4 Annual Membership Meeting

ACBL INTERNATIONAL CITY UNIT #159
Saturday, October 31, 2026

Call to Order
President, Gustavo Gonzalez, after establishing a quorum, called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM on Saturday, October 31, 2026.

Present were:
President, Gustavo Gonzalez
Vice-President/Treasurer, Bill Hickman
Board Member, Lucy Pfirman
Advisor to President, Ralph Liguori
Non-Board Member, Unit Accountant, Phil Anderson
Thirty-four members of Unit 159 (see attachment)

Absent was:
Secretary, Renee O'Donnell (Lucy Pfirman acted as Secretary)

Approval of Minutes
Minutes from the previous meeting were sent to members, along with being posted at Unit 159. There were no corrections, but there was some discussion about our dwindling new young members and what kind of outreach we are/are not doing. Online behaviors were mentioned. Bill moved to approve, seconded by Dee. The motion passed with one dissent by Steve Nordberg. He was asked to put his objections in a letter.

Financial Report:
Financials have been posted. Kudos to Phil Anderson for his work. The Unit received $10,000 worth of donations from Paul Ritters, Billy Crews, Gary Bingham, and Helen Craige. The membership applauded their generosity.

The President pointed out the ongoing monthly $800 gap between income and expenses. Much discussion followed as to how the Unit could increase revenue. The recent lack of participation on Wednesday evenings was discussed. Val Brown moved to cancel the Wednesday evening game and substitute it with a game on Wednesday afternoon. Marsha Chanoux seconded the motion. Discussion was held about competing with the Wednesday Las Cruces game. The motion failed 7-17.

Lorraine O'Donnell moved the club to hold a Thursday afternoon game. Ashley Erwin seconded the motion. Motion passed 19-5. The Thursday afternoon game will start in January.

There was further discussion about adding an open game to the already existing 499ner Saturday game. It appears at this time the Saturday game will remain as it is. The Hi/Lo game

was revisited, but members would rather play with a partner they choose rather than playing with a partner drawn out of a hat. No further discussion followed.

Mentoring Program
The mentoring program through Lorraine was discussed. The problem with starting formal mentoring was that open players were not wanting to give up one of their game days to play and mentor mentees. With the addition of another game on Thursday, we may see more interest.

February Sectional
Discussion was held about the February sectional tournament. The Unit decided to hold it since we had already canceled September. Billy offered to sponsor the Sunday lunch, but we still need to find a Hospitality Chair. Ashley volunteered to Chair the Sectional if he is in town. Sectional will probably be held on President's Day or whenever Ashley is in town.

President's Report
Gustavo thanked Ellen Eastman, Scott Norris, Phil Anderson, and CJ Tompkins for all they have contributed to the Unit.

Election of New Board Members
Nancy Welshimer was nominated to serve as a Board member. (Chuck also said he would be willing to serve, but due to his hearing, eyesight, and health he felt it was best if we could find others.) Polly Vaughn and Russell Johnson volunteered to serve on the Board of Directors. Cindy Osborn moved to accept the new board members, and Beverly Rebe seconded. Motion was passed unanimously.

Memorial:
President Gustavo asked for a moment of silence for Bernice Williams.

Adjournment:
Before adjourning, Lorraine O'Donnell returned to the discussion of the Unit's financials.
She moved to increase the daily game fee from $6 to $7. Dee seconded. The motion passed 25-2 and is effective in January 2027.

Cindy Osborn moved to adjourn, and Jerald Sullivan seconded. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned in time to start the Saturday 12:00 game.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy Pfirman for Renee O'Donnell

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Date Approved
Lucy Pfirman