

Rheems Athletic Association
Board Meeting – February 22nd, 2016 - Meeting Minutes
Lucky Duck's Cafe, Elizabethtown, PA

President Mike De Stefano called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the following board members in attendance:

Brian Bell (vice president), Craig Hummer (soccer co-commissioner), Mike Hamilton (softball co-commissioner), Rick Knowlton (Volleyball commissioner), David Kase (lacrosse co-commissioner), Jo Hershey (Rugby Co-commissioner), and Michael Smith (secretary).

Lea Taylor (Treasurer), Sean Burton (softball co-commissioner), Mark Weissend (Girls lacrosse), Joe Carter (soccer co-commissioner), Bob Meuser (website administrator), and Kenny Burke (rugby co-commissioner), were not in attendance.

- Special business/guests –

Mike De Stefano introduced new Board Secretary, Michael Smith

- Prior meeting minutes review and approval

Mike De Stefano asked if there were any objections or revisions to the December meeting minutes. There were none. **Rick Knowlton made a motion to approve the meeting minutes which was seconded by Mike Hamilton. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously by the board.**

- Finances – Lea Taylor

No action Reported.

- Previous business - Action Items – February 2016

1. Rick Knowlton asked if the board should perhaps look at long term planning to purchase a property (Greentree Property, 8 acres for \$100k?) Would this be something of interest? Mike De Stefano concurred that perhaps the board would need to take a closer look and have a discussion concerning the purchase of land/asset. **Open – No update.**

- Previous business - Action Items – November 2014

2. Mike De Stefano to sit with Bob Meuser and go over sponsorship program. **Open – No update. Mike Hamilton sent out over 100 sponsorship programs and he indicated he would make a list of all the businesses he sent to.**

- Previous business - Action Items – May
 1. Rheems AA to get Wenger Feeds on snack stand. – Open – **Brian Heffleger to ask Wenger for a template. There was a discussion to get this complete by the spring. Mike Hamilton indicated he wanted to put letters on the wood of the roof on the side of the concession stand. Mike De Stefano indicated he needed to reach out to Jamie.**
- Previous business - Action Items – August
 1. Mike De Stefano to send out email and put on website tax exempt status. **Open - Mike De Stefano stated that there is a need to add board openings on the website. Mike De Stefano indicated he started the application for the tax exempt status for the state. Mike De Stefano indicated Rheems got the invoice for the 501(c)3 work. Mike De Stefano indicated the fee was \$46 and the law firm waived their fees.**
- New and Ongoing business
 1. Fundraising and sponsorship -
Update – No update.
 2. Softball - Mike Hamilton/Sean Burton

Mike Hamilton discussed presenting a “wish list” to West Donegal Township (Gene). The intention is to negotiate a new contract between the RAA and W. Donegal Twp. The purpose, among other reasons, is to improve RAA Softball’s financial position in order to lower rates for player sign-ups. RAA will do more fact finding to be poised to negotiate with W. Donegal Twp.

Mike Hamilton discussed having a tournament this season with up to 8 teams, 4 games/weekend. Wish is to keep it commutable for the participants- IE: Lebanon, York, Harrisburg, etc.. Approx. \$250/team entry fee.

Mike Hamilton brought up that they have 4 positions available- Snack stand coordinator, treasurer, supply and coordinator/manager.

Mike Hamilton also brought up that he would like to conduct a coach’s clinic this year for coaches – and to include a binder of best practices/lessons learned to provide to new coaches. In addition, he mentioned adding an “advisor” individual to each player level within the organization for coaches to reference, rather than all coaches going back to Mike/Sean and inundating them with questions.

3. Boys Lacrosse - David Kase

News/updates – David Kase reported approximate sign-up results:
3/4th grades – Approximately 40 kids. 5/6th grades – About full.

David indicated he talked to John Meyers from Gears about aligning the programs and working closely with them.

4. Girls Lacrosse – Mark Weissend

News/updates –No Update

5. Soccer - Joe Carter/Craig Hummer

News/updates – Craig Hummer reported that Doug Oberholser is to take a co-commissioner spot to replace Joe Carter.

Sign-ups: The spring soccer session had 400+ participants sign up.

6. Volleyball - Richard Knowlton

News/updates – Rick Knowlton mentioned that he was going to check the website to ensure that registration was up and running. Also he had mentioned that they will start advertising the program in the March/April time frame.

7. Rugby – Kenny Burke/Jo Hershey

News/updates – Jo Hershey indicated that the U19 rugby team is going to join with the local rugby league in the area.

8. Facility/Field Maintenance – No update.

9. Field Usage – not discussed.

10. Miscellaneous – None.

- o Meeting dates for 2016
 - i. February - Completed
 - ii. April -
 - iii. June
 - iv. August
 - v. October (nominations)
 - vi. December (elections)

Mike De Stefano had left the meeting early for a prior obligation and turned the completion of the meeting over the vice president, Brian Bell.

David Kase made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Jo Hershey.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Next meeting date is Sunday April 24th at 7:00 at Lucky Duck's in Elizabethtown.