

Minnesota Gopher Unit 103 BOARD MEETING Saturday, April 7, 2018
Rochester Sectional Tournament

President Warren Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. at the Rochester International Event Center.

Attendees: Warren Nelson, Larry Huiras, Sandy Casey, Keith Thompson, Kathy Beckman, John Koch, Sue Greenberg, Lance Chamberlain, Elaine Barr

Absentees: Rajiv Kapadia, Amy Dutton

New Board Member: Unanimous “yes” vote of Amy Dutton as our newest Board Member. Welcome Amy!

Approve past minutes: Sue motioned to accept; Keith second - all in favor.

Approve Financial Report: Lance reported the balance \$3,751.57 as of 3-31-18. This reflects that it's income over expenses for the first quarter. Keith motioned to accept and Sandy seconded the motion...unanimous “yes” vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a) President Warren encouraged us to welcome Bill Voedisch as our newly appointed Disciplinarian. We do have a Job Description for his duties.
- b) Awards Banquet will be held at the No. St. Paul Club on April 14th starting with lunch at noon.
- c) Winter Sectional at New Brighton Community Center, MN 2018: Larry Huiras reported a successful tournament netting a profit of \$3,827.73; 964 paid members. As it's first venue, the location, player response, and convenience were positive factors for repeating a tournament at this location. Keith and Sandy discussed which days of the week bring out the larger numbers of players. No action taken.
- d) Rochester 2019 Regional: Plans are already well organized for this tournament to be held near the end of September, 2019
- e) Duluth Sectional: Warren reported that plans are underway for this tournament to be held in 2019 on Labor Day weekend or the following weekend.
- f) Unit-Wide Charity Games: Keith is working on the plans for this tournament.
- g) Tournament Chairpersons Recognition: Kathy Beckman proposed that we invite and honor all tournament chairpersons at the Awards Banquet to be held April 14th. All were in agreement.
- h) Rochester Caddy Pay: Sue Greenberg led a discussion to honor the agreement to pay all caddies \$10/hr. All agreed.

- i) I/N Regional Tournament New Brighton: The District can have three I/N Regionals per year. The dates for this tournament are September 27th and 28th, 2018. Kathy thanked Larry for his direction with the planning. This tournament will be co-chaired by Unit 103 Amy Dutton and Unit 178 Sue Sanger. We are reminded as Board Members to help promote this tournament.
- j) Autumn Harvest Sectional Tournament: This tournament is planned for November 1, 2, and 3, 2018, to be played at Marsh Oaks Golf Course, Oakdale, MN. Co-chairs for this tournament are Kathy Beckman and Kerry Holloway.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Second Check Signer: Larry Huiras has agreed to work with Lance and Premier Bank to be able to sign checks on behalf of our MN Gopher Unit 103. Thanks Larry!
- b) NEW from the ACBL - Effective January 1, 2018, all tournament bridge players are required to have ACBL memberships. Please include this requirement as you prepare flyers and advertisements.
- c) I/N Entry Fees: There is a lack of consistency of entry fees paid by I/N players. The goal is to grow and encourage more younger players. After a discussion, a motion was made by Keith and seconded by Sue and Sandy (a tie), that:
 - 1) Students with a valid school ID, the fees would be half the rate being charged for others.
 - 2) Players with master points under "20 points", the entry fees would be \$8.00. Secretary is to add these additions to our Policy Document, 8.03.
- d) Random Draw Policy for Pair/Teams: Keith asked the question if we are slighting the "C" players by not including them in Pair/Teams. Pair teams in the I/N Section would provide 1) experience in Team Pairs and 2) they would be able to get more Master points. Warren motioned to adopt this concept and Kathy seconded motion. The Tournament Chairperson has the option to include these changes.
- e) Kathy Beckman shared a few observations for our discussion: 1) 96 signed up for the Awards Banquet but not one of them are from the MIps unit; 2) April is a busy month. These are simple examples to raise our awareness of the importance of good communication and promotion for bridge as a whole.
- f) Bridgemates: Larry discussed the need for more bridgemates, about 25 of them. He proposed that the bridgemates be stored with the Property Manager. Warren authorized the payment for this purchase and all were in agreement.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was voiced by Warren and seconded by Sandy. Motion carried.

