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**UTICA ROADRUNNERS BUSINESS MEETING**

Monday, November 8, 2021

Board Attendance: Rebecca Aceto, Jen Bacheldor, Melissa Barlett, Dani Bliss, Rocco Fernalld, Alex Gonzalez, Tim Kane, Jim Mott, Andrew Rubino, Sharon Scala, Sybil Johnson, Rick Gloo

Membership Attendance (including Board): 25

Meeting called to order at 6:31

Motion to accept minutes of last meeting: Sharon, Andrew 2nd, approved

Report from President, Jim Mott

* We’ve accomplished a lot this year! Including figuring out COVID restrictions and taking on new runs, DEI work, great speakers, a return of Happy Hours, relationships with new folks in the area, and strengthening old ones.
* Excited for new things in 2022, including a New Year’s run, a new trailer, and much more.
* Thanks to Tim, Rocco, and Jeanine for serving. Looking forward to having new members on the Board!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

* Activities & Events –Andrew Rubino
  + Races - Upcoming
    - Run 2 End World Hunger - Rocco Fernalld
      * Thursday, November 25th
      * We are set with date, time and RunSignup page.
      * Rocco is working with Michelle and getting promotion done
      * Morning of registration 8-8:45, get started right about 9am
      * New logo from Joe ay CNY Racing
      * Road will be closed to start the race, but not at the end
  + Races - Completed for 2021
    - Four Race Challenge
      * Plans for 2022 will begin in January.
      * Jim is working on a better way to add these folks in RunSignUp to the right races more easily
    - Summer Sizzle - Jim Mott
      * Proctor Park-Sunday, June 19, 2022
      * USTAF is still questionable
    - Save Our Switchbacks - Sharon Scala
      * Will be one of the first two Sundays in April
      * Then Sharon will contact the Zoo
    - 9/11 Never Forget Run/Walk 5k - Phil Trzcinski/Alex Gonzalez
      * August 21, 2022
      * We received a Thank You note for the first one that we did from the Foundation!
    - Falling Leaves - Mike Brych
      * We did make a profit this year! Even with fewer participants and other factors
    - Skeleton Run - Rick Gloo
      * Congratulations to Rick and the Skeleton Crew.
      * The event was a great success and people liked being back at Deerfield Town Park, even though there was a lot of mud
        + 100 finishers
      * Pumpkin Junction is interested in having an event there next year, perhaps an Octoberfest or something similar, while keeping Skeleton at Deerfield
  + Activities - Upcoming
    - Safety Run - Sharon Scala
      * Tuesday, November 23rd
      * We have secured the Masonic Care Community to hold our Safety Run at 6 pm. We are finalizing the route this week.
        + Masks will be needed while meeting in the gym
      * The Sneaker Store will be with us with refreshments and Nathan light for demos
    - Blood Drive - Andrew Rubino and Jeannine Macera.
      * Our second Blood Drive has been set for Accelerate for Veteran’s Day on November 11th from 10 am – 2:30 pm
      * We could use a few volunteers, Travis has some folks
      * Andrew may bring some pint glasses - “pint for a pint”!
    - New Year’s Run - Jen Bachelder and Jeannine Macera.
      * We have secured Accelerate and we will bring this back for 2022.
        + Similar to the one we did in 2020.
      * Membership drive - if you renewed, its free, or $10 for non-members
        + Goal is to get members to sign up by then
      * We will have use of the indoor track for a Kids’ Run and SPI fitness might have some things to preview
      * We need to develop the course and secure a police and EMT presence.
        + May use the same course as last time
      * Volunteers (~4) for registration and water stop
      * Runsignup will be up and active soon
    - Social - Danielle Bliss
      * Just held a brunch/run event Sunday, went well
        + Jeff and Laura George helped a lot with this run
        + Would be great to have something to handout when out doing social events at places where there are other people to recruit
        + Alex can put this together in a QR code
      * Our second Happy Hour was at Woodland Brewery, well attended
        + Next Happy Hour in Dec. will be at Beer Garden at the Burrstone Inn in New Hartford (karaoke starts at 8pm!)
      * Possible run next month in Rome through the Christmas ilghts
  + Activities - Ongoing
    - Volunteers- Travis Belanger
      * Travis has volunteers for the Run 2 End World Hunger and The Safety Run.
    - Thursday Night Fitness Accelerate - Wendy Bowers
      * Accelerate is the new home for our Thursday Night runs.
      * Our relationship with Accelerate will continue as they will offer a $50 a year deal for use of the track to all UR members.
      * Planet Fitness was not responsive after they reached out to us.
      * The Fitness Mill did reach out to us to try and fix the damage with our members. Jim and Andrew met with them at their new location. They want to work with us, improve the communication, and offer a $99 a year deal to all our members with all things included. Accelerate is aware of this and they are on board if we are.
  + Activities - Over for 2021
    - Boilermaker Training Program - Tim and Joan Kane
      * Tim is interested in feedback on how it went, and is likely willing to continue
    - Development Runs - Ashley Mancini
      * We would like to make sure Ashley has help in 2022 and potentially bring back timing.
        + May need at least 4 volunteers working with the timing each week
        + Phil is looking into options that might be less volunteer intensive
    - Youth XC Training Program - Nate Getman
      * No update
    - Grand Prix - Gary LaShure
      * Results are posted. In a year where races seemed uncertain it was great to be able to have a Grand Prix to recognize our members and their accomplishments.
    - CNY Running Club Cup - Tim Kane
      * Results are in. Rome won for the first time!
      * There was a lot of uncertainty about the races, so we didn’t have great attendance at a couple of the races.
      * Next year - we gotta keep showing up!
      * Tim will continue next year
    - Scholarships - Andrew Rubino
      * Committee is beginning to form to be ready for early 2022
  + Committees
    - Diversity Committee - Alex Gonzalez/Melissa Barlett
      * Committee met last month. Plans for an event at MVCC on Feb 7th about the Run Against Racism nd talk of working with the Roman Runners in 2022 for the Run Against Racism next summer.
    - Nutrition and Wellness Committee - Rick Gloo
      * Trying to decide when the next best place for a speaker would be, probably after New Year’s
      * Aim for a few local folks and perhaps a big name
        + Jeff Galloway?
        + Goggins? but no kids - “UR, Rated R”
* Administration & Finance – Sharon Scala
  + Financial - Jen Bachelder
    - October looks pretty good with Skeleton Run
    - September included all of the Falling Leaves, and showed a profit
    - Timing from Skeleton is probably still outstanding
  + Merchandise - Sharon Scala
    - Looking into some casual shirts for sale
  + Equipment and Rental - Phil Trzcinski
    - New trailer is still on the assembly line, but we are still expecting it to come at some point and for the same cost
      * Phil was hoping to have it sooner to have more time to put in shelves etc.
      * Alex might be able to get us an indoor place to the work on it if needed
      * Will be stored at A&P
    - Sold the white trailer for $500
    - Black trailer we will get $1500 on trade
    - Not going to deal with other equipment until after the trailer is in
  + Membership - Rebecca Aceto
    - Reminders should start sending through RunSignUp to remind people that membership is expiring
    - An auto-email has been put together with all the benefits that will be sent to people when they sign up
      * Make sure we get the new Fitness Mill stuff in there
    - 328 currently (last year 324)
    - Looking into doing some more membership highlights on social media
  + Webpage/Race Calendar - Melissa Barlett/Rocco Fernalld/Andrew Rubino
    - Let Melissa know if you see things to fix!
  + Facebook & PR - Jen Bachelder/Andrew Rubino
    - Always awesome!
  + Clubs & Organizations Liaisons - Rick Gloo, Tim Kane (USATF and RRCA)
    - We have to get things renewed in order to hold our run at Accelerate on New Year’s Day.
    - Rick will make sure we get our renewals in before Jan. 1st
  + Sponsorship - Rocco Fernalld
    - Rocco contacted Utica First and they are sending us a check for the 2021 sponsorship (to our PO Box). We have secured their sponsorship into 2022.
      * Rocco will be glad to keep working with them to keep the relationship going
    - We need to begin setting up our sponsors early in 2022. We will need someone to take this piece over in 2022.
  + Race Directors Meeting
    - Sybil will hold the last week of Jan

