ACBL Unit 143 Board Meeting Minutes, June 9, 2021

Location: The meeting was conducted on-line using ZOOM.

Attendees: John Welte, Mark Boswell, Dennis Abeln, Terry D'Amato, Maureen Curran, Diane Deutch, Ken Obrecht, Jan Potts, Mark Zellmer.

Non-board members in attendance: Phyllis Siegel and Steve Russell.

Absent: Don Chase, Kelly White.

The meeting was called to order by President John Welte at 7:05 PM

Secretary's Report: Revision 1 of the minutes from April board meeting was approved as submitted.

President's Report:

John said that despite uncertainty about holding our fall tournaments this year, we need to proceed with planning for them, including the 299r Tournament in September and the Fall Sectional in October.

Mark Boswell reported that ACBL has established new rules for tournaments in this COVID-19 environment. John agreed to follow-up.

Mark Zellmer the unit will likely lose a lot of money if we hold the Fall Sectional. He suggested dispensing with hospitality. No further action at this time.

The facility arrangements with St Charles for the Fall Sectional were discussed. The unit apparently does not have contracts for these events. Need to know St Charles policy on using their facility during COVID times and also the consequences if we cancel the tournament. John will ask Tournament Coordinator Mike Carmen to follow-up.

We will also need to contact the St Louis Bridge Center regarding using their facility for the I/N tournament. John Welte will follow up.

The Renaissance Hotel has not responded to Mark Carmen's letter regarding cancelling the August Regional. (The August Regional was cancelled by ACBL.)

Mark Z recommended scheduling a Unit 143 board meeting in July to address tournament planning. A motion was made to that effect and passed without objection.

Treasurer's Report: Kelly had submitted the monthly treasurer's report via email. The report was approved as submitted.

District 8 Report: Mark Boswell. No activity.

Tournaments: Mike C. Absent, no report.

Committee Reports

Awards: Mark Boswell. No activity.

Bidding Boxes and Time Clocks: Mark Boswell. No activity.

Caddies: Maureen. No activity.

Datebook: Dennis. A 2022 Datebook will not be printed. Information such as unit games schedules and special games schedules will still be collected by the Datebook person, but the information will be presented only on the Unit 143 website's calendar. Dennis explained Microsoft Word has been used to create the printed Datebooks. Milt Zlatic had developed a macro to automatically extract game information from the Datebook document for use in populating the Unit's on-line calendar. Dennis wants to drop Microsoft Word format and switching to a simpler format like Microsoft Excel. Dennis will contact Milton Zlatic to determine the future format.

Bylaws/Rules Review: Dennis agreed to resume activity towards preparing bylaw revisions for member approval at the Fall Sectional.

Membership: Jay Shah submitted a membership breakdown via email. Total unit membership is 1154, down 15 from Dec 31, 2020.

Nominations: Mark Zellmer. No success yet in finding nominee to fill the open board position.

299er Tournaments: Ken. John Welte will work with Ken to do a handoff. They will also work together to apply for ACBL tournament sanctions for the I/N tournaments through year 2025. Current sanctions extend through 2022.

Education: Mark Zellmer. Mark offered to set something up to give new players an understanding of the game.

<Mark Zellmer departed the meeting.>

Unit Games: Mark Boswell. Mark will contact ACBL to determine their plans for resuming unit games.

Unit Electronic Contact: Kelly. Absent, no report.

District 8 Advocate: Debbie Romero. Absent. Debbie has been generating articles for the Advocate.

Finance: Ken. No activity.

<Dennis departed the meeting. Diane Deutch took notes for the remainder of the meeting.>

Website: Terry. Terry is keeping the website up to date. Schedules for Face-to-Face games and Virtual Games are both up-to-date.

Hospitality: Diane. No activity.

New Player Services: Jan. No activity.

Publicity: The position remains vacant. It needs to be filled to prepare for the Fall Sectional.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be conducted using ZOOM on Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at 7PM.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 PM.

Minutes submitted by Dennis Abeln July 11, 2021.