time to develop a process framework and timeline.

Working with input from Goodgold and Brown, a framework has been developed and presented to the board. Discussion followed and an item that would make active CF trustees ineligible for the award would be added to the document.

Motion to accept: Shoemaker/Dunitz

Motion carried

Mass Email Systems:

Cuneo/Shoemaker – Multiple systems were reviewed. Under ACBL guidelines, we can communicate with ACBL members who have donated to the CF. The “Gold for Good” participants fall into this category. Contact Contact was used last year for the “Gold for Good” communications.

Mission Statement:

Shoemaker/Cuneo – Discussion on a proposed mission statement. and the feasibility of it having the desired impact.

Gifts to ‘national’ organizations:

Discussion led by Kimmerling, expanding on the decision of the board from the last meeting about funds awarded to ‘local’ rather than ‘national’ organizations, did the CF want to make a policy that funds donated by districts stay in that district and not go to ‘generic’ national organization for undesignated use? The board agreed that the awards should say local.

Shoemaker suggested that guidelines need to be developed for the districts to aid them in their selections for awards. Cuneo will follow up on this, so that guidelines will be available for next year.

District Grants Update:

Districts for 2025: 24, 25, 3, 4 and 5. Cuneo has been working with the district presidents and coordinators and is optimistic that they will have their award selections available for the October deadline.

Funds were dispersed to District 24, because they had the opportunity for a matching grant to their donation, if it was made by the end of July. They followed up with publicity information for the CF and website.

Cuneo is requesting a full page in the Bridge Bulletin on behalf of the CF to showcase the donations made by the districts. In addition, this information will be posted on the CF webpage.

Disaster Relief Grants and Policy:

Because it is unknown as to when a disaster will occur, the CF needs to be able to act quickly when there is a need. Discussion followed on the document as presented, and the policy will be edited.

The CF will coordinate with ACBL to have the “Gold for Good” program run annually. It was suggested that the “Gold for Good” campaign be marketed as earning funds for the CF Disaster Relief Fund, and then the CF would use those funds in the future, as they see fit. (In 2024, the funds were earmarked for prechosen disasters.)

Shoemaker led a discussion on how closely we need to be concerned with how the funds are being allocated to deal with a particular disaster, by the receiving organization.

Conflict of Interest Policy:

Reminder to sign and return the document.

Closing Remarks:

CF will be used as the abbreviation for the American Contract Bridge League Charity Foundation. The trustees need monthly updates, meetings to review Charity volunteer of the nominees, etc. Use "Need to Meet" to help set up meetings – aids in coordinating availability.

Next Board Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Zoom in September, date and time TBA.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by President Cuneo at 9:00 PM ET.

Respectfully Submitted -

Kathy Kimmerling
Secretary, ACBL Charity Foundation