

Rheems Athletic Association
Board Meeting – April 24th, 2016 - Meeting Minutes
Lucky Duck's Cafe, Elizabethtown, PA

President Mike De Stefano called the meeting to order at 7:26 PM with the following board members in attendance:

Brian Bell (vice president), Craig Hummer (soccer co-commissioner), Joe Carter (soccer co-commissioner), Mike Hamilton (softball co-commissioner), Rick Knowlton (Volleyball commissioner), Kenny Burke (rugby co-commissioner), and Michael Smith (secretary) were in attendance.

Lea Taylor (Treasurer), Sean Burton (softball co-commissioner), Mark Weissend (Girls lacrosse), David Kase (lacrosse co-commissioner), and Jo Hershey (Rugby Co-commissioner), were not in attendance.

Bob Meuser, website administrator, was also in attendance.

- Special business/guests –

Potential representatives to succeed Joe Carter & Craig Hummer as Soccer Co-commissioners, Ryan Scott & Doug Oberholser, were in attendance to observe the meeting.

- Prior meeting minutes review and approval

Mike De Stefano asked if there were any objections or revisions to the February meeting minutes. There were a few revisions to correct spelling of a name and to delete to previous business items that were closed. **Rick Knowlton made a motion to approve the amended meeting minutes which was seconded by Mike Hamilton. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously by the board.**

- Finances – Lea Taylor

Mike De Stefano instructed the board to look out for an email with the financials attached for the board's reference. Mike De Stefano then went over the finance position of the individual sports, the other miscellaneous accounts, and the organization as a whole.

1. Previous business - Action Items – August 2015

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. Carried forward 4/24/16.**

2. Previous business - Action Items – November 2015

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. Carried forward 4/24/16.**

3. Previous business – Action Items – December 2015

Provide mouth guard information on Rheem's AA website. **Open – Rick Knowlton didn't pursue didn't pursue since he had not received a lot of feedback. Rick will continue. This is carried forward 4/24/16.**

4. Previous business - Action Items – February 2016

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 – Action tabled until late May, when looking to schedule and informal meeting to be held by Mike De Stefano and willing participants of the board.**

5. Previous business - Action Items – May 2016

Rheems AA to get Wenger Feeds on snack stand. – Closed item Mike Hamilton completed.

6. Previous business – Action Items – May 2016

Mike De Stefano indicated that Wenger Feeds will need invoiced for the 1st ½ of the year, in June. **This is carried forward 4/24/16.**

7. Previous business – Action Items – May 2016

Craig Hummer suggested addressing the need for a compliance person on the board to handle the issue of registrations and clearances for all RAA sports. **Open - Mike De Stefano indicated that it is a valid concern that needs to be addressed, but that the position does not warrant being a voting board member slot but perhaps an individual with responsibilities who works with the teams and reports to the board. Craig Hummer, Bob Meuser and Mike De Stafano discussed a possible meeting between the three to address this action item.**

- New and Ongoing business

1. Fundraising and sponsorship -

Update – Wenger – Billing on signs was already addressed.

- Softball – Upcoming Tourney discusses, 6 teams, \$300/team, found sponsors
- Knowlton Dental will sponsor volleyball along with Wenger Feeds.

2. Softball - Mike Hamilton/Sean Burton

News/updates – Mike Hamilton discussed the following updates/items:

- a) Opening day was 4/23; played scrimmages, concessions were open- \$1,200 in sales – ½ of which was net profit, considered successful day.
- b) Sign-ups-approx. 140 players; #teams- 6U-2; 8U-3; 10U-3; 12U-1; 12A-1; 14B-1
- c) Gave award (banner) to Susquehanna Mechanical for dedication since when league was in Conoy-Banner to be put up at the field at no cost to the company.
- d) Looking for volunteers to take over any of 28 positions identified in association with the softball program; in conjunction with Mike taking a step back from his role as commissioner.
- e) Cost for softball registration raised to between \$65 & \$85 depending on age.
- f) Obtaining success with “liaison” program for different levels of coaches to ask questions/receive advice on league practice and coaching; relieves Mike & Sean from burden.

3. Boys Lacrosse - David Kase

News/updates – No Update

4. Girls Lacrosse – Mark Weissend

News/updates –No Update

5. Soccer - Joe Carter/Craig Hummer

News/updates – Joe/Craig discussed the following updates/items:

- a) Sign-ups: The spring soccer session had nearly 500+ participants sign up. This is a record number.
- b) Travel teams are being finalized, in partnership with Hershey, some mixed reaction.
- c) Joe Carter is stepping down from the co-commissioner position effective immediately.
- d) Ryan Scott & Doug Oberholser attended the meeting to gain a better understanding of the role of soccer co-commissioner. There are 3 other possible candidates for the position- Andy Beasley, Charlie Mowere and Chris Cook.
- e) LBYSA – Lancaster Boys Youth Soccer Association is seeking an Asst. Commissioner as Joe Carter is leaving that position as well.
- f) Craig and Joe indicated that they will work with and meet individuals to ensure a smooth transition for the new co-commissioners; Mike DeStefano & Brian Bell are to attend this meeting.

6. Volleyball - Richard Knowlton

News/updates – a) Rick Knowlton discussed some updates/items:

- a) Mentioned that he hopes to soon be seeking help and an eventual replacement for the volleyball commissioner position that he currently holds.
- b) Volleyball registration website is active, off to slow start. Will push emails to notify individuals that may be interested in signing up.
- c) Advertising- may explore a Merchandiser ad & collaborate with Soccer & Rugby to advertise. May check with Weber advertising for yard signs.
- d) Rick wants to review clearances for coaches who are new/not experienced.
- e) Volleyball will be using Greentree again-porta potties will remain there.

7. Rugby – Kenny Burke/Jo Hershey

News/updates – Kenny Burke discussed several updates/items:

- a) Started U19 games, hosted 4 home games, had 1 away game with players from Elizabethtown, Hershey, Lower Dauphin, Annville, Palmyra and Ephrata. Games are played at Fairview field. Men's club donated \$1,000 worth of goal pads. Largest expenses now are EMTs onsite at games and the player's jerseys. Reported receiving lots of parental support, but has experienced some resistance from E-town football coaches.
- b) Offering "Rookie Rugby" – Will be sending out flyers with information on this program – Flag Rugby for little players.
- c) Moving forward – Fundraising, looking to host a 7's tournament on July 9th, and possibly a Sea Aisle tournament as well. RAA Rugby is also to possibly with Penn Legacy to form another small rugby league.
- d) Kenny also held a mini parent meeting with 19U and came up with a logo for the team; the "E-town Blues".

8. Facility/Field Maintenance – No update.

9. Field Usage – not discussed.

10. Miscellaneous – Mike De Stefano moved to propose dates for the RAA Board meeting for the remainder of 2016, all to be held at 7pm on Sunday nights. The dates are listed below:

- o Meeting dates for 2016:
 - i. February – Completed 2/24/16;
 - ii. April – Completed 4/24/16;
 - iii. June – Scheduled 6/12/16;
 - iv. August – Scheduled 8/14/16;
 - v. October (nominations) – Scheduled 10/16/16;
 - vi. December (elections) – Scheduled 12/11/16.

Kenny Burke made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Brian Bell.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27pm.

Next meeting date is Sunday June 12th at 7:00pm at Lucky Duck's in Elizabethtown.