



## Minutes – February 2013

The regular meeting of the ABA was held on Wednesday, Feb.13, 2013 at the Gilman Museum and was opened at 6:30 P.M. by Chair Chris Racine. Other officers present were: Roger Sample (Vice-Chair), Carolyn Schaeffner (Treasurer), Leslie Rentel (Secretary), and Ashley Campo (Director), (as a late arrival.) There were 5 other members present. There were no minutes available to be read from last month's meeting.

### Chair's Report-

Chris thanked last year's E-board for their service and introduced new E-board. She expressed ideas for improving ABA membership and attendance for the overall benefit of the town by making the meetings shorter and limiting over enthusiastic debates.

### Treasurer's Report-

The treasurer's report was read and accepted along with ideas to improve future reports. A missing check for payment to Bob Cruz for the web site was cancelled and reissued. All OK with him. Tax status of ABA is presently in order. More information next month.

### Old Business-

Old E-board was thanked for their efforts at the Citizen of the Year event. The event was very well attended and a great success. A thank you card from Christine Sanborn was read.

### New business-

ABA operating budget for 2013 was discussed. Motion to accept by Reuben. Motion passed.

A reminder was made that event budgets need to be preapproved by the membership, as per the by-laws.

Ideas for future fund raisers discussed were: Jelly bean counting contest at Easter, something during tree light up night, a raffle at the parade, bake sales at town events, a spring dance (possibly at J.P. China's again), and a dodge ball tournament.

In the past, ABA sticker or plaques have not been consistently given to new members. This needs more careful monitoring.

Reuben pointed out that past Chairs had not consistently received thank you certificates. A motion by Leslie to investigate and correct. After discussion, motion passed.

### Ice Out –

Ad to newspaper with deadline of March 8, 2013. Ashley will send out news blast requesting donations from members for prize basket. Carolyn will make forms. Reuben donated 2- 20 lb. propane refills for prize basket. A motion made by Chris and approved that the ABA donate up to \$50.00 for basket if donations fall short.

### High school scholarship-

Letter from school was read requesting our continued scholarship. Reuben made a motion to move scholarship towards local community colleges or vocational schools. He offered to chair committee to figure out how to do this. Carolyn will assist in writing the new criteria for application. Timing of payment to student and what happens if student does not request second payment was discussed. Dan requested that an increase in amount be looked into. Rewritten scholarship criteria to be discussed and voted on next month.

### Membership-

Dues to remain at \$50.00. Changes to application form: request for earmarked additional donations, an informational packet, web site info (including a contact link). and membership incentives of a reimbursement of 20% towards following year's membership for participation in events. Loss of revenue could be offset by including bingo type punch cards (which would include members on card) into membership packet.

### Meetings-

General membership meetings to continue monthly, every third meeting to be a pot luck with possible different locations with a shortened agenda. Different types of raffles to be offered at meetings. If a quorum is not present then the meeting will be considered an executive board meeting. It was pointed out that more focus and outgoing information to members was needed to encourage participation and enthusiasm. All ABA correspondence to include: Be Local, Buy Local, Support Local at bottom of page.

### Winter Carnival-

Reuben has offered ice cleats at cost to be sold at event. 16 advertising banners have been sold so far. There has been no response to pond hockey but rink will be made available. Paul voiced a concern to the close proximity of rink to airport and offered to assist with putting up snow fence. All snow fence to be put up Saturday. Sleigh ride and helicopter companies still need to verify ice conditions and placement of their events. Committee to meet at bay Thursday (at 2PM) to tentatively finalize event placement. Ice will be marked as reserved where needed. Reuben will provide 2 tents and 7 tables. Extra volunteers are scheduled to arrive at event at 9:30 A.M.

Robert Butler will be invited to next meeting for serious discussion of his proposal for a property improvement award.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Leslie Rentel-Secretary