OLD BUSINESS

* Dan Stedman is working on the language and qualifications for the walking chevron. We will announce this officially in the December issue of SpliTimes so our members are aware of the new opportunity in 2022.
* Run/Walk for Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB) 5K
  + April 30th, Saturday
  + Rebecca Aceto will head this up
    - Phil is interested in helping
  + Club would help with Runsignup, shirts, timing, etc.
  + Want to use 840 trail as the location
  + Aiming for a low-key, fundraising type of event
* 2022 RRCA Conference/Convention-March 17-20 in Orlando, Florida.
  + <https://www.rrca.org/convention/>
  + Club in the past has paid $250 per person, but this might need to be increased to fully cover registration
    - There also used to be fundraising for the rest
* 2022 Banquet Planning
  + Probably the new Board will determine what direction we go
* Board of Directors Vote
  + Nominating Committee: Alex and Rebecca
  + Votes: 22 verified ballots (according to the bylaws) were received, votes were as follows
    - Danielle Bliss 21
    - Julie Buehner 18
    - Jennifer Bachelder 18
    - Jenn Stefka 18
    - Sharon Scala 22
    - Phil Trzcinski 18
    - Ashley Mancini 3
    - Gary Burak 1

Next Meeting

Monday, December 13th, 2021, Boilermaker Offices, 6pm.

* This will be the final meeting with our current Board of Directors.
* We will have a vote for Officers that will begin their duties effective, January 1st, 2022.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35