

**Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting  
US Chess Federation  
August 6, 2015  
Arizona Biltmore, Phoenix, AZ**

The following Executive Board members were present: Ruth Haring, Allen Priest, Chuck Unruh, Gary Walters, Mike Nietman, Michael Atkins, Jean Hoffman and Randy Bauer (via telephone).

Guests present included: Mike Hoffpauir (VA), Anjelina Belakovskaia (AZ), Paul Covington (CO), Roger Gotschall (IA), Jim Gray (OK), Josh Sinanan (WA), Dewain Barber (CA-S), Bob Messenger (NH), Sandra Hoffman (WI), Guy Hoffman (WI), Maureen Grimaud (SC), Janelle Losoff (NV), Michael Langer (TX), Russell Harwood (TX), Jim Stallings (TX), Debra Robison (TN), Sophia Rohde (NY), Steve Immitt (NY), Daniel Lucas (GA), Alex Relyea (NH), Garrett Scott (IL), Luis Salinas (TX), Harold Winston (IL), Sam Sloan (NY), Franc Guadalupe (TX), Myron Lieberman (AZ), Rachel Lieberman (AZ), Al Lawrence (TX), David Day (UT), Eric Hammond (AZ) and Randy Hough (CA-S).

**Open Session 1, Thursday, August 6, 2015**

President Ruth Haring called the meeting to order. All Board members were present, including Randy Bauer via phone. Board members introduced themselves to those assembled.

**Officer and Management Reports**

President Haring presented a brief report. The following matters were covered: maintaining financial strength while implementing change; record attendance at US chess events; phenomenal growth in the development of players. She thanked everyone for supporting her as President.

Vice-President of Finance, Allen Priest presented a brief report. In depth coverage will be given at the Finance Workshop on Friday. The following matters were covered: cash position; repayment of debts; scholarship liabilities; line of credit; and cash reserves.

Executive Director, Jean Hoffman, presented a brief report. The following matters were covered: strategic planning; surveys; and branding.

Dan Lucas, Director of Publications, presented highlights of his annual report. The following matters were covered: the new Chess Life cover design and upcoming features; ballot issues; 2015 Delegates' Call; Chess Life for Kids redesign; and staff promotion.

Director of Events, Francisco Guadalupe, covered the following matters in his brief report: success of this year's National Scholastic events; cheating prevention; and the U.S. Open.

Senior Committee liaison, Mike Atkin's report, generated discussion regarding earmarked donations.

Tournament Director Certification Committee liaison, Mike Atkins, presented a proposal which the Board will consider at the August 9, 2015 meeting.

### **New Business**

Board member elect, Anjelina Belakovskaia gave a brief autobiographical sketch.

Allen Priest presented an update on the audit process.

The Executive Board reviewed and responded to questions and comments from meeting attendees Sam Sloan (NY), Luis Salinas (TX), Paul Covington (CO), Randy Hough (CA-S), Ken Ballou (MA), Dewain Barber (CA-S), Franc Guadalupe (US Chess), Janelle Losoff (NV), Steve Immitt (NY), and Mike Nolan (NE). Topics included relocation of US Chess headquarters; changes to Grand Prix rules; adding a TLA section for norm events; holding a tournament of state senior champions; and FIDE rating the Denker, Barber and NGIT tournaments.

The meeting was adjourned.