

**Rheems Athletic Association
Board Meeting – December 10th 2017 - Meeting Minutes
Lucky Duck’s Cafe, Elizabethtown, PA**

President Greg Laszakovits called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the following board members (as of the beginning of the meeting) in attendance:

Greg Laszakovits (RAA President), Brian Bell (Soccer president), Michael Smith (Secretary), Jo Hershey (Rugby commissioner), Wendi Grinell (Softball commissioner), Heidi Vognetz (fundraising chairperson).

Rick Knowlton (Volleyball commissioner), Don Hall (Boys Lacrosse Commissioner), and Lea Taylor (Treasurer) were not in attendance. Vice-president remains vacant.

- Special business/guests –

The following individuals were in attendance:

Kenny Burke (rugby/soccer coach), Jon Norman (Rugby commissioner-elect), Bob Mueser (former I.T/Website coordinator), and Robert Grinell (E-town United VP).

- Prior meeting minutes review and approval

Greg Laszakovits asked if there were any objections or revisions to the October meeting minutes. **Wendi Grinell made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Brian Bell seconded the motion. The board approved the meeting minutes unanimously, with revisions accepted.**

- Finances – Lea Taylor

The June, July, August, September, October and November 2017 financials required approval , but prior this meeting, due to system issues, were not able to be approved at this meeting. Vote on financials carried. Financials were subsequently completed when Bob Mueser cleared up the I.T. issue holding up completion of the documents. They were distributed via email by Lea Taylor on 12/28, for review and voting. On 12/28, Brian Bell made a motion to approve the financials, and then was seconded by Heidi Vognetz. All board member voted via email to unanimously approve the financials. The motion has passed on 12/30, prior to year end.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Board Vote– December 2017

The following nominees were voted en masse, at the meeting:

OFFICERS:

President- Greg Laszakovits
Vice President- None
Treasurer- Kelly Garber
Secretary- Michael Smith

BOARD MEMBERS:

Fundraising-	Heidi Vognetz
Softball-	Wendi Grinnell
Boys Lacrosse-	Don Hall
Soccer-	Brian Bell
Volleyball-	Rick Knowlton
Rugby	Jon Norman
Other:	

Brian Bell made a motion to approve the nominees en masse, and then was seconded by Jo Hershey. All board members in attendance voted unanimously to approve the nominees. The motion has passed.

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. Been in touch, has not yet heard back. **Open - Carried forward on 12/10/2017.**

3. Previous business – Action Items – Agenda item added by Brian Bell August 2017

Website/I.T. Status update

The website system permissions are to be transitioned from Bob to Inga in order for her to rectify the issue preventing Lea from generating financial statements. In addition, the suggestion in prior meetings of exploring the possible use of blue sombrero software was put to rest; the current system will continue to be used exclusively.

12/10- Bob brought materials to brief website software system- what services we have-

1. League athletics site-registrations/teams;
2. Godaddy® account – provide URLs and email forwarding;
3. Two merchant (credit card processing) accounts: a)PayPal® ; b)E-Z Merchant® (used by soccer, rugby and volleyball).

Discussed in regards to these: Pros/Cons-how to use and strategize;

Bob answered a few commissioner questions about reporting and email systems.

The item is closed-12/10/2017.

4. Previous business – Action Items – Agenda item added by Brian Bell December 2017

Financial treatment of surplus/end of year funds discussion (**New Item**)

Before, end of year surplus money went into the general fund. Brian posed the question to the board, should we rather keep the money with the sport that raised the funds?

Many board members want to see the year-end financials first before deciding. Jon Norman agreed, but asked what about sports with less funding at the end of the year, and revenue sharing? He also asked does funding from other sources go into the general fund by any other means? Answer was yes. \$7 from every registration, as well as the Wenger Feeds annual payment. Greg Laszakovits to follow up with Mike Destefano on past protocols.

Open - Carried forward on 12/10/2017.

