

AGA Board meeting Dec 18th, 2003

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM EST

Location: Teleconference

Call to Order 9:03 pm

Present:

Jon Boley

Dave Weimer

Harold Lloyd

John Stephenson

Allan Abramson

George Zhou,

Sam Zimmerman

Thomas Hsiang

DeeDee Eckles

Susan Weir

1. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

-none

2. President's Report

DeeDee Eckles;

1) Ing funds: not received, had frozen the grant allocation program, got George Zhou to begin communications, within a week funds were wired in. J.B. ;requested to please put a report together with George of the sequence of events.

2) Toyota Denzu Oza tournament: grant had been delayed, had incorrect information. Grant was approved, \$5000 less than requested, but \$6000 more than last year. We promised to advertise more, get more players in, make it larger. Will the west coast site be large enough? Some concern, also need to expedite the registration process.

3)Fujitsu: Mike Bull will be running this. Pro invitations to Congress and Ing invitations will go out soon.

3. Ing Representative Report

George Zhou;

- Ing fund management improving. 2003 actual spending was \$69,000 2004 spending is \$52,000(note; year runs March 1 to March 1)

have received \$40,000. and have requested the rest of the funding.

- Committee action plan:

1) Have better communication between AGA and Ing. We have set up a reporting system as of September 5, all tournament results are now sent to Ing chair, and will be sent on to Ing Fund folks, to report back to them and show how we are using the funds.

2) Still pending: to set up an Ing fund disbursement policy. Currently waiting for board approval of what's been written by the committee. Jon.B; let's OK their disbursement report for the next board meeting

4. Professional Liaison Report

Thomas Hsiang;

1) Clarification of pro participation in OZA. It is now resolved reasonably, the pros are OK with it. We should make a similar request for the Fujitsu from the organizers. Do we allow citizens, or residents? Japanese usually allow permanent residents, as well as citizens.

- AGA president should clear the matter with Fujitsu.

2) In general, with pro tournaments abroad: how do we choose? We need to have a policy. The AGA president should communicate with Jujo (APGA president) and offer help.

5. Election Committee Report

Sam Zimmerman;

On the board replacements; we conducted a straw poll: East: lots of response for Bill Cobb, West: for Willard Hayes, but in general it was a weak response level. Central is close between Jeff Shaevel, Robert Cordingly. East region: 11 responses for Cobb, 1 for Saltman. Central : few clubs voted, about even. West, 5 for Hayes, 2 votes for Li.

6. Items for Decision

a. Minutes: last meeting's minutes approved. Moved and accepted

b. Appointments

Filling three slots on the board.

-Central region: Robert Cordingly and Jeff Shaevel.

D.W.; we should follow the straw vote closely.

VOTE: H.L., D.W., J.B.: Shaevel

J.S.: Cordingly

- East region: Bill Cobb, Bill Saltman Noted that conflict of interest cannot be set by board, cannot be directed, unless a conflict actually comes up John S. noted that Cobb is currently paid for his work on the EJournal., perhaps not a good precedent. Further noted that these are interim appointments, these folks will need to stand for election in six months.

VOTE: J.B., H.L., D.W.: Cobb

J.S.: Saltman

-Western region: Willard Hayes, Jie Li .

VOTE: Unanimous for Hayes

Noted : all candidates are excellent people, regrets that not all could be chosen to serve on the board.

c. Motion (submitted by David Weimer/Harold Lloyd)

Whereas, the composition of the Board will change as of January 1, 2004 with the seating of a newly elected board member;

And whereas, the Board is required to elect a chairman upon the election of new members;

Be it so moved that the Board will have a meeting on January 2, 2004.
VOTE: unanimously approved.

d. Motion (submitted by David Weimer/Harold Lloyd)

Whereas, the previous Board decision to replace Chris Kirschner with Deedee Eckles as President of the AGA was made without proper consideration;

Whereas, Deedee Eckles stepped forward in a very difficult situation;

Whereas, presidential terms should be stipulated for the health of the organization;

Be it so moved that Deedee Eckles be thanked for her help in this trying situation and that Chris Kirschner be reinstated as President of the AGA with a Term lasting until June 1, 2004.

After a short discussion, it was moved and voted to table this motion until the January 2 meeting.

e. Motion (submitted by David Weimer/Harold Lloyd)

Whereas, the AGA is in need of quality individuals at all times;

Whereas, the AGA needs a repository of talent;

Be it so moved that a standing committee, to be called the Leadership Development Committee, be formed to identify and develop leadership for the AGA.

moved, seconded, and VOTED: all said yes.

f. Motion (submitted by David Weimer/Harold Lloyd)

Whereas, the AGA will require a new President as of June 1, 2004;

Be it so moved that the Leadership Development Committee be directed to seek suitable candidates for the position of president and to present recommendations to the Board no later than March 31, 2004.

This was also moved and voted to be tabled until the next meeting.

g. Motion (submitted by John Stephenson)

WHEREAS, the AGA Board of Directors is charged with setting policy for the organization and seeing to the general welfare of the organization;

WHEREAS, the EJournal is a primary means of the organization to communicate to both the membership and external subscribers;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT MOVED that the following policy shall govern decisions about content published in the EJournal:

i. Matters relating to normal and usual go activities shall be left to the discretion of the EJournal editor, who shall strive to give the widest spectrum of coverage to organization related go events as space permits.

ii. All publication matters of a special news nature, controversial nature, or out of the ordinary course, shall be approved by the President of the organization prior to publication, and shall at all times remain consistent with both general and specific policy set by the Board of Directors.

iii. All reporting of news in the EJournal shall be fair and balanced and delivered with a tone that at all times respects the game of go and the organization's membership.

There was no second for the motion.

7. Items for discussion:

a) BOARD RETREAT. It was agreed that in the future, this would best be done at Congress, where everyone is already together. However, it might be good to schedule one earlier to avoid the conflicts of the past year and move ahead in a positive direction. Discussion: Could do over a weekend. Jon will be asking each member for a budgetary figure they think would be reasonable to spend on such a meeting, and will communicate the figure they come up with to Susan Weir. Susan will the work on a proposal, including specific costs. John S. was asked for his thoughts, and thought this money would be well spent to get the board on a professional footing. Not a time to be penny pinching.

b. WORLD/OZA/FUJITSU: Qualification of resident Professionals for the World Oza/Fujitsu tournament. Denzu/Oza has been answered already, Ming Ju and Fen Yung both want to play in the Fujitsu.

Discussion: Sentiment is to try and get as wide a participation as possible. Since many of the pros will be in Seattle for the Oza, perhaps to talk to them then in a proactive fashion suggesting how the AGA would like to proceed, and asking for their feedback.

The need to come up with an AGA policy on AGA's events was agreed upon, who we want to see in AGA tournaments representing whom. Both citizens and residents sounds like the current board sentiment. DeeDee noted that permanent residency is taking much longer since 9/11. Perhaps a six months residency and be working on their paperwork should be sufficient.

The board needs a consistent policy. Also, the need to train more people to run tournaments on the Internet.

9. The board then moved into closed session.

respectfully submitted,
Susan Weir