



# Secretary's Office

Travis Barao



## New column to update members on Board meetings

The By-laws of the Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association provides that the Board of Directors is the "governing body of the Association" meets to conduct the routine business of the Association. The By-laws also directs that the Board must report on each meeting held and business conducted.

The RISAA Board meets monthly and always has a full agenda of business. Then, at each RISAA Quarterly Meeting, a report is given to the members present. But, only a few members ever attend the business segment of the Quarterly Meeting and only stay for the night's seminar. Those meetings take place every March, June, September and December.

We decided to try this new segment of our monthly news magazine, guessing that even though members may not be present at the Quarterly Business Meeting, they are still interested in the other business of RISAA.

Let us know what you think. If you like (or dislike) this idea, just send an email to Board@risaa.org so we know how this is being received.

It is important to note that not all business conducted by the Board will be reported here. Often there are issues that deal with an individual member and that member's privacy will always be protected. Also, some Board discussions that do not result in any action won't be printed.

### Board of Directors Meeting, September 19, 2017

- Voted to renew our membership in the **American Sportfishing Association** at \$500.
- Discussed sponsoring a **2018 Southern New England Recreational Fishing Symposium**. Volunteering to plan the event is **Richard Hittinger, David Monti** and **Peter Jenkins**.
- A lot of time was spent reviewing the **Menhaden Addendum 3** for the ASMFC hearing coming up. Board members discussed every option in trying to select what would best serve recreational anglers of our area and what was best for the menhaden stock. **Steve Medeiros** was directed to send these options to the membership via email and urge them to attend the public hearing or send in comments direct to ASMFC.
- Friends of **Salter Grove, Warwick** had approached the Board asking for assistance in getting the access to the wall repaired. Salter Grove Park is a public access which is perfect for shore fishing on the Providence River since it has a very long seawall, but the walkway out to the wall was damaged back after Hurricane Sandy and at high tide it is impassible. Steve went to the wall to examine the situation and what was needed. He told the Board it was a great fishing area, but that just days before RIDEM signed a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) to pay for the repairs and the City of Warwick will do the work.

- Steve said that the new **Goddard Park boat launch** facility would be a great new **Adopt-A-Ramp** for us. He spoke to DEM Associate Director **Larry Mouradjian** who agreed. Steve also noted that two members, **Gary Pershau** and **Richard Reich**, have volunteered to make visits to the ramp to check on conditions, especially during the winter when Goddard Park's summer staff are gone. The Board agreed to enter into a MOU with RIDEM and approved \$100 to pay for signage.

### Board of Directors Meeting, October 24, 2017

- We received invitation to participate in the **Providence Boat Show**, February 2-4, 2017. Approved.
- Approved payment of \$288/year for our **SurveyMonkey** account. This is the online survey that we use for members to sign up to volunteer for Fishing Show, Kids Fishing Day, member surveys, and more.
- Confirmed that the fee for tickets at the **Annual Banquet**, January 28, 2018, will again be sold at \$25/person. Actual cost is \$35/person. Board approved paying the overage as a members' benefit.
- Approved payment of \$21 to purchase the internet domain of **www.RIFishPlate.com** which is what we will use for the public to register to purchase the new "Rhode Island Recreation Fishing" license plates that will soon be ready to advertise. Steve is currently working with RI DMV to get the plates created.
- **Legislative Committee** requested a rule approved that would apply to affiliate clubs and their delegates to the committee. Approved that "**Affiliate clubs can send multiple delegates** to Legislative Committee meetings, but there will be only one (1) vote allowed per club."
- Approved that the **Merchandise Committee chair** be allowed reimbursement for auto mileage incurred doing the club's business. The chair uses his own vehicle to pick up merchandise from embroidering company (almost weekly), trips to post office, etc. He will keep a mileage log and be reimbursed at the end of each year.
- Voted to continue our meeting relationship with the **West Warwick Elks** into 2018.
- Approved all 2018 monthly meeting dates: January 29, February 26, March 26, April 30, May 21, June 25, July 30, August 27, September 24, October 29, November 26, December 17.
- Discussed the **liability** issues when a RISAA event takes members out of state (or country). Currently all sanctioned RISAA events, including committee events, such as fly fishing trips, are covered under our insurance policy. But what if a committee arranged a trip out of state? The Board directed Steve to check with the insurance company and with our attorney.