

**Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting
U.S. Chess Federation
February 20, 2016
Via telephone conference call**

The following Executive Board members were present:

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

Anjelina Belakovskaia was ill and not present.

Session 1

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

President's Report

Walters devoted his President's Report to the memory of Sevan Muradian who passed away on February 17, 2016.

Vice-President of Finance Report

Allen Priest's report covered the 8- month financial results report he had emailed to the Board. The following matters were covered: cash position; upcoming expenses; revenue increases; professional fees; 401K plan; resolution of rule book contract obligation; expected strength of the Spring Nationals; event insurance; and event technology upgrades.

Priest then advised that after extensive investigation by Jean Hoffman and Debra Robison on banking option in the Crossville community, establishing a relationship with Regions Bank was his recommendation. Thus more US Chess funds will have FDIC insurance coverage.

Executive Director's Report

Jean Hoffman's report focused on highlights from Directors' reports and Action Items. The following matters were covered: revised objectives; FIDE ratings fee proposal; new Top lists for girls; affiliate recognition program; the website redesign project; and referral of the Women's Committee recommendations regarding creation of a Women's website to the Website Advisory committee.

Committee Liaison Reports

Ruth Haring reported for the Women's Committee. The following matters were covered: recommendation for Claudia Munoz to serve on the Website Advisory Committee; addition of Gabby Kay to the Women's Committee; endorsement of FIDE rating the National Girls Tournament of Champions; mixed doubles prizes; an email for the State Chapters; scholarships; goodies; and a proposed budget.

New Business

Ruth Haring introduced a discussion item regarding floors. Atkins, Priest, Walters and Bauer participated. It was agreed that ratings are Executive Board business. Haring and Walters will develop a plan for a workshop at the US Open regarding this topic

Secretary Nietman asked that a vote be taken on pending motions.

EB 16-039 (Allen Priest) I move that the EB authorize the office to take the steps necessary to set up a savings account at Regions Bank. This is being done to establish an additional banking relationship and to expand our coverage under the FDIC program. **Passes 6-0 with Anjelina Belakovskaia absent and not voting.**

EB 16-040 (Mike Nietman) I move that we accept the minutes for the November 21-22, 2015 EB Meeting. **Passes 7-0**

EB 16-041 (Allen Priest) I move to repeal EB 16-030. **Fails 3-4 with Randy Bauer, Allen Priest and Mike Atkins voting in favor and Gary Walters, Mike Nietman, Ruth Haring and Angelina Belakovskaia voting against.**

EB 16-042 (Allen Priest) I move to provide a \$500 travel stipend to the highest finishing US flagged players in US Senior Open in each of four categories – open age 50 and up, open age 65 and up, female age 50 and up and female age 65 and up. The travel stipend is only to be used to offset costs to participate in the succeeding World Senior Championship or Women's World Senior Championship. **Passes 6-0 with Anjelina Belakovskaia absent and not voting.**

EB 16-043 (Mike Atkins) I move that NTD Rudy Abate of NC be added to the TDCC. **Passes 7-0**

EB 16-044 (Mike Atkins) I move that in between scheduled meetings of the EB, that appointments of regular committee members (non-chair or co/vice chair) will be presented by an EB member by e-mail who posts "Mr/Ms ____ will become a member of ____ committee in 5 days with no objections". These posts will continue to be all EB members, BINFO and Myron/Rachel Lieberman. **Passes 5-1 with Ruth Haring opposed and Anjelina Belakovskaia absent and not voting.**

President Walters then recessed the meeting until noon, when it would reconvene in closed session.

Session 2

President Walters called the meeting to order. All Board members were present except Anjelina Belakovskaia who was ill.

Secretary Nietman presented the following motion from closed session.

EB 16-045 (Ruth Haring) I move to rescind PB97-29. **Passes 6-0 with Anjelina Belakovskaia absent and not voting.**

The time and place of the next meeting is still being decided. An email will be sent next week with the information

President Walters thanked everyone for participating. The meeting was adjourned.

Action Items

Jean Hoffman: review COPPA rules about posting a child's age.

Jean Hoffman: develop a budget for committees and a process for them to submit proposals. The Office would send the information to all committee chairs about funds available and how to apply.

Ruth Haring and Gary Walters: develop plans for a Floors Workshop at the 2017 US Open.