



Illinois Chess Association

Illinois Chess Association Board of Directors Meeting
Agenda: Telephonic "Regular Meeting" December 4th, 2019 7:30 PM

Meeting Facilitator: Stephen Plotnick, President

Invitees: Stephen Plotnick, Eric Ortega, Rachel Schechter, Patrice Connelly, Eva Harrison, Mike Lenox, Megan Chen, Patrick Cohen, Garrett Scott, Rose Grandy

- I. Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 7:32 PM
- II. Roll Call:** Present: Stephen Plotnick, Eric Ortega, Patrice Connelly, Eva Harrison, Patrick Cohen, Mike Lenox, Megan Chen
- III. Approval of Agenda:** Agenda unanimously approved
- IV. Discussion of minutes from prior meeting, potential approval:** Minutes are pending; to be approved via email.
- V. Reports**
 - A. Officer Reports**
 - a. President (Steve):**
 - No update
 - b. Metro VP (Eric):**
 - Steve and Eric are working on second ICA banner; Eric will create a mock-up and send out an email to everyone for approval.
 - Email List: Eric still needs to reach out to tournament organizers regarding email list; Steve will assist by reaching out to the webmaster.
 - c. Downstate VP (Rachel)**
 - Has drafted interview questions for ICA affiliate spotlight articles; reviewed by board.
 - Still researching potential fundraisers; meeting with potential local fundraiser on Monday. Michael shared the fundraising idea of offering gift cards from the ICA for purchase that would allow people to donate to ICA. Rachel will research further. Also discussed Amazon Smile listing

- Reminder about updating Mission Statement on Website; Patrice will work with Eva to update on website.
- Rachel will work with Megan to post Chesskids banner online to promote traffic and generate revenue for ICA through clicks.
- Chess in Education: Rachel discussed potential ideas about the donation of chess sets to educational programs as the ICA sees fit. Michael also pitched the idea of creating branded ICA chess sets for sale at tournaments or for use at raffles, as prizes, etc. Peoria offers a similar program in which schools can request chess sets via a formal request sent on formal school letterhead.

d. Treasurer (Steve):

- Patrick is checking with another accountant if he will help managing the books for the ICA (as role of Treasurer is still not filled).

B. Committee Reports

a. WJS/RS (Rose):

- No report

b. Youth (Steve):

- The Raffle/monetary youth prize discussed at the last meeting to potentially increase youth membership is still being discussed, and Steve and Eva will draft a proposal for the January or February meeting for the board to review and discuss further (including award amount, funding source, etc.).

c. Veterans (Mike):

- Ongoing VAMC programs at Hines, Forest Park, and Veteran Community resource continue. Chess sets donated to Evanston Chess Vets Club; Introductory class held.
- Community Events Upcoming: Veteran/BSA Scout Workshop Dec 26th/Tournament Dec 27th. Chaired by Lia Lenox. Changed format to 2 sections. US Chess rated (Cash Prizes) and nonrated (Trophies). Lowered 1st Place to \$600 added 4th place and \$150. Each service branch \$100 special cash prize. Section 1 only; Veteran & Community Resource Fair Dec 27th. 9am - 2pm. **ICA membership involvement requested on tournament day 9am - 2pm.** 472nd Family Day/Open House: Sunday, December 8th, 19. No ICA involvement requested.

- December ongoing community events include Chess at the Mall December 8th and December 22nd at Chicago Ridge Mall; no ICA involvement requested. Monday weekly rated tournament support for Oak Park Library Chess Club. Joliet Mall Chess Support. 1st & 3rd Sunday.
- Upcoming programs include the Cook County Veteran Court Chess Program starting January 2020; and the US Army 65th Infantry Regiment Chess Program.

d. Membership (Eva):

- The Raffle/monetary youth prize discussed at the last meeting to potentially increase youth membership is still being discussed, and Steve and Eva will draft a proposal for the January or February meeting for the board to review and discuss further (including award amount, funding source, etc.).
- A new affiliate has joined from Villa Park.

a. Open Issues:

b. New Business:

- ICA Elections: Ballots will be counted shortly. Patrice will receive the electronic results from the webmaster and Steve will check the P.O. Box for any hard copy mail-in ballots. Patrice will then email the election committee regarding the results.

c. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:11 PM.

Next meeting Wednesday, January 1st, 2020