

Rheems Athletic Association
Board Meeting – April 9th 2017 - Meeting Minutes
Lucky Duck's Cafe, Elizabethtown, PA

President Greg Laszakovits called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM with the following board members in attendance:

Brian Bell (vice president), Michael Smith (secretary), Rick Knowlton (Volleyball commissioner), Jo Hershey (Rugby Co-commissioner), Wendi Grinell (softball co-commissioner), Roger Garber (softball co-commissioner), Heidi Vognetz (fundraising chairperson), and were in attendance.

Kenny Burke (rugby co-commissioner), David Kase (Boys lacrosse, co-commissioner), Doug Oberholser (soccer co-commissioner), Lea Taylor (Treasurer), were not in attendance.

- Special business/guests –

The following individuals were in attendance:

Paula Burke (Risk management/compliance), and Doni Keeports, who had expressed interest in filling the vacancy for soccer co-commissioner.

- Prior meeting minutes review and approval

Greg Laszakovits asked if there were any objections or revisions to the February meeting minutes. There were not. **Wendi Grinell made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Rick Knowlton seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously by the board.**

- Finances – Lea Taylor

The January and February 2017 financials were at hand for approval. **Roger Garber made a motion to approve. Wendi Grinell seconded the motion. Financials were approved unanimously.**

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Previous business - Action Items – April 2017

Dave Kase to nominate Don Hall as Boys Lacrosse Co-commissioner, for a board vote.
-Dave not in attendance at this meeting. **Open - Carried forward on 4/9/2017.**

2. Previous business - Action Items – August 2016

Greg Laszakovits to send out email and put on website tax exempt status.

** In January of 2017, Greg has started working with Rob Cronin of Cronin Law to address this item. **Open - Carried forward on 4/9/2017.**

3. Previous business – Action Items – Aug 2016

Any Wenger Feeds invoicing required for the 2nd ½ of the year?

Invoice was received in October. Invoice was not paid as of 4/9 meeting.

Greg had emailed with Jamie Crowley and Barry Shaw of Wenger feeds, as of 4/9 meeting, to set up a meeting to catch up with RAA. Jamie Crowley is retiring and passing on responsibilities, including RAA liaison, to Linda Lownsbery.

Subsequent to 4/9 board meeting, on 4/17, Greg met with Wenger Feeds (Jamie Crowley).

Greg relayed that the meeting went well and that Wenger Feeds is very impressed with RAA program and the number of children and families that it serves in the community.

4. Previous business – Action Items – Feb 2017

Bob Meuser to hold an administrative website access training session in the coming months.

Open – Carried forward on 4/9/2017.

5. Previous business – Action Items – Complete by Dec 2017

Review, and post to website, bylaws for any necessary updates/revisions. **Open - Carried forward on 4/9/2017.**

6. Previous business – Action Items – Apr 2017

Discussion regarding concussion training and clearances for all sports.

See Notes at number 7 below under new and ongoing business. **Open – Carried forward on 4/9/2017.**

• **New and Ongoing business:**

1. Fundraising and sponsorship -

Update – Heidi Vognetz

- a) Started soccer, underway, due 4/22, pick-up 5/3. Worried about overall #'s since R&K stopped offering/selling frozen items;
- b) Rick Knowlton asked if Heidi has reached out to local businesses in the local Elizabethtown area in general on fundraising opportunities, I.E.: Softball field sign opportunities?;
- c) A general question was brought up about funding dollars in the general RAA fund or in the individual sports accounts; which fundraising money the sports keep and which goes into the general. For example, for softball, can sign and team sponsor money be directly allocated to softball? And would they be directly responsible for sign repair and invoicing of companies for sign revenue, with the help of the fundraising chair? Board to clarify this issue before putting to a vote; if even necessary to vote on it.

