

Minutes of Board Meeting Unit 361

Date:

March 2, 2019

Location:

Denver Metro Bridge Studio

Time:

10:01 AM

Attendees:

Julie Clark, Wayne Eckerling, Rick Gardner, Joe Jenkins, Alice Kinningham, Vard Nelson, Nancy Rassbach, Bob Stansbury, Rob Vetter, Ed Yosses

District 17 Representatives: None

Legal Counsel: Penny Coffman

The meeting was called to order by President Rick Gardner.

Minutes:

Minutes from the February meeting were approved.

Financial Report:

Ed presented the financial reports.

Current balances are \$59,313 in savings and \$51,554 in checking.

Action Item Review:

Rick:

FastResults has been contacted and will provide services for the online bulletin for the Regional. Their fee of \$100 has already been paid. Board members planning to contribute bulletin articles are urged to submit them as soon as possible so that they will be available prior to the tournament. Rick has determined that the Unit has sufficient boards and Bridge Mates for the July NLM Regional, but bidding boxes may be an issue. Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney awards are available and will be presented by Rick and Rob at the March Sectional. The board approved funding for a breakfast get-together between Rick and other Front Range (or all Colorado) board presidents to discuss tournament date conflicts and how to improve overall attendance.

Rob:

Rob has sent a Pianola announcement regarding the in memoriam game on Friday night for this Sectional. A link was provided to the list of members deceased in 2018, along with a request for additional names and/or dates of death.

Ed:

After some difficulty in contacting the IRS, Ed has succeeded in having the \$3000 penalty for

late filing of 2017 taxes canceled.

Wayne:

Asked Rob to provide \$2 coupons good for the April I/N tournament to eligible players at the March Sectional. There was a discussion about the merits of providing screens for the finals of knockout matches at the Regional. It was decided that we would ask the Director in Charge (Gary Zeiger) to provide a separate room for this session.

Bob:

No progress on crates due to a death in the family. Bob presented the schedule of tournaments through 2022. He will wait to apply for 2023 sanctions until after Rick's meeting with other board presidents to determine if we want to move to a different schedule for our Sectional tournaments. Bob will apply to change the 2021 Fall Sectional from November 12-14 to November 5-7 to de-conflict with the Las Vegas Regional.

Vard:

Requested that ambassadors be contacted for the upcoming Sectional. Vard expressed his opinion that all 0-5 players should play free. As a counter-proposal, at the Regional we are planning to provide "buy one get one free" for 0-20 players who enter two-session events.

Membership Chairman:

Alice and Ed discussed the requirements for packets sent to new members. Currently the welcome letter is sent via email. Alice will serve as membership chairman, with Joe assisting with email duties.

Sectional Preparation:

Setup is scheduled for 1 PM on Thursday, with a tape measure available to arrange tables at a distance of 8 feet between each table center, to determine the number of tables we can fit into the space for the Non-Life Master Regional in July.

Joe will provide two cakes for the Sunday game that will include "In Memoriam" along with a plaque showing the names of deceased members.

Rob will provide flyers for the April I/N tournament, the July Sectional, and the Non-Life Master Regional. The Friday night event for July will be a Swiss Pairs.

Rick will provide publicity for how to sponsor an event at future tournaments, including sign-up information and prices.

Regional Preparation:

Schedule:

There was discussion about professional players who have decided not to attend our Regional due to the 10 and 3 times and the lack of a new knockout starting every day. The group discussed various alternatives, including a 9/1/7 schedule with a "Choice Pairs" where players can play any two of the 3 sessions. It was noted that we should find a way to publicize the fact that the RTD A-Line is no longer blasting the horn at crossings, which was a significant issue to many staying at the hotel for last year's tournament.

Hospitality:

Joe presented the list of hospitality items and plans for distributing them. The board agreed to

budget an additional \$1500 for hospitality to accommodate the expanded hospitality plan. Prizes and registration gifts include convention card holders, wrist bands, stickers, glass paperweight awards, 16 ounce coffee cups, and flashlights. Joe asked for volunteers to judge the Hawaiian shirt competition. It was noted that coupons will also be given out, \$4 for registration, \$5 for the ProAm, \$2 for two special days, and \$5 for the Monday Swiss. The coupons are distributed to meet our financial obligation to the hotel.

Non-Life Master Regional:

The board agreed that speakers should be provided between sessions on Friday and Saturday. It was noted that the current schedule of 10 and 2:30 leaves a limited time for these lectures, but it was decided to maintain the current schedule for both the NLM Regional and the regular July Sectional, as those interested in attending the lectures can purchase lunch and eat during the lectures.

Board members are requested to provide ideas for gifts and awards for the NLM Regional by the next meeting.

Mentor/Coaching Program:

Joe has published information regarding the Mentor program which begins this year and continues in perpetuity. Five of the local clubs have agreed to participate. The coaching program is still being worked on.

Other Business:

Bracketed Swiss vs. Open Swiss:

Ed expressed that since players cannot “play up” in the bracket Swiss event, those who are not in the top bracket have potentially fewer masterpoints available and are handicapped in their ability to win the Colorado Victory Trophy. It was suggested that we might revise the schedule to have bracketed Swiss twice a year and open (A/X and B/C/D) Swiss twice a year.

Movie:

Members are requested to watch the trailer for the movie Double Dummy at <http://doubledummymovie.com/2017/trailer>, and make recommendations as to whether the Unit should offer a screening of this movie at a local theater. If approved, we could offer tickets for the screening at the Regional. If fewer than 80 tickets are sold, the screening would be canceled and ticket money refunded.

D17 Report:

None this month.

Next Meeting:

Saturday, April 6, 2019 at 10:00 AM at Denver Metro Bridge.

Adjournment:

11:59 AM

Respectfully submitted,

NANCY RASSBACH

Secretary 2019

Unit 361