

Board Meeting of Unit 163 of the ACBL

Saturday, April 30, 2016

A meeting of the Board of Directors of Unit 163 of the ACBL was held at the Waterloo Institute for the Arts on Saturday, April 30, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 1:50 p.m. by President MaryAnn Boardman. Members present were Janee Oleson, Tom Flanders, Melissa Heston, Joe Pieper, MaryAnn Boardman, Rob Apel and Gary Edwards. Members absent were Martha Peterson, Wyn Seeley, Carol Whiteis and Michelle Feeney.

Melissa moved, Tom seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

Tom moved, Melissa seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the January 23, 2016 meeting. The motion carried.

Gary gave the financial report. The Cedar Rapids and Davenport Sectionals made money, as did the Awards Game. Hills and Mount Pleasant lost money, both due to lower table counts. The year-to-date report showed a gain of \$434. It was pointed out that many corporations and businesses may be willing to make donations to Unit 163 events. Possible donors are WalMart, Costco, Sam's Club, restaurants and near-by businesses, and casinos. Janee moved, MaryAnn seconded a motion to accept the financial report. The motion carried.

The committee structure was discussed. Each board member is required to be on two committees. A list of persons on each committee will be identified on the Unit 163 web site under the Governance and Committee tabs. Gary distributed a list of committees, persons on each committee, and the functions assigned to each committee. Joe pointed out that some functions don't agree with our policies, which is the official source for functions assigned to each of the five committees.

Joe reminded board members that board motions should originate in committees and be thoroughly discussed there. Committees may then send proposals to the board, with one of three recommendations: Recommend passing; recommend not passing; no recommendation.

Laws committee report: Melissa asked for input from the board about issues needing to be addressed.

Membership committee report: Discussion was held about the Awards Game held on February 27, 2016. Many positive comments were given. The membership committee will further evaluate the game and make recommendations at the next board meeting.

Tournament committee report: Joe moved, MaryAnn seconded motion 16007T to increase the entry fee at Unit 163 Sectionals from \$8 per session to \$9 per session, effective on January 1, 2017. Discussion centered on whether attendance would decrease, whether membership should have time to express their opinions, and whether a \$10 fee per session should be considered. Melissa moved, Janee seconded motion 16007B to table motion 16006T. The motion to table carried. Board members are asked to ask their members to determine if an increased entry fee would affect their attendance at Unit 163 Sectionals.

Joe moved, MaryAnn seconded motion 16008T to require all Unit 163 Sectionals to offer two sessions of Regionally Rated Charity Games, at a cost of \$1 per player. The motion failed.

Melissa moved, Tom seconded motion 16009T to purchase 75 or more used bidding boxes from District 14 for \$5 each. The motion carried. The District 14 board must approve the sale of these bidding boxes at their May board meeting.

Joe moved, Janee seconded motion 16010T to allow District 14 to use Unit 163's designated sanction weekend of the first weekend in May of each year for the annual GNT District final. The motion carried. Waterloo, Mason City and Clear Lake may be considered for future GNT finals, perhaps in conjunction with a Sectional. Waterloo will find an alternate date for their Spring Sectional.

Discussion was held about the flighting thresholds for the "8 Is Enough" and Swiss Team events. It was agreed to continue the current policy of allowing local control of flighting thresholds.

Gary distributed the Unit 163 Tournament guide dated December 28, 2015. Joe pointed out that this is outdated, and promised to send an update to Carol Panzer to update the web site, and to send a copy to board members.

Communications report: The distributed report discussed pictures at tournaments, receiving individual tournament results through live.ACBL.org., and results of a survey discussing why players in various strata do or don't play in Sectionals.

Financial committee report: Bonnie Stetler will conduct an informal audit for the 2015 year.

Gary moved, MaryAnn seconded motion 16011B to designate Eastern Iowa Miles For Myeloma as the Unit-Wide charity for local club games for the month of October, 2016. The motion carried. This will allow charity game proceeds to benefit a local charity rather than one chosen by the ACBL.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Gary Edwards, Secretary/Treasurer