

**Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting
U.S. Chess Federation (US Chess)
May 14-15, 2016
Saint Louis, MO**

The following Executive Board members were present:

Randy Bauer
Allen Priest
Jean Hoffman
Michael Atkins
Ruth Haring,
Anjelina Belakovskaia
Mike Nietman

Gary Walters was unable to attend.

The following guests were present:

Debra Robison
Francisco Guadalupe
Chuck Unruh

Session 1: Saturday May 14, 2016

Vice President, Randy Bauer, called the meeting to order. A quorum was present.

Officer and Management Reports

President's Report

Vice President Bauer briefly commented on finances, spring scholastics success, and exciting championships.

Vice President of Finance Report

Allen Priest's report covered 11 months of financial statements; cash position; equipment expenditures; membership growth and revenue; magazine revenue; books and equipment contract; tournament finances; and FIDE expenses. He commented on challenges for the 2016 - 2017 fiscal year; updating the fee structures for scholastic events; the proposed budget; cash flow for next year; and the audit process.

EB16-053 (Priest) Move to engage the Bible, Harris auditors for three years for a fee between \$12,000 and \$13,750 per year plus out of pocket fees. **Passed 6-0 with Gary Walters not present**

Priest then mentioned changes made at the workshop to the proposed budget and gave a final version for presentation to the Delegates.

EB16-054 (Priest) Move to accept the 2016-2017 Budget as presented. The budget must be presented to the Delegates for approval. **Passed 6-0 with Gary Walters not present**

EB 16-055 (Priest) Move that the Board authorize the plan administrator to begin a 2% contribution of payroll for all eligible participants in the plan. This is to be effective as soon as possible. **Passed 6-0 with Gary Walters not present**

EB 16-056 (Priest) Move that the Executive Board authorizes the office to take the necessary steps to close the Oberweis LMA account, transfer the funds and open an account with ScotTrade in the name of the LMA Trust, the names of those authorized to trade in the account will be determined by the LMA Trust. **Passed 6-0 with Gary Walters not present**

Executive Director's Report

Jean Hoffman focused on the US Chess Mission and the strategic planning process created to support it. She commented on areas meeting or exceeding objectives and areas to watch for improvement. Hoffman presented a draft form for committees to request funding which was the product of an action item she had accepted.

Committee Liaison Reports

Anjelina Belakovskaia reported on progress of the Corporate Connections Task Force. She asked for direction from US Chess about what can be said or done for fundraising. After discussion Jean Hoffman agreed to create guidelines for soliciting donations and a letter committees could use for existing programs.

Ruth Haring encouraged everyone to read the Women's Committee report. They have initiated several projects and are seeing increased participation by women and girls in events.

EB16-057 (Bauer) Move to add Claudia Munoz to the Website Advisory Committee. **Passed 6-0 with Gary Walters not present**

After discussion it was agreed to add the topic of committee charters to the next meeting agenda.

There was no New Business.

The meeting was recessed and reconvened in Closed Session.

Session 1: Sunday, May 15, 2016

Vice-President Bauer called the meeting to order. All Board members, except Gary Walters, were present.

Secretary Nietman presented the following motions from Closed Session.

EB16-058 (Bauer) Move that the Executive Board create an Executive Board committee called the “US Chess Development Committee” and the Executive Director is authorized to seek potential committee members whose membership on the committee the Executive Board will approve. **Passed 6-0 with Gary Walters not present**

EB16-059 (Bauer) Move that Ruth Haring be named FIDE Zonal President upon completion of the current Zonal President’s term. **Passed 4-0-2 with Gary Walters not present and Ruth Haring and Anjelina Belakovskaia abstaining**

EB16-060 (Priest) Move that US Chess will reimburse its official representatives and US zonal representatives for reasonable expenses related to FIDE meetings. **Passed 6–0 with Gary Walters not present**

EB16-061 (Executive Board) Move to affirm the Ethics Committee decision in the case of Hater (on behalf of Castle Chess, Inc.) vs. Thomas and rules that their recommendation of a reprimand be in effect and a six month probationary period for Mr. Thomas begin Tuesday, May 17, 2016. **Passed 6-0 with Gary Walters not present**

EB 16-062 (Executive Board) Move to name the following 2016 award winners:

- a. Distinguished Service Award – Bill Goichberg (NY), Dewain Barber (SCA)
- b. Outstanding Career Achievement Award – Carl Dolson (IL), Riley Dan Driver (OH), Sharon Driver (OH), Larry Bell (KY), Roger Gotschall (IA)(posthumously)
- c. Special Services Award –David Moody (MI), John Hilbert (NY), Dennis Monokroussos (IN), Guy Hoffman (WI), David and Sheila Heiser (IL)
- d. Meritorious Services Award – Mike Joelson (OH), Hans Multhopp (OH), Joe Riegsecker (IN), Roger Blaine (IN)
- e. Committee of the Year – Women’s Committee
- f. Chess City of the Year – Louisville, KY
- g. Koltanowski Awards
 - i. Gold – Dr. Jeanne and Rex Sinquefield (MO)
 - ii. Gold – Frank P. Samford III (AL)
- h. Scholastic Service Award

- i. Individual – Kevin Fite (MI)
- i. Organizer of the Year – Alex Relyea (NH)
- j. Frank J. Marshall Award – GM Alex Onischuk (TX), GM Irina Krush (NY)
- k. Grandmaster of the Year – GM Fabiano Caruana (MO)
- l. Honorary Chess Mate – David Grimaud (SC)
- m. Chess Club of the Year – Sacramento Chess Club
- n. College of the Year – Oberlin College (OH)
- o. Tournament Director of the Year – Tom Langland (NCA)
- p. Tournament Director Lifetime Achievement Award – Walter Brown (TN), Sevan Muradian (IL)(posthumously)
- q. Outstanding Player Achievement Award – Jeffery Xiong (TX)
- r. Outstanding Team Performance Award – 2015 World Team Championship (GM Sam Shankland, GM Alex Lenderman, GM Alex Onischuk, GM Daniel Naroditsky, GM Varuzhan Akobian, Coach GM Gregory Kaidanov)
- s. Woman Chessplayer of the Year Award – Carissa Yip (MA)
- t. Special Friend of US Chess – Francis Slay (MO)

Passed 6-0 with Gary Walters not present

EB 16-063 (Bauer) Move to accept the 2016-2017 book store bid from USCF Sales for a lump sum payment. The ED is authorized to negotiate a contract with them. **Passed 6-0 with Gary Walters not present**

EB 16-064 (Bauer) Move to accept the 2016-2017 T-shirt bid from Northwest Designs, Inc. The Executive Director is authorized to negotiate a contract with them. **Passed 6-0 with Gary Walters not present**

The next meeting will be held Thursday August 4, 2016 in conjunction with the U.S. Open.

Vice-President Bauer thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting was adjourned.

Action Items

Jean Hoffman: create guidelines and a letter for committees to use in soliciting donations for existing programs.