

Hartford Bridge Club  
Annual Meeting  
October 22, 2023

The Annual Meeting was called to order at 12pm. The meeting was held at the Bridge Club and also through Zoom. There were 82 attendees at the club and approximately 24 via Zoom. There were also 4 ballots received electronically from members that could not attend, for a grand total of 110.

Felix Springer thanked everyone for taking the time to attend this meeting. He discussed how the club has been able to continue to run during these unprecedented times. Many clubs have failed throughout the country. We cannot take our club for granted. The club has given beginner lessons to encourage new players to become members. All of us need to talk up the club so that we can continue to grow and get back to where we once were. We are a member owned club, and through the generosity of our members, we managed to fiscally stay in the black.

He thanked the many people who have helped meet the challenges of the past year in the October newsletter. He especially acknowledged Donna Feir, Club Manager, for her efforts both this year and over the many years creating a community and allowing it to thrive.

Secretary's Report: Minutes accepted (all voting yes)

Treasurer's Report and Yearly review. September fund balance \$107,557 a gain of \$1464.00. Trevor reminded the group that the club is now a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and as such contributions to the club are tax deductible as the law allows. He reported that the club has received donations of \$26061 and \$ 12,749 in lesson fees. We ended the year with 417 paid members. John Dinius, Finance Committee chair, confirmed the Yearly review of the financial numbers presented through a letter read by Felix.

Club Manager's Report: Donna welcomed everyone to the club. We are beginning our 92<sup>st</sup> year of bridge! She announced that we will be celebrating our new life masters soon. She reported that over 300 members have renewed their membership.

Moment of Silence for recently deceased members.

By-Law revisions – the following amendments were accepted (all voting yes)

1. Article IV (f) – The club manager is not eligible to be an officer of the Hartford Bridge Club, or a member of the Board of Trustees.
2. Article IV (g) – A maximum of one game director may serve as a member of the Board of Trustees.

3. Article VII (a) – The president shall select a nominating committee consisting of at least two past presidents and three other members.

Comments from Members: A big thank you to Donna Feir accompanied by a round of applause. A suggestion to try an appeal to youngsters to learn the game of bridge.

Slate for 2022 -23 Officers and Directors presented by Trevor Reeves. The slate was - John Willoughby, President; Ben Bishop, Vice President; Eric Vogel, Treasurer; Ann Lohrand, Secretary. Trustees: Rob Stillman, 3 years; Carole Amaio, 1 year; Bill Winniger, 1 year; Nancy Calderbank, 2 years; Mike Wavada, 2 years and Diane Tracy, 3 years. (Accepted - all voting yes)

John Willoughby thanked Felix Springer for his service as president, Roger Pikor for service as Facility Chair and Trevor Reeve's service as both treasurer and president. Let's look forward to a good year.

Adjourned at 12:40 pm,

Respectfully submitted, Ann Lohrand, Secretary.