

ACBL Unit 143 Board Meeting Minutes, September 9, 2020

Location: The meeting was conducted on-line using ZOOM due to risk of COVID-19 Virus

Attendees: Dennis Abeln, Mark Boswell, Maureen Curran, Terry D'Amato, Diane Deutch, Estella Lau, John Welte, Kelly White, Mike Carmen (non-board member.)

Absent: Jan Potts, Jay Shah. (Doug Larson resigned from the board in early August due to health reasons.)

The meeting was called to order by President Mark Boswell at 7:05 PM.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the March board meeting were submitted by Dennis via e-mail. The minutes were approved as submitted.

President's Report:

Mark has held off the purchase of new Bridge Mates scoring equipment. He is looking into purchasing used Bridge Pads, possibly from the St Louis Bridge Center. Scoring equipment is not needed until May 2021 soonest.

Mark advised discussions with St Louis Bridge Center regarding using their facility for future sectionals are on hold.

John Welte reported that Maryland Heights Community Center is not viable as a tournament site due to high cost.

Treasurer's Report: Kelly had distributed a treasurer's report via e-mail. The unit currently has \$63,909. There has been minimal activity since March. The report was approved as submitted.

District 8 Report: Debbie Romero submitted an email summarizing the District 8 board meeting held on Sept 3, 2020. The meeting was held using ZOOM. Debbie, Mark Boswell and Mike Carmen participated.

- Debbie was elected Vice President of District 8.

- Mark was appointed Chairman of District 8's Appellate Judiciary Committee.

-ACBL has cancelled all tournament sanctions through February 2021.

- ACBL is expected to make a decision in October about cancelling the St Louis National Tournament scheduled for March 2021.

- ACBL is considering reducing the number of Regionals, and has asked that districts not make any new contractual commitments.

- ACBL will continue conducting on-line regionals, up to six per year.

Tournaments:

Mike Carmen reported that the Renaissance Hotel agreed to cancel the August 2020 Regional in exchange for extending the existing contract one year.

Kelly has held off purchasing convention card holders for the sectional registration gifts due to the Covid-19 cancellations. He is ready to place the order.

No report on ordering signage for the sectionals due to Jay's absence.

The Unit 143 299r Sectional Tournament is still on the schedule.

Committee Reports

Awards: Mark has taken over the awards job due to Doug Larson's resignation. Mark retrieved the trophies from Doug. Since there aren't tournament opportunities to present the awards in person, Mark will mail the awards for Mini-McKinney, Ace of Clubs, Player of the Year and Life Master to the recipients. Mark will provide recipient information to Terry D'Amato for posting on the Unit's website.

Bidding Boxes & Time Clocks: no report.

Caddies: Maureen. No activity.

Datebook: Dennis. No activity.

Membership: Jay. No report due to Jay's absence.

Publicity: Estella. No activity.

Unit Electronic Contact: Kelly has been processing member death notices. No other activity.

Unit Games: Dennis. No activity.

Website: Terry. The website has been kept up to date.

Hospitality: Diane. No activity.

Education / Camp Scholarships: No discussion.

Outreach: No report.

Finance: Kelly. The opening created by Doug's resignation needs to be filled.

Nominations: Dennis

-The terms of Dennis Abeln, Jay Shah and Jan Potts expire at the October 2020 sectional. All three are eligible to continue for another term. A slate needs to be nominated and others given a chance by petition.

-Since Dennis is up for re-election, he cannot serve on the Nominating Committee. Mark appointed John Welte to take over.

- Normally, board member elections are held at the annual membership meeting during the Fall Sectional but that has been cancelled, and the next Sectional will be May 2021 soonest. The board needs to decide how to handle elections.

- Two other openings on the board of directors have been created by the resignations of John Levitz and Doug Larson and need to be filled. These vacancies are filled by the board of directors.

Rules Review: Dennis. No activity.

Photographer: No activity

Old Business: (none)

New Business:

Mark intends to hold officer elections at the regular time in November. The unit's bylaws limit presidents to serving two years so a new president needs to be selected. Mark asked the board members to be thinking about officer positions.

Mike Carmen pointed out ACBL President Georgia Heth's column about cheating in the current ACBL Bulletin. He suggested reporting any suspicious activity.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be October 14, 2020 at 7pm via ZOOM. John Welte will send instruction on how to participate.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm.

Minutes submitted by Dennis Abeln, Secretary. September 15, 2020.