

Illinois Chess Association
Board Meeting Phone Conference
December 9, 2010
7:30 CST

Present: Maret Thorpe, Andi Rosen, Carl Dolson, Tom Sprandel, David Long, Michael Cardinale, Jerry Neugarten, Bill Barton, Garrett Scott

Absent: Chris Merli

We have a quorum.

Minutes from the 11/18 meeting were approved.

Election results: All existing officers were re-elected to two year terms: Tom Sprandel, President; Michael Cardinale, Metro VP; David Long, Downstate VP; Carl Dolson, Treasurer; Maret Thorpe, Treasurer. Thanks to Pattie Zinski, Joe Splinter and Larry Cohen for gathering and counting the ballots. Results will be posted on the site.

Illinois Class had 90 for a turnout, which is pretty good. A few people have used the free membership extension. This could also use a promo on the web site. Sevan Muradian expects that we will put out the 2011 Illinois Class for bid. Garrett Scott was advised.

Treasurer's Report : Carl Dolson focused on the draft of the 2011 budget. We will have a small amount of additional income from the IL State K-8. Four major categories of expenses: 1) titled players and incentive expense, 2) Web site expense 3) youth committee and 4) general/administrative. It's a break-even budget, so if we decide to spend more in any given area, we need to raise money for that area. Carl would also like us to maintain our cash reserve at its current level.

Metro VP Report: Mike Cardinale reported that we have a lot of events coming up. Tim Just is running his 25th Winter Open, maybe we could get a web site article on that.

Benchmarking State Chess Associations—Mike reported that we aren't missing any major programs or not doing something we should. We are dealing with many of the same issues as other state associations. We have one of the better web sites; other states with good sites were Northern California and Georgia.

States have gone to publishing electronic bulletins, or publishing fewer printed bulletins. Most sites don't have "member restricted" content or areas.

Recommendations: offer more to members 1) yearbook, 2) revived ICA Tour 3) discount benefits for members. We decided to start pursuing the tour idea, and Mike will follow up on that. Garrett Scott moved that Mike be appointed as a chair of an ad hoc committee to look into the tour. Motion approved unanimously.

Downstate Report : David Long reported on downstate tournaments.

WJS: Andrea Rosen had no report.

Membership: Tom Sprandel no report

Web: Maret Thorpe no report

Youth Committee: Jerry Neugarten has done a lot of promotion for the IESA tournament. The Fellows program rules and forms have been written; he is now recruiting people to run the program. He has an opportunity to get Americorps people to help with the Chicago program and the Fellows program. We also discussed possible names for the Chicago program. Tom Sprandel and Jerry Neugarten are going to meet with Robert Runcie and Terence Patterson. The program is moving forward.

Follow-up on 2010 All Grade tournament: Jeff Wiewel and Jerry Neugarten made a list of areas for improvement. Similar lists are to come from Zack Fishman. Pattie Zinski and Garrett Scott will work on compiling those documents into some changes for our specific bidding guidelines for that tournament.

We agreed to invite Pattie Zinski to our phone conferences.

Bid Committee: Garrett Scott said the 2011 All Grade call for bids would be released in the next few days. Schedule for 2012 State K-8 tournament bids: January 3 call for bids, February 15 deadline, February 25 decision, announce winning bidder March 5.

USCF has established a K-8 Tournament of Champions to parallel the Denker. Our task is to name a representative to go. Andi Rosen proposed to run a qualifier for this under the auspices of the Warren Program. The Warren Advisory Board will advise her on how to set this up and who to invite.

Next meeting January 6.