

**Minutes of the US Chess Executive Board Meeting  
August 4, 2016 Indianapolis, IN**

This document is a summary of the proceedings of the meeting. It includes motions made, action items accepted and subjects discussed. Details of discussions, etc., may be obtained from the audio files online.

The following Executive Board members were present:

Gary Walters  
Randy Bauer  
Allen Priest  
Jean Hoffman  
Ruth Haring  
Mike Atkins  
Mike Nietman  
Anjelina Belakovskaia

The following guests were present:

Mike Nolan, NE	Russell Harwood, TX
Stanley Beckwith, MI	Daniel Lucas, GA
Myron & Rachel Lieberman, AZ	Fun Fong, GA
Harold Winston, IL	David Mbonu, GA
Garrett Scott, IL	Kathleen Collins, TN
Kenneth Sloan, AL	Cheryle Bruce, TN
Jim Gray, OK	Debra Robison, TN
Chuck Unruh, OK	David Day, UT
Joe Lonsdale, CA-N	Dewain Barber, CA-S
Elizabeth Shaughnessy, CA-N	Maureen Grimaud, SC
Stephen Shaughnessy, CA-N	Guy Hoffman, WI
Hal Terrie, NH	Sandy Hoffman, WI
Bob Messenger, NH	Randas Burns, KY
William Daly, NM	Janella Losoff, NV
Will Barela, NM	

**Open - Session 1**

President Gary Walters called the meeting to order. A quorum was present.

**President's Report**

President Gary Walters stated he will save his report for Delegates Meeting on Saturday and asked Secretary Mike Nietman to introduce Executive Board motions from closed session this morning.

Secretary Nietman stated there was only one motion from the closed session and introduced the motion.

**EB16-070 – Board** - The Board moves to accept the following medal bonus schedule for players, coaches and captains for the 2016 Open and Women's Olympiad Teams: Gold = \$4,000, Silver = \$3,000, Bronze = \$2,000. **PASSED 7-0**

### **Vice President of Finance**

VP of Finance, Allen Priest, presented his report. The following topics were discussed: preliminary budget; FIDE tournament revenue; sponsorships; the Olympiad, World Team, Pan Am, and the World Youth events; Scholarship and PPHB accounts; audited financial statements, management and governance letters; and cash reserve.

**EB16-071 – Priest** – I move to adopt the proposed budget as modified. **PASSED 7-0**

### **Executive Director’s Report**

Executive Director, Jean Hoffman, gave an overview of US Chess’s recent achievements as well as annual objectives. Topics covered were: acknowledgement and thanks to the Executive Board members, volunteers, players and stakeholders; retirement of key employees; the Development Committee; Life member mailing and the Scholarship policy.

Anjelina Belakovskaia reported on the availability and progress of grants and fundraising initiatives for Women’s and Girls’ Chess. She acknowledged the Women’s Committee and their continuing efforts to help.

### **Director of Publications Report**

Director of Publications, Dan Lucas, reported on the following: September’s issue will be the 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday Edition of Chess Life; Executive Board ballots; Chess Life Kids redesign and new character, ROOK-E; and splitting the Delegates Call and Annual Report into two publications.

### **Director of Events Report**

Director of Events, Francisco Guadalupe, reported on 2016 US Open attendance; Chief Tournament Director, Brian Yang’s job well done; challenges at the hotel; the Denker, Barber and National Girl’s Tournament of Champions events; World Youth and World Cadet; future US Open locations 2017 Norfolk, VA, 2018 Middleton, WI; and a special showing of the new Disney movie, Queen of Katwe.

### **Committee Liaison Reports**

As liaison, Ruth Haring reported on recommendations of the Membership Retention Task Force.

### **New Business**

Allen Priest commented on DACI 7 and DACI 12. He proposed a motion for the Membership Meeting which the Board approved.

**EB16-072 – Priest** – I move that the Executive Board authorizes Allen Priest to present two motions to the membership meeting. The first is asking the delegates to remove the first sentence from DACI 7- Smoking that requires that tournaments that prohibit smoking so indicate that prohibition in Chess Life. The second is to remove from DACI 12-Chess Life section “Composition of Chess Life” two sentences. The first sentence addresses that Chess Life publishes Executive Board candidate statements in the July issue. The second sentence requires that the January issue of Chess Life contains an annual rating list.

**PASSED 6-1** with Mike Atkins opposed

Randy Bauer and Gary Walters opened discussion regarding the Issues Forum. Bauer made the following motion.

**EB16-073 – Bauer** – I move that effective September 1, 2016, US Chess maintains five US Chess Discussion Forums:

Announcements  
All Things Chess  
Chess Clubs

Running Chess Tournaments  
Chess Life Articles

**FAILED 1-6** with Randy Bauer in favor

Gary Walters deferred the discussion of the Clock Committee and moved on to Chess Champs Live Next Door Initiative with Anjelina Belakovskaia commenting on fundraising and resources.

**EB16-074 – Belakovskaia** – I move that US Chess develop a program to reach out to current and past chess champions, not just US Chess Champions, but also GMs, WGMs, IMs, WIMs and National Junior Champions - Denker, Barber and NGTOC, etc. and get them involved in promoting chess through local events organized under the US Chess umbrella – in the local libraries, universities and other venues.

**PASSED 6-0-1** with Allen Priest abstaining

Belakovskaia commented on Chess for Girls events during National Chess Day. Submissions to our Publications Department from local organizers of Chess Day events and programs are welcomed.

Belakovskaia introduced the Benefits of Chess and Education Conference proposed for the 2017 US Open noting the importance of this conference on chess in education. More discussion was scheduled for the Chess in Education Workshop that afternoon.

The floor was opened for further comments and questions. Topics discussed were: donation of concrete chess sets, Clocks discussion moved to the open session on Sunday evening; and a thank you for the Board and liaisons as well as US Trust on behalf of the Denker, Barber and National Girl's Tournament of Champions for their continuing support.

The meeting was adjourned.