1. **Call to order; approval of 12/28 minutes and 1/17 minutes and 2016 financials** 5 min.

Both sets of minutes were approved. The 2016 financials were approved. January 2017 may have some small errors because of the change to Quickbooks. The Jan financials were approved pending Mary Alice finalizing the figures given the move to Quickbooks. The club will be using Quickbooks for accounting purposes from this point forward, which should improve the ease with which we can report financial information.

2. **2017 Budget (see attachment)** Mary Alice 10 min.

Mary Alice estimated the budget starting from the 2016 actual budget and made her best guess relative to upcoming changes in the budget. Given the actual financials from 2016, Mary Alice doesn’t recommend a fee increase. If we do not have the Sunriver condo donations this year, we will probably need to increase fees for 2018. This year’s budget is very similar to last year.

3. **Mentor program plans** Allison 15 min.

Allison will work with the mentorship committee on initiating the mentorship program for this year.

In addition, newer players enjoy having coached practice once a month (first Thursday from 10-12; cost $5). The newer players also meet on the other Thursdays from 9-11 (cost $1) for shuffle, deal, play practice.

4. **Education Program report** Mary Alice 5 min.

This winter there are approximately 20 students in Beginning Bridge II – Competitive Auctions. Sandy and Eileen are each teaching a section. There are 14 students in Intermediate - Play of the Hand, which Mary Alice is teaching, and there is variable attendance in Eileen’s Intermediate/Advanced class on Play/Defense. Plans for spring classes include Beginning Bridge III - Popular Conventions, with Sandy and Eileen each teaching a section), Intermediate - Defense (taught by Mary Alice), and Intermediate/Advanced Bridge: Play and Defense 2 (taught by Eileen).
5. Revisit Friday night and Sunday night games. Mary Alice 20 min.

The board discussion whether we are satisfied with how the Friday evening and Sunday night games are going. Consensus was that the Friday night game is fine. It has a loyal following and the Ask-the-Expert gives it a fun twist. A good proportion of the players stay for the Ask-the-Expert, and those who stay say they get a lot out of it.

The Sunday evening game is small. It general ranges from 3-4 tables. The board considered the following questions: Should we have one Sunday afternoon game in addition to Unit Game? Would this benefit more of the membership?

Mary Alice asked a some of the current Sunday night players if they would you play on Sunday day? Quite a few said no, some said yes, some said didn’t matter, and some said only in winter. Eileen proposed making the 1st Sunday of the month a normal 1pm game. Discussion included the following points:

- One goal is to increase table count. It seems likely that a Sunday day game would bring in more tables than the 6:30pm game.
- A second goal is to serve different types of players in the playing community. In some ways, this is inherently at odds with increasing table count, as we know day games bring in more total players but often the players with the fewest total playing opportunities are more likely to play in evening games. One point of discussion was whether moving the Sunday night game to 1pm would provide more opportunity to play for the subset of the playing population that already has the most opportunity to play (i.e., those who can play regularly during the day). One question was whether adding another Sunday day game would increase overall table count or would cause day players to choose a Sunday day as a substitute for another day game in which they already play (i.e., whether players would, for example, chose the 1st Sunday game and then not play in the standing unit game or in another one of their “regular” day games).
- Another point of discussion was whether there is downside to trying a day game for 3-6 months. One advantage to trying this is to assess the demand for a Sunday day game. One disadvantage is that once one of the Sunday evening games is cancelled, this may disrupt the momentum that had been building on Sunday evening (i.e., addition of new partnerships to that game). There was some concern that a change to the game schedule would cause confusion, but we can be diligent about communicating any changes to stem confusion.

Paul moved that we have a 6 month trial of the first Sunday being a day game full game. Eileen seconded. The motion passed (4 in favor, 2 opposed, 2 abstaining, 1 absent). We will start the first weekend in March, and reassess this strategy after 3 months. Allison will announce this on email and will ask Dick to put it on the web site.

6. Bridgemate issues Mary Alice 10 min.
Do we follow Albany’s lead and remove the percentages on each hand on the bridgemates? Do we add standing after each hand or round? When we first started using bridgemates we had this feature (standings) turned on, but there was concern that players changed their game based on how they were doing. When the board last voted on this issue, the board voted to turn it off the standings after each round but to keep the percentages. We decided that it would be best if players can’t see their standing during the game and therefore will continue not showing the standings. With regard to the percentages, one disadvantage of having the percentages on the bridgemate screen is that it seems to extend the time that people take to look at the results. However, errors are caught based on the percentages or the results. One disadvantage of having the percentage on the hand show immediately is that it can be deflating to get a number of zeros in a row, and players can hardly avoid looking at the percentages even if they prefer not to see them. One possibility is to remove the percentages but keep the list of actual results. In this way, folks who are interested can look at the results, but people who prefer not to see the percentages don’t need to see them. Becky moves, Sandy seconds, that we remove the percentages but keep the scores. The motion passed.

7. **Website issues**  
   Mary Alice  10 min.
   a. We have tab for Game Schedules but there is nothing there. Do we put something under it or drop the tab?

   We should either get rid of this page or update it. Allison will ask Dick to either clarify or delete.

   b. Would it be easier (for those of us that have trouble dealing with a mouse) if Calendar/Scores was at the top of the tabs and in larger font?

   The board discussed this and decided we didn’t need to change this, but wanted to ask Dick if we could get a feature for the “latest results” to be featured.

   c. On the calendar pages:
      o can the font be larger? Probably we can’t do this, but check with Dick
      o is there a way for “scores” to stand out more? Ask Dick to look into this.
      o when there are two games on a day can there be more space between them to make it easier to access the one you are interested in? Ask Dick to do this.

8. **Other**

   - Directors should try to make sure all the scores imported for the game before processing. Dennis will remind the directors.

   - Paul will launch a reminder campaign regarding not talking about the hands, and Allison will add that information to the weekly email.
After our games have started, should we lock the door to the club from the breezeway? Some homeless people have come into the club through that door during games. We should create a checklist for directors which includes this information. Dennis will do this. The board decided to lock the door only for night games.

You can’t see the list of games on ACBL Score from the “sort games by newest” or “sort games by oldest”. It just gives an error.

Adjourned: 5:45 pm.

Action items:

- **Allison and Mentorship Committee**: initiate this year’s mentorship program.
- **Allison**: Announce the new 1st Sunday day format.
- **Dick**: Change the web calendar to reflect the new Sunday day game on the 1st Sunday.
- **Dennis**: Remove the percentages from the bridgemates.
- **Dick**: Investigate putting a “latest results” button on the home page. Check on making the font larger on the web calendar. Check about putting more space between the two games on the calendar when there are two games in one day. Update or delete the “Game Schedule” page.
- **Dennis**: remind directors to import all the scores from the game before processing them.
- **Paul**: remind folks at games not to talk about the hands.
- **Dennis**: let directors know we’d like to lock the breezeway door after the day games have started.