



Northwest Chess 2nd Quarter 2022 Board Meeting Sunday, July 10, 2022, via Zoom (online meeting)

In attendance: Ralph Dubisch (director-at-large), Eric Holcomb (retired Business Manager), Duane Polich (Publisher), Jeff Roland (director-at-large), Josh Sinanan (WCF), Aniruddha Barua (WCF) and Wilson Gibbins (OCF). Absent: Alex Machin (director-at-large). Time: meeting called to order by Josh at 7:08 p.m.

Minutes – The March 27, 2022 (1st Quarter 2022) meeting minutes were approved [Wilson/Jeff] with one member abstaining.

Budget/Finances – As of the date of the meeting, Jeff had been paid in July, but not Ralph or Eric. Duane is normally making these payments via Zelle. Duane and/or Josh reported \$5,593.81 in BoA checking. It was noted that invoices are needed (e.g., for ads) for proper budgeting and financial record keeping. However, Duane commented that some things may involve too much work. Further discussion was planned.

Membership – The membership and subscription totals need to be updated, but it appears that we're in good shape, doing well this year with memberships, at least from Washington and Oregon. There was a discussion about a new membership system, which we need. Josh suggested that we also consider the NA Chess Hub system developed and used by PNWCC. Josh is the point of contact for this. However, subsequent follow-up showed that they are not willing to do additional development work for us. Wilson, on behalf of OCF, has tried the onlineregistration.cc system, used nationally, which supports both memberships and tournament registration. So far OCF has only used the registration features, and Wilson reports it seems to be working. Jeff reported that Desmond Porth (in Idaho) has developed a phone app for pairing purposes, but it does not handle memberships. Ralph also expressed some ideas about memberships, but there was no follow-up.

Business Manager Retirement / Status of Transition – This is mostly going OK since Eric's retirement as Business Manager, however, membership processing (which Eric is still doing) remains very time-consuming (see above membership discussion). Eric needed to write the specs of what we want in a new automated membership system, which has subsequently been completed and sent to the onlineregistration.cc team for review.

Magazine Committee – As reported last time, "In a subsequent special board meeting on April 3, several possible new printers were discussed, which would likely increase our cost substantially. Ultimately Vince H. at Sound Publishing helped get us set up with Wenatchee World (WW) in Wenatchee, Wash., and we have transitioned to this new printer, with some difficulties including a slightly smaller page size." This arrangement appears to be working, however, more direct communication with WW (rather than via Vince) is desired for visibility into scheduling of printing and mailing dates, etc. Josh to inquire.

Nonprofit Status/Taxes – A filing for IRS 501c3 nonprofit status is still planned. Ralph, who files an annual IRS report for the Free Internet Chess organization, previously offered to check on what would need to be filed for NWC. The answer is that we need to register for, and then file, an “e-postcard” with the IRS each year. Duane and Ralph still plan to work on this.

Grand Prix – The 2022 GP in honor of Ignacio Perez is in progress. Murlin Varner is the statistician again this year but has announced his retirement after the 2022 competition. As a result, we may not have a Grand Prix in 2023.

Hall of Fame – Announcement and publication of the “inaugural class” of six is on hold pending the gathering and editing of biographical information. Ralph to contact John Donaldson for assistance. In a subsequent special board meeting held on Aug. 22, 2022, the board accepted the recommendations of the Hall of Fame committee regarding criteria and initial slate of inductees. As of January 2023, publication in the magazine has begun.

Advertising – There was a discussion of ad rates, for example, regarding the upcoming Oregon Open, or the events in Idaho being conducted by George Lundy. No decisions were made.

Next Board Meeting – The 3rd Quarter 2022 board meeting will be scheduled for late September.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m. [motion Wilson/Jeff; agreed by all].

Recorded and transcribed by Eric Holcomb.