

Unit163 Board Meeting

April 22, 2022

Mount Pleasant Iowa

A meeting of the Board of Directors of Unit 163 of the ACBL convened at 1:25 at the Mount Pleasant sectional tournament. Members present: Melissa Heston, Vickki Shelley, Carol Panzer, Martha Peterson, Barbe Wood, Nancy Klein, Ralph Anderson, Ramesh Shah, and Bonnie Stettler. Ramesh Shah, Chairman of the 2022 regional and Dash Patel also attended.

President Carol Panzer called the meeting to order at 1:25.

The agenda was presented and approved.

Minutes from the previous meeting and the treasurer's report were also presented and approved.

A discussion regarding the allocation of counties to areas and the number of representatives from each area was held. The report from Melissa analyzed the members by current area. After discussion, A motion was made by Nancy and seconded by Martha to have the representative allocation remain the same which is approximately one representative for every 40 members. This means area 1 will have 1, area 2 will have 4, area 3 will have 2, area 3 will have 2, and area 5 will have 1.

Two proposals for a revision of committee structures were presented. The consensus was to have 2 committees. One will be comprised of finance, laws, charity and tournaments, and the other will be membership and communication. The finance and law committee will be the president, vice-president, and treasurer. There was a discussion about the usefulness of our committee structure, and the general

consensus was that it does not serve the unit, given the significant decrease in membership since the current committee structure was implemented. We discussed having an executive committee consisting of the president, vice-president, secretary/treasurer and tournament coordinator, that would handle administrative issues.

A review of the unit's by-laws and policies needs to be done by the next board meeting. The ability to have meeting on zoom needs to be added to the policies. The executive committee will meet via Zoom to discuss.

We agreed that our top priority was to retain existing members and encourage new members to join. To encourage membership, each area representative should use the in-and out monthly report to acknowledge rank achievements, welcome new members, and to check on members who get the second notice for the renewal of their dues. Carol asked that each area rep work on these tasks and report back at the next board meeting. Martha shared the activities of the Mt. Pleasant club, including a non-sanctioned game once per week that anyone can attend for \$1, to give prospective members the experience of duplicate bridge.

Charity games are chosen to be run by the club managers. The calendar of special games is on the ACBL website.

Vicki asked that a backup person be trained for the tournament chair position. A volunteer will need to be found for the tournament position. This would include updating the tournament tracks, doing the flyers as well as the tournament arrangements. We also discussed that backups need to be found for the secretary/treasurer and webmaster positions. For the treasurer position, Melissa has signature on the bank account as well as a supply of checks so she is available to cover that position. The previous 4 years of documents regarding the unit is available on a

thumb drive so the secretary/treasurer information is readily available along with the templates for reporting tournament results.

Bonnie suggested we do 1 pianola per tournament which is the usual practice for other units.

Nancy reported that the Cedar Rapids tournament will be changing the venue due to flooding at St. Wenceslaus. She is working on an alternate site. The plans are to change from a 3 day tournament to 2 days.

Ramesh reported on the Waterloo regional tournament. The venue and committees are established.

The current guest policy for tournaments that was recommended by Tony is have the players fill out a membership form for a 120 day free membership before the tournament so the players can have their numbers before the tournament.

Carol announced that we will have a board meeting during the Waterloo tournament, and will also have a meeting in late May via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30.

Bonnie Stettler

Secretary/Treasurer

