

RAS Board Meeting, Thursday Oct 21, 2021

Present: Jamye Carr (JC), Michael Maieli (M2), Caroline Morgan (CM), Thomas Narten (TN), Maggie Poole (MP), Chris Smith (CS), Curtis Smith (GCS)

Regrets: none.

Minutes produced by: Thomas Narten

Meeting length: 1H32 min

Topic: Upcoming dates. Not much planned. Nov talk will Be Gerald Pottern. December BAP awards. Will reach out to Paul Parks to confirm plans.

Other events. JRAS has tailgate this weekend. Maggie is going. Southeast Aquatic Expo (in SC) the following weekend. Diana is going. PVAS had an auction a few weeks ago. We did get a report that one speaker at the Keystone Clash (Sept, 2021) contracted Covid during that trip.

Topic: Fish talk/social hour. Caroline will restart Fish Talk/Social hour. Would have done it already but having laptop issues (will be resolved soon). One can join a zoom call with phone, but running a call is a bit more difficult on phone.

Topic: New membership renewal. New fee structure is up on the web site. Folk renewing now (last 3 months of 2021) pay \$20 and become members for remainder of 2021 and all of 2022.

Topic: Approval of October minutes. Passed. 6 Yes, Maggie abstains (wasn't at the October meeting).

Topic: Review of previous meeting. TN: Jamye spoke on bringing younger generation into the hobby. Good talk. Attendance not as good as I would have hoped (I counted 13 at one point, JC thought it may have reached 20, but for some reason I can't get the total attendance count off of zoom like I usually can). Several possible reasons. On second Thursday rather than normal first Thursday of month. Didn't do auction or door prizes. JC questions whether Zoom auctions are worth the trouble generally. Low participation. Lot of items didn't sell, etc. Would like to do one more though this year. Longer discussion about how to improve, etc. We cover some of same discussion points that have been covered previously. E.g., limit BAP items to broaden participation? What is upper bound on number of items that can be handled during zoom? (JC suggests 30.)

Takeaway: Do one more auction. Would rather do auction than not. We just need to figure out how to do it. JC: people need to sign up first. Can't just drop something in 15 minutes before. Maybe require submissions no later 24H in advance. General agreement.

Topic: Group buys. Brandon did Jehmco buy. We may not have to reimburse him, as discount seemed to be greater than shipping cost. But need to do verify via final accounting. 11 participants, total order roughly \$1k. We also had WetSpot buy. CS: Sept 21. Went off without a hitch. Had RAS pay the shipping cost directly to wet spot. No DOA. No problems. Ran it out of my garage. 11 or 12 participants. Total was around \$1500. Cost was more than in past. \$40 shipping doesn't include insurance, which they strongly encourage. Adds another \$30. Looking to do next one possibly in January/February. Weather will be winter/colder, so higher probability of issues.

Topic: Treasury report: Chris: Almost no change since last report. No activity.

Topic: Secretary roles/duties. M2: Most important: maintain records of the club and newsletter. Had some discussion with Shelley about newsletter. Newsletters have been done monthly on Michael's watch. In past, they were much more uneven. M2 put out more newsletters than all other editors combined! What software used for newsletter? MS Word. What email for distribution? Just uses yahoo to internal list.

TN: think we should send out a note to community outlining roles and asking for volunteers.

Insurance stuff. Board/Club has insurance in case something happens during official club activity. Need to update contact. Can't be PO box, has to be proper address (Chris volunteers). Payment due in December. Bradsher & Bunn insurance agency.

PO Box. Physical location in Raleigh at corner of 6 Forks and Old Wake Forest Rd. TN: Post Office now allows you to sign up and get emails showing images of mail that will be put in your mailbox. That way you have a way of knowing what is in the box without physically going there. This could allow us to keep tabs on what is there without going every week. There are 2 mailbox keys. M2 has one, TN has the other. Chris volunteers to be the official contact for the PO Box.

Some physical assets. M2 will get together with TN to transfer them. Includes some AV stuff (big speakers), locker with stuff in it (video tapes, hard copy stuff), etc. Should fit in a Van.

Topic: Election planning. What are people's plans for next year? TN: I am willing to continue. JC: happy to continue as VP, but don't want to spend a lot of time on elections. Last year we spent a bunch of time, then just had a slate to ratify. M2: historically, we've had challenges finding enough volunteers to fill all slots. Problem hasn't been having too many volunteers. Chris: I am willing to continue as treasurer. Maggie: not re-upping. Caroline: yes, and expect to be able to do more next year. Curtis: yes. So it looks like we have 2 open slots. Secretary and one at-large position.

Meeting ends @ 1H32min