

Unit 163 Board of Directors Meeting

August 25, 2017, in Hills, Iowa

A meeting of the Board of Directors of Unit 163 of the ACBL was held at the Hills Community Center in Hills, Iowa, on August 15, 2017. Members present were Janee Oleson, Melissa Heston, MaryAnn Boardman, Tom Flanders, Carol Whiteis, Carol Panzer, Martha Peterson, Vickki Shellley, and Gary Edwards. Members absent were Joe Pieper and Rob Apel.

President MaryAnn Boardman called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m.

Carol Whiteis moved, Carol Panzer seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

Carol Panzer moved, Tom seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the May 6, 2017 meeting, with a correction to the spelling of Janee Oleson's name. The motion carried.

Gary gave the financial report. Mason City lost \$561.66, Cedar Rapids I/N made \$181.80, and Cedar Rapids made \$1129.28. The loss from April 23, 2017 to August 19, 2017 was \$1322.57. Loss for the Year-To-Date is \$3683.89. The checking account balance is \$15,051.30. Carol Panzer moved, Melissa seconded a motion to accept the financial report.

Vickki gave the Tournament Committee report for Joe. Vickki praised Joe's work in developing and refining the Tournament Guide. She handed out a draft of the "Save the Date" worksheet, and reminded Board members to find tournament chairs and partnership chairs as needed. Vickki noted that Mt. Pleasant is transitioning to a two day Sectional on Saturday and Sunday, April 28 and 29, 2018. The Board agreed that Friday – Saturday Sectionals should be considered by those contemplating 2 day Sectionals.

A new Tournament Committee chair will be needed when Joe retires from the Board.

Vickki handed out a tentative schedule through 2022. She noted that this acts as a place holder with the ACBL and District 14, and can be changed as necessary. Gary suggested that the words "at Director's discretion" be added to flyers to allow maximum flexibility at Sectionals in 2018 and beyond. Had this been done for the Hills Sectional, he felt that he could have arranged a separate section for "1's" in the 8 Is Enough event. This would have prevented uneven matchups later in the contest.

Carol Whiteis gave the Communications Committee report. Pianola emails are important, as are flyers. Club managers need to be contacted directly, with information about upcoming Sectionals as well as Special Games and events. Each club manager has specific questions and issues. Possible topics for discussion include inducements for clubs, new member recruitment, and holding of special games, including GNT and NAP. All Board members should be involved in this process.

Melissa stated that the highest priority must be to have successful Regionals, and secondly to have successful Sectionals, even though success may not be measured by profitability. Gary strongly agreed, stating that without a financially successful Regional, the Unit reserves would quickly be used up. Sectionals are important to build and retain membership locally, encourage members to travel to other Sectionals, and to help members attain rank changes.

The committee also discussed ways to increase membership and Unit awareness, retain members, and ways to standardize picture taking at tournaments.

In the Laws Committee report, Melissa noted that the ACBL is being sued, and that Unit 163 needs to be sure that it is in compliance with ACBL guidelines.

Gary reported little response to an email sent requesting nominations to the Hall of Fame.

The flyer for the 2018 Regional in Coralville, June 26 – July 1, 2018, will hopefully be developed and printed by the first of the year.

There was no old business.

In new business, Gary moved, Janee seconded motion 17010B to offer Bob Otto \$500 for 15 sets of large bidding boxes. These are new, except for usage at the 2016 Regional, Mason City Sectional, and several Hills Sectionals. The motion carried.

All Board members except Joe Pieper have agreed to serve another two year term on the Unit 163 Board. There will be no contested elections. There will be an open position in Area 2, which consists of Allamakee, Clayton, Delaware, Dubuque, Jackson, Clinton, and Scott Counties in Iowa, and Rock Island County in Illinois. Vickki Shelley, George Bleich, and Mark Patton will search for a Board member from this area.

Elections for President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer will be held at the Organizational meeting following the October 21, 2017 Board meeting in Davenport.

Tom gave a report on the District 14 Board meeting held in Council Bluffs on August 12, 2017. STAC games will be allowed only from Monday through Thursday, to avoid conflicts with Sectionals. District 14 will be more involved in scheduling Regionals, and in developing and adjusting event schedules.

Tom moved, MaryAnn seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50.

Gary Edwards

Secretary/Treasurer