

Subject: Minutes of Unit 178 Board Meeting, December 14, 2023

1. Meeting on Zoom was called to order at 4:31 by Steve Gaynor

Attending:

(members) Steve Gaynor, Tom Botten, David Trevor, John Schlundt, Vicky Smith. Jane Schmidt
(others) Kimberly Haywood, Matt Balau, Keith Thompson, Sue Greenwood

2. **Minutes of previous meeting** approved

3. **Treasurer's Report** approved

Discussion: Expecting about \$200 from ACBL for charity following the Aquatennial Sectional, but have not seen anything yet. Tom applied in September. Keith (District 14 Treasurer) has not seen anything. **Steve** will follow up with ACBL and clarify where the funds should go.

4. **Tournament Report**

- a. **Gopher Regional 2024**

Brochures are available. Connie Nelson is reaching out to Ambassadors

- b. **Aquatennial Sectional**

Marc Ashton (chair) is working with 2nd Harvest for a space. There was a discussion of options for the length of the tournament, and whether to include a charity game. Four days, W-Th-F-Sat, was favored.

Motion: Hold a 4-day tournament, subject to space availability. Unanimously approved on voice vote.

Once facility is lined up, Marc should get a team, schedule, and flyer.

- c. **Fall Sectional**

Roseville Bridge Center may be available in late October. **Steve** will follow up with Kim.

5. **Request to purchase tech equipment and train people to operate it**

Background: We have 3 good directors, but there have been absences due to health issues. "Retired" directors are available to substitute, but are not tech savvy. Hence the need for technical people and backup equipment.

ACBLScore software is free. Unit would pay whoever provides training. Keith estimates a refurbished laptop would cost about \$300, and "scratch and dent" printer \$50.

Purchases were approved in principle, pending getting particulars and a budget. **John** will pursue this.

6. **Filling Unit Board Committees**

GNT/NAP coordinator(s) is needed to publicize qualifying event, communicate next steps, assist in forming teams, etc. **David** will consider it.

Jane will do Communications.

7. 2024 Board Elections

Steve, John, and Cass are leaving the board when their terms are up after the Gopher. We need enough candidates to fill the openings; Steve has a few in mind. Election schedule is not set yet.

8. Changes in unit funding by ACBL

ACBL used to give units 11% of dues paid with no actions required. As of April 1, this will be only 5% baseline, but up to 15% if certain recruitment and retention goals are met.

- a. Contact players who have not returned to clubs post-Covid to ask why they left (up to 2.5%). List is online.
- b. If lapsed members rejoin, another 2.5% possible
- c. If unit membership grows, up to 5%

John will get lists from Tony and Scott of players

Steve will get MNGS list from David

Steve will send online list to board members

All should review the list and contact people we know.

9. Old Business

Action Items from previous meeting:

	Action	Responsible	Update
1	Steve, Vicky	Decide reinvesting in CDs	Nothing new
2	John	Approach Ed Fund about support for players with <15 MP at Gopher	Not needed as Gopher has sufficient funds to cover this
3	John, Teri, Tony	Investigate putting an ad in the Strib	Nothing new
4	Jane	cc Unit 103 on email newsletters, coordinate with Matt, include a link to the new MN Bridge website monthly	Jane will send email newsletters to Units 178 and 103 monthly. Matt will do the website. We will work together.

Expense reimbursement policy was clarified. IRS has separate rates for charity work (\$0.14/mile) or business (\$0.65/mile). ACBL uses the higher rate.

Motion was made to reimburse expenses at the IRS business rate for the tournament chair only; Approved. **Tom** will communicate this to Marc.

10. New business none

11. Adjourned at 5:39 pm.

Action Items

	Action	Responsible	Update
1	Steve, Vicky	Decide reinvesting in CDs	
2	John, Teri, Tony	Investigate putting an ad in the Strib	
3	Steve	Follow up with ACBL on charity reimbursement from 2023 Aquatennial Sectional	
4	Steve	Check with Kim on availability of Roseville bridge center for fall sectional	
5	John	Details on what is needed for equipment and training to support substitute directors	
6	John, Steve	Lists of active players from Directors	
7	Steve	Send link to online list of lapsed members to Board	Done
8	All	Contact lapsed members, update online list	