

Subject: Minutes of Unit 178 Board Meeting, April 20, 2023

Date May 3, 2023

The meeting on Zoom was called to order about 4:30 by Steve Gaynor.

Attending:

Members: Steve Gaynor, Sue Sanger, John Schlundt, Tom Botten, David Trevor, Vicki Smith, Jane Schmidt

Also attending: Deanna Liddy, Patti Stuhlman, Kim Hayward, Keith Thompson, Teri Blu

Minutes of last meeting: No minutes were available from the last meeting.

Financial report: Tom asked that the report include interest rates and maturity dates for the CDs. Vicky will send this information to the board in 1-2 days.

Secretary: Jane Schmidt volunteered. Approved without dissent.

Tournament report: Patti reported that the **Gopher Regional**

We will be able to use all 3 rooms on the 2nd floor of the hotel, and that the restaurant will remain open for lunch until 2:15.

The hotel has received reservations for 158 room-nights; compared to 120 guaranteed and 163 achieved last year.

The PR committee has sent 3 email blasts to members within a 500-mile radius; 2 to all members and 1 targeting those with fewer than 750 MP. Another email will go to 2022 attendees the first week of May. The First Day bulletin is in process.

The Monday Open Pairs game will be named for Mike Flader, and a message will be included in the first day bulletin asking for kidney donation as he is on the transplant list.

Patti needs volunteers to set up on Sunday, 5/21.

Players with 0-15 MP can play free thanks to a grant from the MN Bridge Educational Fund; ACBL number is required; Guest membership is free for 4 months. ?? will send a new member flyer to all board members. John will send an email to Chat Bridge players.

The **April Sectional** is all set up with the change to the director.

Tom reported on the **July Sectional**; Kim is directing. Tom and John are co-chairs, Marc Ashton is in charge of set-up and Sue is the partnership chair. The dates on the ACBL website needs to be corrected. Matt Blau is working on the flyer. Wed & Thurs will be pair/team/499-er games. Fri will be Swiss teams. Discussion of whether to have an IN section on Fri, get a regional rating, add \$1 for a charity game, etc. Tom, John, and Steve will work on details.

The Board approved \$100 stipend and free play to Scott for closing his game on Fri.

Cost will be \$13 per game, with the promise of better treats.

Jane will send 2 emails to units 178, 103, and 149, 1 early and 1 later.

Tom will get 500 flyers printed.

Patti will chair the **2026 Nationals** in at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

Bridge Center of St Paul is considering a move to a location in Roseville. A decision will be made after board elections next week.

Steve has certificates for Aces of Clubs and Mini-MacKenney **Awards**. He will hand them out at the Gopher.

New Directors are needed, as Tony and Scott are both nearing retirement. A course is not needed, but there will be a course offered at the Nationals. Study materials are available from the ACBL, and the test is open book with a proctor (Steve is willing to proctor). But there is more than that to running a game: i.e., setting the movement and running the computer. A current director mentors this (Keith is willing). Sue suggested splitting the director's duties.

Tom moved to create a standing committee to develop a program to develop new directors including a training stipend. Seconded by John. Passed without opposition. Members are Teri, Steve, and Tom.

New Business

Sue talked about efforts to recruit kidney donors for Mike Flader, including a post on the units Facebook page.

Sue brought up pre-Covid discussions about how to recruit social bridge players to duplicate bridge. Duplicate players can reach out to social bridge players.

Jane has a copy of Sue's earlier proposals, will send to Board.

Keith related discussions from '23 Gopher. Ideas included inviting social players to Gopher after hours, recruit at libraries and community centers. There is an organization in San Francisco that promotes bridge, we could invite them to the Gopher or 2026 Nationals.

We could hold an IN Sectional and invite social players.

We could invite players from non-sanctioned duplicate games.

Sue will develop a 1-page handout to give to social players.

John reported that the Edina Senior Center will have an Open House in July. He will reserve a booth. Jane and maybe Teri will staff it.

John reported that Joe still has equipment in his garage from TCBC. Kim says we need that stuff for the Gopher. After that it will be stored in Eden Prairie.

Jane asked who will make the game schedule for May. Keith will. It's Grass Roots Fund month.

Sue reported that a country club in the west metro is looking for a bridge teacher. Teri is interested, other names were mentioned as well.

Next meeting: the week before the Gopher.

Adjourned 6:20

Recorded by Jane Schmidt