

Joint RPA Board and ROPEX Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 27, 2011

RPA Business

Tom presented a general breakdown of our prior year's budget. Costs for our 2011-12 season will be in line with those figures.

A brief discussion about the joint ROPEX-NTSS 2013 show took place. The show combines the 100th anniversary show of the RPA with that of the National Topical Stamp Show of the American Topical Association. The ATA has agreed to pay 1/3 of our facility and table/chair rental costs, and 1/2 of our other expenses. A formal document will be drawn up by Tom and presented to the ATA at their request for review by the ATA Board.

We discussed the upcoming meeting season and the need for programs. Members are interested in more live presentation as well as more opportunities to buy/sell/trade, so these will be worked into the season's schedule. We need to ask the membership if they are interested in meeting twice in January and February rather than just once, a practice that began a few years ago because of light attendance during those months.

The search for an alternate meeting site to meet all of our needs continues. Our current room rental fee has gone up \$1 per meeting to \$37 per 2 hour meeting. Storage fees remain at \$30 per month.

We will be getting things ready for a sale of some club library books. The current list of library holdings and potential list of those available for sale with prices is now on the RPA web site. A club librarian needs to be appointed to head this initiative.

It is also possible to begin selling some of the philatelic donations we have received over the past few years. Under IRS 501(c)3 laws, only items held for 3 years or longer may be sold. These will be processed into lots and offered at an upcoming club auction.

The Board agreed to reimburse Tom for web server costs in hosting the RPA web site. This is approximately \$50 per year.

It appears that liability insurance for our club frames and club library, our primary assets, has lapsed several years. Tom will look into contacting Hugh Wood about current costs for this. Our regular liability insurance has remained intact. A yearly policy copy is sent to Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church at their request as proof of coverage with them listed as an insured.

The club is in need of additional volunteers in a number of positions. At the top of the list is a membership chairman to handle yearly dues and contact those in arrears in a timely fashion. Several candidates were discussed.

The only member eligible for attaining life membership in 2012 is Jim Sands.

The 2011-12 RPA Banquet has been scheduled for Thursday, March 8, 2012. Rick and Ray will be in charge of the event.

ROPEX Business

The selection of a 2012 chairman was tabled until the next meeting.

A discussion of the ROPEX 2011 budget and results took place lead by Dave Robinson. ROPEX 2011 made a profit of \$712, about the same total as our admission fee brought in. We anticipate our 2012 budget to be roughly the same, but will continue to pare expenses when possible.

It has been roughly 7 years since dealer table fees have been raised. As a way to ensure profitability in upcoming years to cover our ever-growing yearly expenses, it was agreed to raise the table fees roughly 15% across the board. A proviso was included in the 2012 ROPEX contract available for dealers at the 2011 show advising dealers of the potential increase. These figures were worked into the post-2011 ROPEX 2012 contract version and available online. This contract version also includes a sign-up for the 2013 show and will be distribute to potential dealers at Stampshow in Columbus in August.

The fee from Becker Movers was the same as the prior year, \$400, despite fewer miles traveled to pickup, deliver and bring them to their new resting place. It was confirmed later that this was indeed a flat fee charge no matter what the mileage covered by Becker.

The 2012 ROPEX theme was briefly discussed, with subjects including the 100th anniversaries of the Founding of the Girl Scouts and sinking of the Titanic agreed to. We will explore a third option in the upcoming months.

We discussed the joint 2013 RPA-ATA show in more detail. The ATA may be interested in renting one or two rooms on Thursday for their Board meeting, and if so, will pick up that expense on their own. Initial dealer table requirements for the ATA is 15, which when added to the usual RPA's requirements would total 45. A proposed layout covering these was presented and deemed workable. The Board approved the purchase of 100 promotional buttons for approximately \$53 to be worn by RPA members at upcoming stamp shows through 2013 to advertise the show. Approximately 30 were requested by the ATA for their use and will be delivered to them at Stampshow.

We are in need to form a ROPEX Frame Committee to look into the possible replacement of frame storage boxes, purchase new clips to handle all 250 frames as needed, purchase new plexiglass as necessary and create a cleaning crew to wash all frames before or during ROPEX 2012 set up. We have 188 clips on hand now. These may be purchased for \$4.70 each by contacting: Jeff Vandeyacht, Exhibits And More, 7843 Goguen Drive, Liverpool, NY 13090 315-652-0383 ext. 230 jeff@exhibitsandmore.com