

Rheems Athletic Association  
Board Meeting - February 10th, 2014 - Meeting Minutes  
Hope Community Church, Mount Joy, PA

President Mike De Stefano called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM with the following board members in attendance:

Sean Burton (vice-president), Joe Carter (soccer co-commissioner), Mike Hamilton (softball co-commissioner), Mark Weissend (lacrosse commissioner), Sarah Hoffman (fundraising commissioner), Brian Heffleger (softball co-commissioner), Heather Hassinger (treasurer) and Brian Bell (secretary).

Bob Meuser (website administrator - non-board member) was also in attendance.

Rick Knowlton (volleyball commissioner) arrived at 7:10.

Craig Hummer (soccer co-commissioner) was not in attendance.

Mike De Stefano asked to move next month's meeting to March 9, 2014 at 7:00 at Babbo's Italian Grill. There were no objections from the board.

- Special business/guests – Roger Garber (Conoy softball commissioner)
- Prior meeting minutes review and approval

Mike De Stefano asked if there were any objections to the January's meeting minutes. No one indicated any. **Brian Heffleger made a motion to approve the meeting minutes which was seconded by Sarah Hoffman. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously by the board.**

Mike De Stefano asked if there were any objections to the January's emergency board meeting minutes. No one indicated any. **Brian Heffleger made a motion to approve the meeting minutes which was seconded by Sarah Hoffman. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously by the board.**

- Finances – Heather Hassinger

January Finances -

Heather Hassinger provided an overview of the January finances and indicated specific information could be provided in the emailed financial statements. Along with the financial statements, a check register will also be sent out each month. Heather indicated that she made a transfer from PayPal. Heather stated that the fees for administration are still at \$5 and it will not be enough to cover administration costs.

Brian Heffleger would like to close out the bank account for EGSA and he will need to get in touch with Heather. Heather indicated the money could be brought into softball as other income or deferred income. Roger Barber indicated he wasn't sure what amount Conoy would bring into softball. Mike De Stefano suggested Roger should talk with Conoy about funds for softball. Brian Heffleger indicated that Conoy is a one year trial for softball and there were previous discussions with Conoy about bringing in money for softball. Heather indicated and the board confirmed that any money brought in will stay with softball.

Bob Meuser indicated that he will be sending some check requests to Heather regarding the website administration and hosting.

- Previous business - Action Items - April
  1. Sarah to contact Wenger Feeds in August for fall donations. **Open** *Craig indicated that Sarah was waiting until closer to 2014 to ask for next year's donations. Update: Craig, Sarah, and Geoff Finch will approach Wenger about donations for next year before next board meeting. Sarah indicated that she will need to talk to Craig about the length of the sponsorship contract and will then approach Wenger Feeds.*
- Previous business - Action Items – January
  1. Brian Bell to bring keys to next month's meeting. **Closed**
  2. Brian Heffleger to coordinate locks with Joe Carter and Joe will contact locksmith. **Open** *Brian Heffleger indicated he still needs to figure out what to do with the softball equipment.*
  3. Craig Hummer to contact the high school about borrowing a mound. **Open** *Craig not present at February meeting. Update to be provided at the February meeting.*
- New and Ongoing business
  1. Fundraising and sponsorship - Sarah Hoffman
    - Fundraising Committee - Sarah Hoffman indicated that all invoices (10) for sponsorships have been sent out. Sarah indicated that Rheem's AA received 4 commitments for 2 year sponsorships and that she was waiting to hear from the remainder. Sarah indicated that some of the sponsors were asking about the fields and what sports were played on the fields. All of the Rheem's complex field will be utilized for softball.
    - Sarah indicated that she will coordinate with softball and soccer for the R&K sub fundraiser in the spring.
    - Mark Weissand indicated that May 17th is a "play date" for lacrosse and will be held at Rheems. Mark indicated this will be a lacrosse fundraiser setting up concession stands. There was a discussion about Rheems AA setting up the concessions or providing an outside vender. No decision was made.

Mike De Stefano indicated there should be a fundraising meeting soon. Sarah indicated she will send out an email with a date before the next board meeting.

**Action Item #1: Sarah to send out email for fundraising meeting.**

2. Softball - Mike Hamilton/Brian Heffleger

- News/updates - Mike Hamilton and Brian Heffleger indicated there are about 136 girls signed up for softball. They provided the number of girls for each age group. Brian Heffleger indicated they are running into conflicts with cheerleading and soccer. Brian Heffleger indicated the softball practices start at the end of March and games start on April 22nd. Brian Heffleger stated the drop dead date to add teams to the Donegal/Rheems league is February 15th.

Mike Hamilton indicated Elizabethtown boys club was given a truck load of baseball equipment. Brian Heffleger indicated that next Saturday will be equipment day for softball and that they have enough equipment for all the age groups with the exception of 6U and 8U.