2. Softball – Wendi Grinell/Roger Garber

News/updates:

- a) Beginning to set up fields now, opening day is 4/22, ramping up and getting ready for season start, fixing fences, power washing, etc...

b) Discussed mandatory and optional fundraisers: R&K (mandatory); optional fundraiser ideas like “mud love”, where the sport sells bracelets for a week of clean water for villages in south central Africa, etc...

3. Boys Lacrosse - David Kase

News/updates –Dave not in attendance, no update.

4. Soccer – Doug Oberholser (Travel) / Doni Keeports (Rec commissioner voted 4/17/2017).

News/updates – The following topics/updates/ were discussed:

- a) Brian asked Rec teams for updates recently;
- b) U15 lost a game 15-0. In response, a message was sent out to the league asking that they speak with team and consider other options during game in order not to run up score;
- c) Tryouts on 3/26 for next year went well; ok numbers;
- d) Talked about a continued need to monitor the rec teams to bolster travel team numbers;
- e) Indicated that an overall positive feeling exists for the future of the RAA soccer program;
- f) Doni Keeports asked Brian Bell for written information on what is involved with soccer co-commissioner role. No commitment at this point, just fact finding.

******* Since the 4/9 meeting, Doni Keeports has been voted into the vacant soccer co-commissioner positing. Via email, on 4/16, Rick Knowlton made a motion to have Doni Keeports to join the RAA board as soccer co-commissioner. Dave Kase seconded the motion via email. On 4/17, the board members voted in favor unanimously, via email.**

5. Volleyball - Richard Knowlton

- News/updates –
- a) Rick indicated that he’s starting up the process to put out feelers to see who would be interested in participating in the RAA volleyball program/season.
 - b) Registration was open, although there were no registrants signed up currently;
 - c) Rick is sending out emails to generate interest;
 - d) Rick has some coaching commitments right now;
 - e) The season starts around 6/15/2017, runs for 8 weeks, and is 1 night/week for 2 hours.

6. Rugby – Kenny Burke/Jo Hershey

News/updates – Jo Hershey discussed a few updates/items:

- a) Kenny Burke is current coaching the U19 team; season in process, working hard;
- b) There is one more away game in Carlisle, and two home games to finish season;
- c) Paula is helping w/ U13 developmental program, since there aren’t enough players to field a team currently, Paul is also coaching the rookie rugby team;
- d) Rugby will follow up with Heidi to coordinate their fundraising possibilities;
- e) Rugby is having a great season so far, players/coaches really enjoying it;

- f) U19 team #s are around 17-19 players, U13 has about 12 boys.
- g) Players involved are from E-town, as well as Annville, Ephrata, Warwick and Hershey.

7. Compliance/Risk Management – Paula Burke

News/Updates – a) Paula indicated that there are still questions being posed on who must get clearances. The answer is if you are working with, and/or being near children, then individuals must obtain them.

b) Paula discussed the status on where the program is at currently with compliance issues. She said that there should be a meeting to discuss the entire scope of clearance issues.

c) She is looking to streamline and coordinate how to best manage the program.

d) The question was once again raised if the board should consider hiring a part time administrative individual to manage this portion of the RAA responsibilities.

8. Facility/Field Maintenance – All fields are up and running.

9. Field Usage – Rugby games are being played at Rheems upper field; practices are at Baptist church and High street fields.

10. Miscellaneous – Idea again brought up concerning whether or not board should contemplate the adding of a paid individual in an administrative capacity to accomplish task for the RAA, or perhaps partnering with the high school, college, or even Masonic village, in order to find such an individual looking to help out and earn some part time money.

2017 RAA Board Meetings:

Time: 7pm Location: Lucky Ducks, Elizabethtown.

Dates: Sunday, 11 June 2017

Sunday, 20 August 2017

Sunday, 8 October 2017 (Nominations)

Sunday, 10 December 2017 (Elections)

Meeting adjournment: Mike Smith made the motion to adjourn the meeting and was 2nd by Brian Bell. Greg Laszakovits brought the meeting to an official close at 8:32 pm.