

Niagara Area Unit

255

Minutes of the Board of Director's First Meeting

Monday, January 10, 2018, 4:30 pm

Bridge Centre of Niagara

Present: Muriel Tremblay, Wiebe Hoogland, Chris Loat, Lucy McEwen,
Kathy Morrison, Chandi Jayawardena

Regrets: Elinor Grill

In Attendance: Paul Cronin, John Mackay, Claude Tremblay

#	Item	Action
1	<p>Welcome and Introduction</p> <p>As the Interim President, Muriel made the welcome and explained briefly the purposes of the Unit and the outcome of recent elections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Purposes - As stipulated in the Unit 255 draft by-laws, the purposes for which the Unit is organized are: to foster community welfare in the furtherance of the game of contract bridge in its various forms of competition; to promulgate high standards of conduct and ethics to its members, and to enforce such standards; to provide organized bridge activities and services to satisfy the social, recreational, and competitive needs of the membership and the community; to promote and support the ACBL education program; to conduct tournaments and other competitive events as permitted by the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL); and to conduct such other activities as may be in keeping with its principal objectives. b) Board Elections - There were 5 nominations for 4 elected board positions. As Wiebe withdrew his nomination, other 4 members who were nominated (Muriel Tremblay, Kathy Morrison, Chris Loat and Chandi Jayawardena) were acclaimed to the Unit Board. In order to maintain continuity, 2 of these acclaimed directors will have to commit to stand for three years until May 2021, while the other 2 will serve the normal term of 2 years until May 2020. This will 	Muriel

	<p>be finalized at the next Board meeting. Other 3 Board positions were filled by the 3 nominees from the Boards of Bridge Centre of Niagara (Wiebe Hoogland), and Camelot Bridge Club (Elinor Grill) and NOTL Duplicate Bridge Centre (Lucy McEwen). These 3 directors were appointed for a term of office of 2 years up to May 2020.</p>	
2	<p>Election of Board Officers (for a term of one-year up to May 2019)</p> <p>a) President - Muriel Tremblay was acclaimed (proposed by Kathy and seconded by Chandi)</p> <p>b) Vice President - Wiebe Hoogland was acclaimed (proposed by Muriel and seconded by Kathy)</p> <p>c) Secretary - Chandi Jayawardena was acclaimed (proposed by Muriel and seconded by Kathy)</p> <p>d) Treasurer - Kathy Morrison was proposed by Muriel and seconded by Wiebe. Chris stood for election and a secret ballot was coordinated by Claude and Paul. Chris Loat was elected.</p>	
3	<p>Selection of Committee Chairs</p> <p>After discussion, the following appointments were made for a term of one-year up to May 2019:</p> <p>a) Audit - John Mackay</p> <p>b) Disciplinary Chair - Paul Cronin</p> <p>c) District 2 Representatives - Muriel Tremblay, Wiebe Hoogland</p> <p>d) Education Chair - Chandi Jayawardena</p> <p>e) Electronic Contact - Claude Tremblay</p> <p>f) I/N Co-ordinator - Lucy McEwen</p> <p>g) Membership Chair - Kathy Morrison</p> <p>h) Negotiator - Claude Tremblay</p> <p>i) Recorder - Chris Loat</p> <p>j) Tournament Chair - Claude Tremblay</p> <p>k) Website - Kathy Morrison</p> <p>l) Publicity and Public Relations - Chandi Jayawardena</p>	
4	<p>Not for Profit Incorporation</p> <p>John will coordinate the application. Following decisions were taken:</p> <p>a) Name - Niagara Area Unit 255, Inc. or Niagara Region Unit 255, Inc.</p> <p>b) Address - 3 Queen Way Drive, St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 2J3 (Treasurer's residence)</p> <p>c) Signatories - 4 Board Officers</p> <p>d) Cost - \$150 + \$60 for name search</p> <p>e) Opening balance sheet should be attached with the application.</p>	<p>John</p> <p>Chris</p>
5	<p>Annual Meeting to Approve By-Laws</p> <p>It was proposed to hold the event in three segments, on March 3, 2018 at BCON (subject to approval of BCON Board).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4:30 pm - Annual Meeting 	<p>Chandi</p> <p>Muriel</p> <p>Lucy</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:30 pm - Social (organized by Lucy McEwen & her team on behalf of the Unit and provided free of charge to all ACBL members in Niagara Area. Liquor and permit will be arranged by the Unit who will keep 100% income from liquor sales) • 7:00 pm - Special Unit Game (organized by BCON, who will keep 100% income from the game). 	Claude & Wiebe
6	<p>Next Steps</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) President will e-mail to inform District 2 of the 2 representatives from Unit 255, and update ACBL with the people holding the executive positions of the Unit 255. b) At the next meeting, each Officer and Chair to present their plans. c) As the Interim Treasurer, Kathy has initiated the Unit account at the Bank of Montreal branch near BCON. Chris to follow up. d) In preparation to the Annual Meeting, draft by-laws (attached) to be reviewed at the next Board meeting. e) After Niagara District Bridge Association (NDBA) meets to close down on January 14, NDBA funds and any assets to be transferred to Unit 255. f) A proposal about supplies to be submitted before the next meeting. g) Unit 255 President will write to all ACBL Unit Presidents within ACBL District 2. 	<p>Muriel</p> <p>All Chris</p> <p>Muriel</p> <p>Chris Wiebe Muriel</p>
7	<p>Other Business</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Unit 255 checks to be signed by 2 of the 3 signatories (President, Vice President and Treasurer). b) Unit budget to be prepared. c) Unit 255 presence in the Kibitzer and District 2 website to be negotiated. d) Wiebe to brief the Unit Board about the 64th Niagara District Sectional. e) It was decided to honor NDBA commitment of \$5.00 per participant towards books and other material, in the BCON's Bridge Education Pathway Program (with 7 certificate courses at 3 levels) led by Chandi. If more funding is needed for this initiative, it should be included in the Education Chair's plan / proposal. Chandi will include Unit 255 as a sponsor in all promotional material and certificates of the program. f) It was decided to support Chandi's "Tournament Preparation" workshop for Bridge players with less than 100 masterpoints, by covering the cost of 50 booklets (around \$2.00 per booklet). Chandi will include Unit 255 as a sponsor in all promotional material. g) It was decided to hold the Helen Shields Rookie-Master game on April 17, 2018 at 1:00 pm at NOTL Duplicate Bridge Centre. h) Chandi will seek help from Jerry Smee to create relevant posters for the Unit, commencing with an announcement on the Board elections and Committee Chair appointments. i) Many winners of 2017 ACBL masterpoint races in Unit 166 from Niagara Region were affected, as their names were removed from Unit 166 during the 12th month of the race. ACBL will be consulted. 	<p>Chris</p> <p>Chris Claude Wiebe Chris</p> <p>Chandi</p> <p>Chris Chandi</p> <p>Lucy & Claude</p> <p>Chandi Muriel & Wiebe</p>
8	Next 2 Board Meetings	

	Will be held at BCON at 4:30 pm on Mondays, January 22 and February 26 , 2018 at 4.30 pm. All Committee Chairs are requested to participate.	
9	Adjournment - At 6:00 pm.	