

US Chess
Executive Board Meeting
December 8, 2020
Zoom

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

OPEN SESSION

Tuesday, December 8

Executive Board members present:

Mike Hoffpauir, President

Chuck Unruh, VP of Finance

David Day, Member

Fun Fong, Member

Randy Bauer, Vice President

Ryan Velez, Secretary

David Hater, Member

Carol Meyer, Executive Director

The Executive Board met in closed session prior to this open session. A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order.

President Hoffpauir started by mentioning that the board was in the process of assessing invitational rules in consultation with the Top Players Committee and expected to have a motion prepared before the end of the year.

President Hoffpauir then asked Chuck Unruh to provide a financial report.

Financial Report

Vice President of Finance Unruh provided a detailed comparison of the final second quarter figures from 2020 to 2019 second quarter figures, noting the positive impact of online play as US Chess continues to adjust to the social distancing required by the COVID-19 pandemic.

He added that investments were doing well.

President Hoffpauir turned the floor over to Executive Director Meyer to present information about the current state of Correspondence Chess.

Executive Director Meyer gave a summary of events and feedback over the past year regarding Correspondence Chess with an eye toward the future and how US Chess can better serve its community of Correspondence Chess players. The Executive Board will be standing up a Task Force to address correspondence chess.

President Hoffpauir then invited Ryan Velez to share the Accessibility & Special Circumstances Committee's efforts to update their guidelines.

Secretary Velez explained that the committee is reaching out to organizers who have run online tournaments to learn about what kind of accommodations they have needed to make for online players so that they can add them to the ASCC Guidelines document.

President Hoffpauir then shared information from the FIDE General assembly, which was conducted online and attended by himself, Executive Director Meyer, Allen Priest as the Zonal President and Michael Khodarkovsky as a FIDE Vice and US Chess Delegate. He mentioned that the meeting was available on Youtube.com (search for "FIDE General Assembly") and that Allen Priest opened a thread on the discussion forum for those interested.

Highlights of the FIDE General Assembly included:

- FIDE's intention to implement rules regarding online play, which will require an arbiter at every location where play is occurring
- FIDE is not presently intending to have an online rating system at this time

President Hoffpauir then turned the floor over to Executive Director Meyer to arrange the date for the Board's January 2021 budget workshop.

There were no votes coming out of the closed session, so President Hoffpauir opened the floor to any board members who wanted to share anything with the membership.

Secretary Velez encouraged members who love over-the-board chess to "hang in there," with the assurance that it will return.

Vice President Bauer encouraged people to try playing online.

President Hoffpauir encouraged people to make staying safe the priority.

President Hoffpauir then thanked Executive Director Meyer and the US Chess staff on behalf of the board for their efforts over the past year in dealing with all of the challenges COVID-19 has presented.

On behalf of the whole board, President Hoffpauir wished all members a safe holiday season and the best year in 2021 while continuing to heed all policies for staying safe.

As a final thought, President Hoffpauir commented on the new Nominating Committee's work in evaluating potential nominees for the 2021 Executive Board election, having presented four potential nominees. He encouraged all eligible members to register to vote for the 2021 election

so that you have a voice in who runs US Chess. Executive Director Meyer added that at the time of the meeting the way to get registered is by sending an e-mail to governance@uschess.org.

President Hoffpauir thanked the board members and the meeting adjourned.