

Illinois Chess Association Board Meeting

Sunday, November 1, 2009

Called to order 1:00 p.m.

Present: Carl Dolson, Tom Sprandel, Jerry Neugarten, Richard Engelen, Bill Brock, Mike Zacate, Gary Fine, Andi Rosen, David Long, Maret Thorpe, Larry Cohen (1:10 p.m.), Kevin Bachler (1:30 p.m.), Brad Rosen (1:30 p.m.)

Quorum: Four out of four voting Executive Board members were present, so we had a quorum.

Minutes from the 10/22/09 Skype meeting had one correction: Bill Brock was not present. David Long moved to approve the minutes, Carl Dolson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report for 10/31/08-10/31/09 was given by Treasurer Carl Dolson. Membership revenues are up and expenses (particularly related to the ICB) are down. The Warren Program broke even, as it should. The General Fund balance is up. We are on steady ground financially thanks to improved membership collections.

Membership Report was given by Tom Sprandel, who is handling membership recordkeeping on an interim basis. The list has been cleaned up, and membership is up. Bill Brock has collected some memberships at Continental Chess tournaments; we need to have membership collectors present in order to get any membership revenue at these. Renewal notices are going out, and these help with membership collections. We need a membership secretary.

Illinois Chess Bulletin (ICB) report was given by Bill Brock. Since April, we have had one four-page issue, one 32-page issue, and one eight-page issue. Bill would like to do six issues per year, with one as a 32-page issue. The 32-page issue would be in the Fall to coincide with the startup of scholastic chess after the summer hiatus. Larry Cohen is helping with content for the ICB; anyone else who would like to help is welcome. The Executive Board will put together an annual budget for Bill to work within. If we have extra content, it would go on the web site.

Web Report was given by Maret Thorpe. Policy on listing categories for events pages was read off, including two new sections for lectures/programs and classes/camps. These two new sections will have paid listings. We also agreed to adopt working guidelines for editorial content on the web site. The guidelines will be refined as we go along.

Warren Program Report was given by Andi Rosen. Programming this year included a group seminar, individual training, and partial camp scholarships. Andi applied for and received a \$1500 grant for the Warren Program and has done some private fundraising. She will also do a raffle at the National Youth Action and a joint fundraising tournament with the Chicago Blaze in February. The Warren Program Advisory Committee consists of Mike Zacate, Bill Brock, Yury Shulman and Chris Merli. They have developed guidelines for the Denker Tournament, which is funded by the Warren Program, and these will be published on the ICA web site. Tom Sprandel moved to accept the guidelines as written, Bill Brock seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. We will wait until after January 1 to decide what to do about a Polgar Qualifier event.

ICA Governance issues were discussed. ICA plans to fill the Metro VP position by the first quarter of 2010. Tom Sprandel would like to appoint people to volunteer positions including membership. Board meeting minutes will be posted on the web site. ICA also needs to prepare for the next election in November 2010.

Since the Bidding Task Force is still working on a final product, ICA will conduct bidding for the November 2010 Illinois All Grades tournament following as much of the in-process bidding document as possible. The RFP will go out on December 1, bids will be due on January 31, with the bid awarded by February 25. *(Note: These plans were changed at a later meeting.)*

Kevin Bachler presented his draft of the bidding guidelines, which the group reviewed briefly. Kevin agreed to stay with the process until the document is completed and was thanked for his work. Tom Sprandel thanked Kevin as well as Jeff Wiewel and Jerry Neugarten for their work on this.

The Youth Chess Task Force also presented its final recommendations to the Board, including five action items. It was noted that ICA would need to recruit several volunteers to carry out many of the functions mentioned, while others – particularly communication functions -- could very easily be added to what ICA is currently doing. Tom Sprandel accepted the Youth Chess Task Force Report as motions for further consideration, and thanked Mike Zacate and the task force for their work.

David Long reported he is almost finished with scanning ICBs back to 1980 and is now looking for ICBs from before that time.

Bill Brock suggested that Helen Warren be nominated for the Broughton award, and that will be put on the agenda for further consideration.

Andi Rosen moved we adjourn the meeting, Bill Brock seconded. Motion carried and we adjourned at 3:00 p.m.