Brian Heffleger indicated the following:

- He is talking with Hempfield to set up 6U games to allow the girls to play against other groups outside of just Rheems..
- There has been a good response for coaches at the 6U and 8U levels.
- Rheems AA will be hosting the Donegal/Rheems league playoffs.
- All softball teams will be put at the A level.
- Donegal/Rheems league is more competitive than the Lanco league.
- There may be games between the Donegal/Rheems league and the Lanco league.

Roger Barber indicated there are no further updates or news from Conoy. Roger indicated the next Conoy board meeting is to be held on February 11, 2014.

3. Lacrosse - Mark Weissend

- News/updates - Mark provided the following updates:
  - Practice started in the open gym in the high school.
  - There is a team at each age level.
  - Discussed equipment and amount charged for equipment and provided.
  - Indicated other teams charge a significantly higher fee to play but those fees include equipment.
  - Indicated the 4 teams in winter league are doing well.
  - Indicated the tournament team that went to Binghamton didn't win any games played well against club level teams.
  - Indicated that the K-2nd level kids will need to share the turf field on Sunday with soccer. Mark will coordinate with soccer commissioners.

4. Soccer - Joe Carter/Craig Hummer

- News/updates - Joe Carter provided the following update:

- Registrations are still coming in and there are about 400 kids for spring.
- The U8 girls' numbers look good.
- The signs for registration haven't been placed due to the weather.
- Two rounds of flyers have been distributed to the schools.
- There has been positive feedback from the name change for soccer to Elizabethtown United.
- Joe and Craig are looking to get the high school more involved with the soccer program.
- Soccer received a \$400 grant from EPYSA. Joe and Craig are filling out paperwork for another grant from EPYSA for \$7,000. the grant would be used for facility and field improvements including a new shed at Rheems fields.

5. Volleyball - Richard Knowlton

- News/updates - Rick Knowlton indicated that registration is open for volleyball. Volleyball's fundraiser is in two weeks and is a coaching clinic held at Mount Calvary. Penn State University woman's volleyball coaches will run the clinic with a cost of \$40 per person with \$15 going to Rheem's for any Rheem's referrals.

6. Facility/Field Maintenance

Joe Carter indicated that soccer will be doing a lot of field work once the weather clears. Joe indicated that Corey Dehmey organizes the soccer field maintenance. Joe questioned if Corey should come to the meetings to provide updates to the board. **Mike De Stefano stated he should be invited.**

Mike Hamilton indicated that he was looking into Tomlinson Bomberger and another company for softball field maintenance.

There will be a meeting with West Donegal Township on February 19, 2014 to coordinate the field repair and to see if the Township can help out with the fields.

7. 501(c)3 Filing/ by laws - Mike De Stefano

- On hold. Mike will start working on the annual 990 tax return in March.

8. Long Term Strategic Planning - On hold.

9. Field Usage - Brian Heffleger indicated that an adult softball league needs help with fields. The consensus of the board was that if the fields are not in use by Rheems AA, the fields should be made available to others in the community to use, including the adult league.

Heather asked if there was a plan for reopening the snack stand. Brian Heffleger indicated there was not a plan at the moment. It was decided to have a rough plan for the next board meeting. Brian Heffleger indicated he will reach out to the softball parents to help out with the snack stand.

Mike Hamilton indicated that Rick Martin from Elizabethtown Boys Club discussed snack stand stocking. Rick indicated the EBC had accounts with a few local companies to keep the EBC snack stand stocked.

10. Rebranding of Rheems - Mike De Stefano indicated the rebranding of individual sports started with soccer and softball. Soccer was rebranded as Elizabethtown United. Mark Weissand indicated lacrosse will be moving to a name that will include Elizabethtown in it as well. Mike De Stefano indicated Rheems AA will continue to exist as the legal entity that houses all the sports/activities. Joe Carter indicated the majority of the name switch will occur next fall for soccer.

Bob Meuser brought up the following items:

- The meeting minutes (pdf) can start being posted to the website starting with this month.
- Would like to add board member pictures to the website. Mike De Stefano indicated he would also like a group shot.
- The website can have YouTube and Facebook links.
- Sports can have Facebook pages.
- All teams are generally set up and Bob can associate team name to the coach.
- Schedules for teams can be built into the system. Schedules can either be imported or exported, but it's better to work within the system.
- The website is getting hits with news updates.
- The website can do volunteering schedule online.
- The website can also do polling.

Mike De Stefano indicated the following:

- Provide a job description for treasurer along with an advertisement for open position to be posted to the website.
- Lacrosse and Volleyball commissioners description also be included.
- Send out announcement about positions and include on every sports page.
- All commissioner positions in each sport should have a position description that summarizes the roles and responsibilities that can serve as a guide to people interested in the position
- Would like a bio for board members and coaches.
- A request was made that if there are any events the commissioners feel they would like to have the president or vice-president attend to please notify them in advance to allow for the best chance to attend as many events as possible.
- Joe Carter to follow up with Todd Macfarlane on box of old Rheems information that he had in his possession.

Mike De Stefano made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Joe Carter. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00.

Next meeting is Sunday, March 9 at 7:00 PM at Babbo's Italian Grill.