

RAS Board Meeting Minutes

15 September 2022

Attendance: Thomas Narten, Caroline Morgan, Matt DeGroot, Magnus Hedemark, Shelly DeCorte, Chris Smith

Notes Produced by: Caroline Morgan and Matt DeGroot.

1. Meeting Started at 7:54 pm.

1. Board Meeting Minutes

- a. Meeting minutes have not been published at all this year. Discussion of who will take this on going forward.
- b. Highlighted the importance of communicating board actions to community.
- c. Goal to publish minutes "highlights" in newsletter.
- d. Minutes is a club secretary function; for this month, Matt will take notes and Thomas/Caroline will collaborate to format into more formal minutes and send for approval.

2. Upcoming Events

- a. Thursday Oct 6: talk via zoom; we will not meet at Vet School
- b. Sunday Oct 9: Fall Auction at Ramada Inn; 9AM open, 10AM begins
- c. Thursday Oct 16: Social hour zoom call
- d. External:
 - i. Sept 23-25: Keystone Clash, Morganton PA
 - ii. Sept 30-Oct 1: AGA, Chicago
 - iii. Oct 7-9: Catfish Convention, Hernden, VA

3. Reefsmart Report

- a. RAS reimbursed Grace \$820 for table rentals
- b. Total Revenue: \$725 plus 2 membership renewals
- c. Chris has an itemized amazon invoice for approximately \$576 for kids' section expenditures. He will send this list of 30+ items to Thomas for record keeping to finalize accounting for ReefSmart.

4. December Holiday Party Planning

- a. Prior to board meeting, Matt sent a proposal for this year's meeting. Proposal points included:
 - i. Date and Time: Thursday, December 1st, 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm
 - ii. Meeting will be held in the (festively decorated) vet school auditorium, club will provide drinks and supplies and refreshments will be a cookies/desserts theme with members bringing in desserts to share potluck-style.
 - iii. Election of 2023 board will be held via paper ballots.

- iv. Trivia game will be held with prizes (TBD; ideas included gift cards to Amazon, Wet Spot, etc).
 - 1. Online app, possibly Kahoot or similar, will be used for participation and scoring.
 - 2. Board members will collaborate to write a list of trivia questions. Caroline will try to find her list from a trivia game she did for one of the earlier social hours for inspiration.
 - v. Silent auction
 - 1. Limit to 15(?) curated items
 - 2. Opens at start of event, closes at the same time as elections
 - vi. BAP award presentation will be during one of the breaks between trivia rounds.
 - vii. Proposed budget: approx. \$300 for trivia prizes, decorations, drinks, and supplies.
- b. Unanimous vote of confidence for Matt to proceed with planning.
 - c. Discussion of whether to do a full dinner rather than just the desserts. Board ultimately decided against this, citing logistical complexities of trying to have dinner in the auditorium as well as potential covid concerns.
5. Upcoming Monthly Regular Meeting
- a. Thursday, October 6 at 7:30 pm on Zoom.
 - b. Speaker will be Paul Loiselle on Dwarf Cichlids.
 - c. Will not have an auction; no need for one with Oct. 9 auction happening 3 days later.
 - d. We will do door prizes during the zoom call, and have them at the auction for winners to pick up.
6. Fall Auction
- a. Sunday, Oct 9 - opens 9:00 am, begins 10:00 am at Ramada Inn.
 - b. Richard Mullinax is coordinating volunteers. There will be a zoom call on October 5 at 7:00 pm to train volunteers before the auction itself. Richard has created a google doc outlining auction roles and responsibilities, which was updated and finalized during this board meeting discussion.
 - c. Goal set to have 2 people at minimum who are capable of each volunteer role.
 - d. Board decides not to take driver's licenses from people at this auction.
 - e. There will not be a raffle at this auction. Discussed approaching vendors (WetSpot, Florida Aquatic Nursery) for future large auctions/workshops/events.
 - f. We will use MyGroupAuctions. Chris created the event for this auction in MGA.
7. Review of Previous Monthly Meeting
- a. September 10 (Saturday) meeting at Vet School; BAP presentation.
 - b. Approx. 35 in attendance.
 - c. Noted that parking/traffic appeared to be a non-issue, which we are grateful for.
 - d. Discussed photos being added in MGA slideshow. Some were stock images rather than photos of the items themselves. Good to have photos, but hoping for some way to indicate whether they were stock images for future slideshows.

- e. Caroline created a list of action items for a smoother sign-in and auction process for future meetings. She expressed desire to take over the sign-in process completely, for simplicity's sake and to allow Chris, Jamye, and Thomas to focus on setting up auction items and speaker presentations.
 - i. Need to make sure every auction bidder is in the system. Caroline aims to use the member list spreadsheet electronically to accomplish this, along with check-in and attendance, as a single step.
 - ii. Check-in person will also give out door prize tickets, lanyards, and handle new registrations.
 - 1. Caroline requested regular name tag stickers, rather than lanyards, for guests and new members who don't have lanyards printed yet. Making temp lanyards on-the-fly takes too long and creates too many extra steps.
 - f. Discussion of future meetings:
 - i. Board aims to follow a similar schedule in 2023 with 3 saturday meetings.
 - ii. Discussed picking a date for 2023 workshop. Aiming for late February/early March. Will need to make sure date coordinates with speaker and hotel availability, and does not conflict with ACC tournament.
8. September Auction Report:
- a. Total Revenue: \$279
 - b. RAS (split + donation): \$165
 - c. Splits (to sellers): \$114
 - d. Notes: Need to make sure there is some way to indicate which auction item submissions are BAP entries. Brought up that MGA software can't export to a spreadsheet, which is less than ideal.
9. Treasurer Report:
- a. Thomas and Chris attested that accounts looked good with no unusual transactions.
 - b. Chris reviewed auction reports and account balances.
10. Review of Previous Social Hour
- a. Shelly hosted, offered to help people register on MGA, no one took her up on this.
 - b. Noted that new non-members joined the call. Social hours seem to be a common way for new folks to check out the club before becoming members.
11. Group Buy Report
- a. No group buys are currently in the works. Previous buys need to be closed out and documented, Chris will work on this.

Meeting Adjourns 10:00 pm