

Subject: Minutes of Unit 178 Board Meeting, June 21, 2023

The meeting on Zoom was called to order at 4:24 by Steve Gaynor

Attending:

(members) Steve Gaynor, John Schlundt, Sue Sanger, Tom Botten, David Trevor, Cass Weil, Jane Schmidt
(others) Deana Liddy (D14 rep), Patti Stuhlman, Teri Blu, Keith Thompson

Minutes of previous meeting: No comments or corrections to notes from May 18 meeting.

Financial Report: unit 178 has about \$40,000 in the bank. We have not received proceeds from Gopher Regional yet pending final hotel bill, but Gopher is returning \$800 advance.

Tournament Reports

1. **Gopher Regional** (Patti) There were 687 tables total, an increase of 144 over 2022. 14 ¾ tables of novices played free. Soloway drew 66 teams over 2 days. Few IN tables, as most pairs played in the Gold Rush instead. Sue Grue (Partnerships) was great. PR, set-up, directors all great. We had 247 room nights, and the hotel wants to keep us.
On the downside, the downstairs room was too crowded; next year the hotel is willing to clear the lounge area for more tables. There was a COVID outbreak.
The Gopher was a financial success as well. Grant from MN Ed Fund for members with fewer than 15 MP to play free is not needed, and will be refunded to them, Grand Slam club donated \$500 for the Daily Bulletin, and this will not be needed in the future.
Next Gopher will be May 20-25, 2024. Chat bridge may be added, Teri is interested.
Final report is in process,
Observation: Unit 178 needs a property manager, some cards are not in good shape. Linda Brahmer was property manager, Steve will contact her.

Motion: to not ask MN Ed Fund for funds was passed without opposition. Patti will communicate with Barb Zipoy.

2. **Aquatennial Sectional:** planning proceeds. Flyer is done, 2 emails planned. Food budge is a concern; allocating \$1.50 per person per session, but this should be OK. Set up team is in place. Tom will meet with Kim (Tournament Director) prior.
3. 2024 events will be discussed at next meeting.

New Bridge Center: the new location in Roseville for the Bridge Center of Saint Paul will be a resource for the entire metro area. It has space enough for sectionals, parking, bathrooms, and a good team running it. Monday and Wednesday games at the Edina Senior Center will stay there, but other Unit 178 games are considering moving to Roseville.

Communications:

- The Minnesota Bridge Blog will be eliminated. Steve will send a letter withdrawing Unit 178 support.
- Matt Balau has a new online bulletin board starting in August. It will cost \$800 per year for each unit.

- MGSC will be highlighted in the next email to members.
- We also discussed ways to promote the game and attract beginners
 - Ads in the StarTribune by the bridge column
 - On-line ads
 - Deana reports that the Ed Fund and ACBL have programs to support online ads and public ads. ACBL will pay half if the Unit matches that. Jane will follow up with Deana and send info to others including Kim.

Actions

	Action	Responsible	Due	
1	Steve	Contact Linda Brahmer (property manager?)		
2	Steve	Letter to MN Bridge Blog to withdraw support		
3	Jane	Follow up with Deana on ACBL support for ads, send to others		
4	Jane	Highlight MGSC in email newsletter		