New and Ongoing business:

1. Fundraising and sponsorship - Update – Heidi Vognetz

- Heidi indicated that soccer's fall fundraiser was complete. The R&K fundraiser yielded a profit of \$5,100. There are some remaining \$50 opt-out fees yet to collect.
- Heidi brought a thank you card from a parent who turned it in with their fundraiser envelope, thanking us for what we do for the kids.
- There is a soccer scarf fundraiser underway. Jon Norman offered Heidi to sell the scarfs @ Funk Brewery on Thursday, 12/14.
- Brian mentioned that he wants to speak to Heidi on the Dick's Sporting Goods relationship and more sponsors for U6/U8. Along those lines, RAA needs to reconcile the companies on the uniform shirts with sponsorship, for accuracy.
- Wendi again brought up "outgrown sale" suggestion, to see if Heidi wanted to work on this.

2. Softball – Update – Wendi Grinell

- Wendi said that it is her goal to bring up registration for softball in December, earlier than past years, in order to have things in place in time for the league's requirement's deadlines and to form teams earlier. There have been some delays in accomplishing this.
- Softball is having some trouble filling 6U teams, and they are considering to perhaps try to conduct it as a clinic –"into to softball", as opposed to having a team. This thought is just up in the air at the moment.
- Wendi is going to organize a "demo day" at a local indoor facility, in order for participants to try out equipment and purchase at a discount.
- There also some softball clinics scheduled to occur at Elizabethtown college, in the near future.

3. Boys Lacrosse – Update – Don Hall

- Don Hall was not in attendance at this meeting. There was no update provided.

4. Soccer – Update – Brian Bell.

- Brian updated that soccer is now through the personnel transition.
- Rob Grinell has assumed the role of Elizabethtown United VP.

- Elizabethtown United has several teams that have registered for the winter Futsal league at the Nook. The league was able to negotiate a discount for the cost of participation, as a group.
- Brian conducted an end of year coaches meeting recently. This was a good forum at the end of the season for coach feedback.
- Brian has been reading the USA Soccer youth soccer manual to educate himself on future approaches with E-town soccer, and is working with Jess Conrad and Dave Hershey.
- Brian is looking to get with ECCC and other local organizations to bolster the U6 sign up numbers.
- Finally, Brian mentioned perhaps using evaluations versus tryouts for the spring soccer season.

5. Volleyball - Richard Knowlton

News/updates – No update. Rick was not in attendance in the meeting.

6. Rugby – Kenny Burke/Jo Hershey

News/updates – New commissioner elected – Jon “Norm” Norman:

- Rugby is currently in its off-season.
- Rugby is looking to increase recruitment at the high school level.
- Also looking to increase fundraising.
- Rugby will be realigning league to mesh with the breaks in schools separate the grades/ages; IE: 5th/6th grade team, 7th/8th grade team. Elizabethtown will run the 5th/6th grade team and Hempfield will run the 7th/8th grade team.
- Rugby talked about moving their game locations from Rheems to a location near east high.
- Rugby will be attending a GEARS meeting in February to request field usage for home games.
- Rugby will be conducting their tournament again this year in July.
- For high school and middle school, Jan/Feb timeframe will be the start of inside practices.

7. Compliance/Risk Management – Paula Burke

News/Updates – No update

8. Facility/Field Maintenance – Update.

- Mike Hamilton will be at the meeting this coming week for softball, 12/12/17, with West Donegal Township.
- All fields have been winterized.

9. Field Usage – Update –

- Rugby is looking to use move and use a different field near east high.
- Fairview field is not for use any longer.

- There will be new fields available in 2019 at route 743 and Beverly Road intersection; baseball fields and one miscellaneous field.

10. Miscellaneous –

- **Greg Laszakovits asked do we want to have an event as a ‘thank you’ for all RAA volunteers, IE: a community event?**
 - **Suggestion were possibly a banquet with awards, etc...**
 - **It was then suggested that perhaps a less formal, more family friendly event would be more appropriate, under a tent, where kids could play, have a bar-b-q meal, where RAA can extend a ‘thank you’ to volunteers, board members, etc.... It was mentioned that we could even conduct a fundraiser to cover cost of it.**

2018 scheduled RAA Board Meetings:

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

Time: 7pm Location: Funk Brewery, Elizabethtown.

Dates: Sunday, 11 February 2018

Sunday, 8 April 2018

Sunday, 10 June 2018

Sunday, 12 August 2018

Sunday, 14 October 2017 (Board Nominations)

Sunday, 9 December 2017 (Board Elections)

Meeting adjournment: Jo Hershey made the motion to adjourn the meeting and was 2nd by Wendi Grinell. Greg Laszakovits brought the meeting to an official close at 8:41 pm.