

Rheems Athletic Association
Board Meeting – February 11th 2017 - Meeting Minutes
Lucky Duck's Cafe, Elizabethtown, PA

President Greg Laszakovits called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with all board members in attendance:

Greg Laszakovits (RAA President), Michael Smith (Secretary), Brian Bell (Soccer president), Jon Norman (Rugby commissioner), Wendi Grinell (Softball commissioner), Rick Knowlton (Volleyball commissioner), Don Hall (Boys Lacrosse Commissioner), Heidi Vognetz (fundraising chairperson), and Kelly Garber (Treasurer).

Vice-president position remains vacant.

- Special business/guests –

The following individuals were in attendance:

Inga Washington (I.T/Website coordinator), Robert Grinell (E-town United VP), and Mike Hamilton.

Mike Hamilton Discussion Topic: W. Donegal Township (WDT) Grant Possibility for Rheems Fields.

Mike attended the meeting to update progress of RAA collaborating with WDT in order to apply for a state grant to upgrade fields. Mike asked the board for green space numbers of who will use fields, what we may be able to name fields, and what RAA would be willing to contribute financially, with personnel, etc...

- Prior meeting minutes review and approval

Greg Laszakovits asked if there were any objections or revisions to the December meeting minutes. **Wendi Grinell made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Rick Knowlton seconded the motion. The board approved the meeting minutes unanimously.**

- Finances – Kelly Garber

The January 2018 financials required approval, but they were not reviewed by all board members as of the start of this meeting. Vote on financials carried.

Kelly Garber distributed Financials via email by on 2/11. Greg Laszakovits requested a vote on 2/20 after Brian Bell made a motion for approval of the financials, and Mike Smith issued a second. All board members voted unanimously, via email, to approved the January financials, on 2/22/18.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. August 2016-

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

Update- since last meeting, Greg had spoken with Rob Cronin of Cronin Law to address this item.

Update- Greg related that within the week, RAA would have tax-exempt status. Open - Carried.

2. December 2017-

Review, and post to website, bylaws for any necessary updates/revisions. Vote on re-stated by-laws took place at 10/8/17 meeting. **** (Greg only needs to get the signature page signed by all board members and upload, along with the by-laws, to the website.) Update- Greg was obtaining signatures as of the start of this meeting. Open – Carried.**

3. December 2017-

Surplus end of year money discussion ongoing. Individual sport funds and flow to general fund. Revenue sharing among sports with differing funds generation capabilities, registration funds, other fundraisers, Wenger feeds payments, etc.

Update- There was a discussion/debate at the meeting on contributions to overall RAA finances and what portion of each sport would go into the general fund. Amounts discussed were 10% of funds raised or \$7.00 per registration. Board discussed ongoing issue to map out a way to assign percentages of contributions into balance sheet funds/assets. Greg & Kelly will look at how larger donations and membership fees flow to the general fund. Open – Carried.

4. December 2017-

Discussion started at 12/10/2017 meeting about holding an RAA community day picnic to raise awareness of what RAA programs have to offer and to say “thank you” to all involved volunteers.

Open – Carried.

5. February 2018-

Question brought up on how to approach non-paid fees for athletics, and what to do with people who do not pay. There is \$21,000 of unpaid fees over 5 years of records on file.

Open – Carried.

Athletic Program Updates:

1. Fundraising and sponsorship - Update – Heidi Vognetz

- Heidi working with Dick’s Sporting Goods to finalize a sponsorship deal; to include asking for a \$500 gift card for equipment.
- Heidi brought up a idea of an equipment swap fundraiser and had sent out an email, to which she did not get much response.
- Heidi is also currently working on verifying and obtaining sponsors for the U6/U8 T-shirts.

2. Softball – Update – Wendi Grinell

- Wendi related to the board that registration would open at the end of February.
- Softball is having to submit their teams to the league earlier this year than in past years.
- Teams that softball has this year: 3-8U, 2 to 3-10U, 2-12U, and 1-14U.
- 6U will just be run as a clinic, since the registration numbers are small.
- Wendi stressed budgets and fundraising as they make more when they sell subs vs. opting out.

3. Boys Lacrosse – Update – Don Hall

- Don Hall provided information relating to the 7th/8th grade Lax program and how it has regressed under the GEARS. Don brought to the board the question of whether or not RAA would consider taking the over from GEARS.
- This year, as of 2/10, GEARS has had only 1 registrant. Currently RAA has 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th graders up to U13.
- The board did express an interest in making this work to regain the 7th/8th grade program.
- Brian Bell had provided this follow-up information via email on 2/22/18 on the issue listed above. “Don and I had a productive meeting with GEARS representatives Barry Acker and Doug Knauss on 2/21, (along with Pete Rivera, who will be helping us with Lacrosse). GEARS was very gracious about handing over the 7-8 grade program to RAA. I think it’s fair to say that their concerns were primarily related to feeling confident that RAA going to carry it through over the long haul (remember we/RAA just requested GEARS take over girls lacrosse for us two years ago.) Joint statement is attached to the RAA minutes.”

4. Soccer – Update – Brian Bell.

- Brian provided that soccer has no current updated, and is now its in registration phase.

5. Volleyball – Update – Richard Knowlton

News/updates – Not much to update now. Rick indicated that his thinking about changing registration from the normal timeframe of April/May to an early registration from February through April. The volleyball season starts in June.

6. Rugby – Update – Jon Norman

- Norm’s first update was that he has completed his first rugby budget at around \$3,500.
- Rugby should be able to cover that cost with its fundraising, according to Norm.
- As of 2/11, rugby has had their first high school practice.
- Paula Burke recently conducted a U13 meeting with parents and feels that participation in the upcoming season is promising.

7. Compliance/Risk Management – Update – Paula Burke (via Greg Laszakovits)

- The new spring season brings renewed emphasis on coaches being up to date on the clearances. PA Child Line – every 5 years. There are expired clearances that will need renewed.

8. Facility/Field Maintenance – Update.

- See Mike Hamilton update in special guest section above.

9. Field Usage – Update –

10. Miscellaneous –

2018 scheduled RAA Board Meetings:

The board agreed to the following dates in 2018 for RAA board meetings.

*** Amended**

Time: 7pm Location: Funk Bewery, Elizabethtown.

Dates: Sunday, 15 April 2018 *

Sunday, 3 June 2018 *

Sunday, 19 August 2018 *

Sunday, 14 October 2017 (Board Nominations)

Sunday, 9 December 2017 (Board Elections)

Meeting adjournment: Brian Bell made the motion to adjourn the meeting and was 2nd by Jon Norman. Greg Laszakovits brought the meeting to an official close at 9:06 pm.