

## CORNHUSKER UNIT 241 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2016

HILTON GARDENS INN

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

The meeting came to order at 9:34 a.m.

### **Introductions**

Present were board members Jonathon Cohn, Rick Ackermann, Kathy Lippold, Scott McIntyre, Cookie Hoberman (via phone), Thom Pigaga, and Greg Ruhe. Also present were outgoing board members Mel Patterson, Mitzi Jahn, and Ken McNary (arrived around 10:30) and guest Bill Chappo. Board members Gil Kruel and Trudy Woksa were absent.

Jonathon Cohn welcomed the new board members and introductions were made.

Jonathon gave an overview on the Unit's assets, responsibilities, and goals. He gave overview of Unit's financial situation and goals.

The Unit is separate from the three Omaha clubs; House of Cards, Omaha Bridge Studio, and Friendly Sixteen. However many members are not aware of the distinction and sometimes ask the Unit to address issues that are the responsibility of clubs or individual directors. There was discussion on ways to educate members on the respective roles and responsibilities of the clubs and the Unit.

### **Election of Officers**

Jonathon gave an overview of the duties of the Board Offices. Jonathon is the only incumbent returning to the Board for 2016. The Board elected officers for 2016. Those are:

Jonathon Cohn – President

Scott McIntyre – Vice President

Secretary – Trudy Woksa

Treasurer – Rick Ackerman

Candidates were uncontested and voting was unanimous for each candidate.

### **Committee Chairs**

Jonathon gave an overview of the duties of the Committee Chairs and volunteer positions. Discussion ensued regarding duties and needs of the committees. The following individuals volunteered for, or were put forward as, committee chairs:

Membership – Thom Pigaga

Tournament Coordinator – Kathy Lippold

Regional Tournament – Cookie Hoberman

Spring and Fall Sectional – Kathy Lippold and Cynthia Tiedeman

Intermediate / Newcomer Sectional – Trudy Woksa

Mentoring and I/N development – Greg Ruhe

North American Pairs and Grand National Teams – Jonathon Cohn and Rick Ackerman

Awards Party – Scott McIntyre

Charity Game (The Longest Day) – TBD

Publicity – Scott McIntyre

Hospitality – Gil Kreul

Caring – Greg Ruhe

### **Spring Sectional**

A general discussion took place. Mel and Ken shared their experience in mustering resources in a timely manner to make the tournament a success. This was much appreciated by the new board members.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The unit has about \$35,000 in two accounts. The latest financial reports are available online under the **Board** tab on the omahabridge.org site.

Ken and Rick prepared a plan to transition the treasurer's responsibilities to Rick. Rick will handle the required independent audit. The audited financial report will be provided with the minutes of the next board meeting.

Jonathon requested gross proceeds and net profits for tournaments for the past six years.

### **Fall Sectional**

The Fall Tournament in 2016 will be held at the German American Club on South 120<sup>th</sup> Street. There was a general discussion of parking, the drop off location, valet functions, conflicts with other functions, equipment storage, and other items.

### **Rising Stars Sectional**

This discussion was tabled until the next meeting so Trudy could present her report.

### **Election Process**

198 valid votes were counted and only eleven (11) were deemed invalid. There were a few complaints about missing ballots and envelopes. Everyone who wanted to vote had ample opportunity to do so.

### **GNT Sectional and North American Pairs**

Omaha will host this event for District 14 in May. Jonathan discussed the format of these events. Jonathon and Ken encouraged board members to get involved and promote the event. A successful tournament will make it more likely that it will return to Omaha.

The Board approved a motion to pay the additional fee (about \$1.00 per person) charged for GNT qualifying games. The Unit will reimburse any director for the additional cost to make a game a GNT qualifier for **one** of their regular games. Rick and Jon will spread the news among the directors. It was noted that limited games can be qualifiers and it is not an issue that the normal game strata may differ from the GNT strata.

### **Awards Party**

The awards party / dinner / game is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, April 17. Location to be determined.

### **Publicity**

There was a discussion about the cost and effectiveness of paper mailings versus email communication. Thom will be sending email blasts as needed. Elise Parrish has agreed to send out a newsletter twice per year.

### **Unit Directory**

Rick is working on an updated Unit Directory for 2016 / 2017. Rick and Jonathon will be contacting members at and through the clubs to update members contact information.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be at 9:30, Saturday, February 27 at the Studio if it is available.

### **Miscellaneous**

Jonathon encouraged board members to look for ways to improve and bring suggestions to the board.

The Unit received a grant to promote bridge in schools. This may be returned if it is not used.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20.

Scott McIntyre

Unit Vice President