

**US Chess
Executive Board Meeting
July 12th, 2022
Zoom Meeting**

This document is a summary of the proceedings of this meeting. It includes motions made, action items accepted, and subjects discussed.

OPEN SESSIONS

Executive Board members present:

Mike Hoffpauir, President

Chuck Unruh, VP of Finance

David Hater, Member

Kevin Pryor, Member

Carol Meyer, Executive Director

Randy Bauer, Vice President

Fun Fong, Secretary

David Day, Member

John Fernandez, Member

President Hoffpauir took the roll, establishing a quorum.

There were no new conflicts of interest.

Open Session 1

EB22-062 – Board – The Executive Board moves that the minutes from the June 2022 Executive Board meeting be adopted.

PASSED 8-0

President Hoffpauir announced that the board would go into closed session.

Open Session 2

President Hoffpauir invited the Executive Director to update the Board on the move of the US Chess headquarters in Crossville, Tennessee, to premises in St. Louis, Missouri.

The move will begin at 8:00 AM on the 13th July.

There is a contract for the sale of the Crossville property, expected to close on or before the first of August, although there is no definitive date pending the building's appraisal. This is expected by the end of this week.

US Chess remains optimistic that by the time of the U.S. Open, the building will be sold and the sale final, and US Chess will be settling into the new leased space in St. Louis.

Korey Kormick is anchoring the St. Louis office, and they should be open for visitors by the time of the U.S. Open.

The whole Executive Board congratulated David Hater and the team that represented the US Armed Forces at the North American Treaty Organization (NATO) championships this year in Tartu, Estonia. The team brought home the bronze medal, the fourth time in the thirty-two-year history of NATO that the USA has got a team medal.

Vice-President of Finance Unruh provided some highlights of the budget prior to the Executive Board's vote.

The budget has been constructed to fit US Chess's previous strategies in a process taking six to eight months. This year's budget is more complex than those in the past and will be reviewed at the finance meeting on Friday of the U.S. Open. Then it will be presented to the Delegates at the Annual Meeting.

Vice-President of Finance Unruh acknowledged that the Executive Director had done the majority of the work and invited her comments.

The Executive Director stated that flat membership revenue is projected due to factors causing economic uncertainty, such as the pandemic and the war in Ukraine. The budgeting approach taken is very conservative and measured. US Chess will continue to build the programs that meet its mission. There will be either a contractor or staff hired to support IT.

The board budgets on a biannual basis, so this is a two-year budget, and each year the second year is refined and start on the next year in succession. This is a process and is improving each year as US Chess becomes more complex.

Vice-President Bauer commented that US Chess continues to evolve a budget document that reflects what US Chess is seeking to do as a 501(c)(3) but is conservative in ensuring that reserves are maintained that are sufficient to deal with financially lean times. US Chess has worked itself into a stable financial position.

There is a good base of reserves that will help deal with fluctuations in revenues and expenditures. There may be a slight negative balance in this fiscal year, but there was over a \$1 million surplus in the last fiscal year. The multi-year budgeting allows for the ebb and flow of strong years to less strong years. US Chess is in a reasonable place, and we have developed conservative investments in several areas. The budget to be presented to the Delegates does not contain the possibility of creating structural imbalances.

Vice-President Finance Unruh commented that the budget is a little different, but the US Chess' net worth has never been higher. Vice-President Bauer agreed that the form addressed the financial matters in a broad perspective, rather than as year-to-year.

EB22-063 – Board – The Executive Board moves to approve the US Chess 2022-2024 budget, and that it be presented to the delegates at the 2022 Delegates Meeting in Rancho Mirage, California in early August.

PASSED 8-0

Secretary Fong presented a series of motions.

EB22-064 – Board – The Executive Board moves to accept the bid from the US Chess Sales/House of Staunton to be the chess store vendor at the US Chess national events, beginning July 2022.

PASSED 7-0 with John Fernandez absent and not voting

EB22-065 – Board – Under the auspices of Article Three, Section 11 of the US Chess Bylaws, the Executive Board moves to suspend for one year the membership of Scott Caldwell from New Mexico, US Chess ID 11466435 for his written abuse of the US Chess’s staff.

PASSED 7-0 with John Fernandez absent and not voting

EB22-066 – Fong – The additional awards and awards’ recipients to be added to the annual awards list: Chess College of the Year: St. Louis University, and Accessibility and Special Circumstances Person of the Year: Janelle Losoff.

PASSED 7-0 with John Fernandez absent and not voting

President Hoffpauir thanked the Board members for their dedication and service and looked forward to corresponding over the next few weeks and seeing them in California.