

Unit 163 Board Meeting
January 20, 2021
Zoom

A meeting of the Board of Directors of Unit 163 of the ACBL was held by zoom. Members present: Melissa Heston, Vickki Shelley, Martha Peterson, Carol Panzer, Rob Apel, Bill Baum, Barbe Wood, Bob Buckheister, and Bonnie Stettler.

President Melissa Heston called the meeting to order at 4:00PM.

The meeting began with a discussion of the 2022 regional bridge tournament currently scheduled for June 28-July 3. The deadline for a decision is 24 months in advance. Heston noted that both the May 2021 Gopher Regional and the Summer 2021 Des Moines Regional had been cancelled. It is unclear how many players will be interested in traveling to regionals once the covid pandemic has passed. No location was agreed upon, and no one volunteered to chair the tournament. Vickki Shelley and Bonnie Stettler agreed to work on the following: whether to have a tournament, and what location would be most attractive to players. Carol Panzer offered information regarding the 2018 regional and recommended a venue other than a hotel because of cost. Bill Baum moved, and Bob Ruckheister seconded a motion to postpone a decision for 6 months regarding the tournament. For now, the 2022 Unit 163 regional remains in ACBL Tourney Trax. The motion passed.

The next unit sectional which was scheduled for Cedar Rapids June 3-5 was discussed. Rob Apel moved, and Martha Peterson seconded a motion to cancel the tournament due to COVID. The motion passed. The decision whether or not to cancel the July Cedar Rapids sectional will be made at a later date, pending further guidelines from ACBL and the covid pandemic.

Melissa discussed the awards banquet. The part of the original objective of it was to raise funds for charity. The costs of the tournament did not allow a significant amount of profit to donate. A suggestion to award the medals at local games was made. When local games begin, Bonnie Stettler will distribute the medals either to board members who will award the medals or by mail to the club owners. The 2021 award banquet was cancelled due to COVID.

Approximately 40 cubic feet of historical records are currently being stored in Melissa's garage. Barbe Wood offered to go through them and inventory what the records cover. When that is complete, Bonnie will send an email to unit members to ask if they have interest in having what is there. In addition, Melissa will contact ACBL to see how archival materials are typically handled. A recommendation of always maintaining 5 years of records was suggested.

Melissa informed the board that she will be resigning from the board at the end of the year (2021) due to other civic commitments. Tom Flanders, current vice-president, was suggested as president. Melissa will contact him to determine his willingness to run.

When club owners feel that it is safe to return to face-to-face bridge games, information regarding the schedules should be made available to avoid scheduling virtual games concurrently with face-to-face games. Bonnie will request sanctioned games from ACBL in February and provide that list to club owners. There has been a reduction in the number of scheduled games in Iowa City due to the deaths of Bill Kent and Bob Otto. Carol Panzer and John Kempf have taken over the sanctions of some of the games.

The meeting was closed at 4:55PM

Bonnie Stettler
Secy/Treasurer
Unit 163