

Minutes of Unit 178 Board Meeting, July 18, 2024

1. Called to Order 4:32

Attending: Board members: Sue Sanger, Teri Blu, Marylou Doerrie, Tom Botten, Marc Ashton, Todd Flowerday, Vicky Smith, Jane Schmidt

The meeting started with a welcome from Sue, who stressed that she is learning her role as Board President.

2. **Minutes from meeting 6/27** approved without opposition.

3. **Treasurer's report** approved without comments

4. Tournament Report

a. **Aquatennial Sectional** had more tables than last year, a total of 207 tables over 4 days. Charitable donations were down, but a check for \$1040 was given to Second Harvest.

b. **October Sectional** will be chaired by Steve Gaynor.

Todd questioned whether a written agreement with the Bridge Center of St Paul is needed. Sue says a confirming email is sufficient.

Todd expressed concern about insurance and potential liability. Sue will ask Steve. Who is partnership chair? Again, Sue will ask Steve.

5. Old Business

a. **Equipment for back-up directors**

A motion was made to appropriate up to \$750 for the equipment. Approved, unanimously.

b. **Misc**

Bridge Center of St Paul is looking into a new sound system for tournaments.

Actions from previous meetings

	Action	Responsible	Update
1	John	Details on what is needed for equipment and training to support substitute directors	Moving ahead with purchase (see 5.a)
2	All	Contact lapsed members, update online list	Sue has not received reports on 5.5.5 program
3	Jane	Send Board contact information to members	Done
4	Jane	Email PR for Aquatennial Sectional	Done
5	Jane	Contact Unit 103 for policy on dues for new members	done
6.	Steve	Send link to 5-5-5 information	done

7.	Steve	Send list of guest members	Jane received list
8.	Jane	Link to website in next email to members	Done
9.	Jane	Contact guest members	emailed dues rebate offer
10.	Jane	Contact Judy Hansen	She is not continuing

6. New Business

a. Promoting game in community

Todd proposed a challenge match, possibly with a corporate sponsor and traveling trophy. Unit 178 vs 103 or MN vs WI were suggested. Games could be on BBO.
Todd will pursue and write a proposal.

b. Bridge on the Paddleford

Sue received a suggestion of holding a bridge cruise on the Jonathan Paddleford riverboat. Others suggested a Lake Minnetonka cruise or St Croix.
Sue will contact the source to pursue this.

c. Enhancing MN players at NABC

Unit 103 Board is discussing ways to do this, perhaps hiring a non-local coach. We had questions about the format and target audience for coaching, but want to pursue the idea, as well as to encourage IN players to get comfortable with NABC options.

d. Issues from Aquatennial Sectional

Tom expressed the opinion that the BCofStP board undercharged us for the space. He also said that the chairs need to be refurbished, but they have no resources. He proposed that we offer up to \$500 as a match for this purpose.
Other members questioned the scope of the project compared to the amount requested: is it reasonable or enough to make a difference? Can the chair pads be replaced economically? No answers were provided.
A motion was made to provide up to \$500 as a match to refurbish chairs. This passed 5-2 (Marc, Tom, Todd, Teri, Marilou – aye; Jane, Sue – nay).
Tom will contact board members.

Adjourned at 5:55

Action Items

	Action	Responsible	Update
1	All	Contact lapsed members, update online list	

2	Sue	Ask Steve G about insurance	
3	Sue	Partnership chair for Oct Sectional	
4	Todd	Challenge Match proposal	
5	Sue	Bridge cruise on Paddleford	
6	Tom	Contact BCofStP Board about funds to refurbish chairs	