



Minutes of the 90th meeting of the ECF Board
10:20 to 13:21 Saturday 11 October 2014
Malmaison Hotel, 1 Wharfside St, Birmingham, West Midlands, B1 1RD

Present: Phil Ehr (PE) (in the Chair)
Julian Clissold (JC)
David Eustace (DE)
Bob Kane (BK)
Angus French (AF)
Dave Thomas (DT)
Loz Cooper (LC)
David Openshaw (DO)
Alex Holowczak (AH)

In attendance: John Philpott (JAP)
Rob Thompson (RT) (Minutes)
Julie Denning (JD)
David Anderton (DA)
Chris Fegan (CF)
Chris Majer (CM)

1) Minutes from previous Board meetings:

- i) Minutes from Board meeting No 82 approved *nem con*, to be published next week.
- ii) Minutes from Board meeting No 87 postponed. PE is to accept the track changes and to discuss with AF to produce a final version.

Action: PE, AF

- iii) Minutes from Board meetings No 88 and No 89 are to be reviewed by the entire Board. DT is to take responsibility for No 88, DE to take responsibility for No 89. To be completed by 18.10.2014.

Action: DT, DE

- iv) RT, PE to produce snapshot of meetings within a week of the meeting.

Action: PE, RT

2) Council AGM:

JD was proposed as chair of the Council meeting. JD advised that while she was performing her duties as Chairman she is had obligations as Sussex delegate; she will make clear when she was speaking in the latter role.

The Board would recommend Chris Majer and Andrew Leadbetter as tellers.

Minutes from the previous Council meeting to be approved as no changes have been

submitted.

It is to be assumed that Council has read all the reports. Sean Hewitt is to be allowed to present a verbal report, and his time to do so will be decided by Council and JD. SH's report to be first of the NEDs.

Dominic Lawson is to be given extra time in the election process due to the stature of the position. Otherwise, the formula established by previous meetings is to be followed. Unopposed Board members should skip straight to questions.

CM is to introduce the papers of the Governance Committee. Questions to the Governance Committee are to be addressed to CM. CM will allocate questions to other members of the Committee as appropriate.

Item 15 on the agenda, the timing of the next meeting, is to be moved until immediately after the break to ensure that it isn't pushed off the agenda by time constraints.

The award to Gerry Walsh is to be presented after item 4, and is to be presented by DO. Stewart Reuben is also to be mentioned, as he picked up his award in Tromso.

HLVP, Magazine and Congress awards are to be presented at the Council meeting, assuming that Malcolm Pein and Bill O'Rourke are present. Stewart Reuben is to present the awards.

President's awards are to be presented after the meeting.

3) Next meeting dates:

Finance Council meeting: 18.04.2015 in Birmingham proposed, passed with 2 against.

AGM: The date for the next AGM was proposed as 18.10.2015 in London, passed *nem con*.

4) Development of Board strategy:

3 days of meetings was proposed to formulate a 3 – 5 year strategy. The Constitutional Review Commission is working in parallel and as suggestion to be considered that a member of the Commission be invited to the strategy meetings.

Accepted *nem con*.

5) Timetable for producing agendas and minutes:

Agendas to be initiated by the Company Secretary.

Action: JAP

Draft minutes to be produced within 2 weeks of the meeting, or notify the Board if problems. Snapshot is to be published with 1 week by the CEO. Action: PE

Minutes are to be agreed at the next Board meeting.

AH to create a new document storage facility with security, access etc. Action: AH

Template for minutes is to be created. Action RT, DE, JC

Passed *nem con*.

6) Office and National Chess Library:

The owners of current storage facilities gave notice that the Library needs to vacate by March 2015. Where possible, 3rd + copies of books should be sold in order to reduce storage space requirements. Other collections exist that may be donated to the library.

A resolution was placed before the meeting to confirm that the location of the Office for the next 5 years. BK queried the lack of a paper on the subject which as agreed at the last meeting the CE was going to present; this was to highlight the benefits of moving to Saunderton. This paper had not been prepared.

It was agreed that the Office is to stay in Battle for at least 3 years, and a new Office Manager is to be hired. In favour 6, Against 2 Action: PE.

DE is to see what space is available in Battle for the Library. Action: DE

DT is to examine the available database records of the books held with the view to identifying the number of duplicates etc. Action: DT