



UTICA ROADRUNNERS BUSINESS MEETING

Monday, December 11th, 2023 6:15 pm, Boilermaker Headquarters

Board Attendance: A. Rubino, M. Bartlett, F. Vellone, E. Winberg, M. Hedeem, R. LaPorte, M. Krush, A. Hartnett

Meeting called to order at: 6:17 PM

Motion to accept minutes from last meeting: Motion by R. LaPorte. 2nd by M. Hedeem. Unanimously approved.

INITIAL BUSINESS

- Welcome back to the board Phil and welcome new Board Member Frank Vellone
- Motion to accept Andrew Hartnett to the board
 - Motioned by R. LaPorte. 2nd bt M. Hedeem. Unanimously approved.
- Motion to accept George Searles to the board.
 - Motioned by T. Olivera. 2nd by E. Winberg. Unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Activities & Events – Rebecca LaPorte**
 - **Races**
 - **The UR Four Pack - Andrew Rubino**
 - Final date for swag pick up - January 1st, 2024
 - We have designs for SOS and FL
 - Working on RunSignUp
 - Process for Club membership verification for specific event signups has been determined.
 - **Save Our Switchbacks - Melissa Barlett & Sarah Harrison**
 - April 20, 2024
 - Preliminary design for shirts looks great. Cowbells as a giveaway.
 - **Summer Sizzle - Jim Mott & Travis Olivera**
 - Travis is now a race director within Runsignup so should have full capacity.
 - **Falling Leaves - Andrew Rubino**
 - September 22, 2024 - 50th Anniversary
 - Reviewing and starting to solicit sponsors
 - Looking into medals for swag for all finishers.
 - **Skeleton Run - Rob Kapfer**

- Need 2024 date before December 31, 2023
 - Rebecca will contact Rob to confirm 2024 race date.
 - **Run 2 End World Hunger** – Rebecca LaPorte and Mason Hedeon
 - Wonderful job!
 - Over 400 finishers
 - 1400 pounds of food were donated!
 - Rebecca will confirm the final fundraised amount to determine what will be donated to the Utica Center for Development.
 - Thoughts for next year?
 - Next year will be the 40th Annual event.
 - Finisher stickers were well received. Many posted on Facebook.
 - **New Year's Run** at Accelerate – Melissa Barlett
 - Accelerate will continue to host
 - Advertise \$50 track deals - rolling membership
 - Need to push advertising
 - Kids run will occur on the track. Free and will start at 9:15.
 - New Year's Run will start at 10 and is free for UR members whose membership is valid through 12/31/2024 ***as of 01/01/2024***. Will be \$10 for non-UR members.
 - Those who paid \$10 for New Year's Run and then sign up for UR membership by 01/31/2024 will receive a \$10 credit towards one of the 4 major races.
 - There will be raffles at the event. Showing up in UR gear will earn a second raffle ticket. Winners will be drawn during the run to ensure a smooth drawing/collection process.
- Virtual Events
 - **FIVE after FIVE** – Jim Mott & Melissa Barlett
 - Continue discussion the future of the event
 - Tabled until January 2024
- Activities - Limited
 - Scholarships - Travis Olivera
 - Planning/activity will resume February 2024.
 - Further conversation to be had regarding both High School scholarships for 2024 and community sponsorship program.
 - Boilermaker Training Program - Erik/Wendy
 - Tentative start mid February 2024
 - In-door location
 - Speakers
 - Exact details of when and where for 2024 will be finalized by January 2024 meeting.
 - Boilermaker Expo table and volunteers
 - <https://kesslerpromotions.com/vendors>

- Grand Prix - Gary LaShure
 - No Report
- CNY Running Club Cup - Tim Kane
 - Meeting with Cup Captains in January
- Development Runs - Ashley Mancini
 - Considering pros and cons of length of development run schedule. Further discussion to be had regarding length.
- Youth XC Training Program - Nate Getman
 - No report
- Activities - Ongoing
 - Volunteers - Rebecca LaPorte
 - Updates?
 - Determining volunteer needs and fulfilling those needs is going smoothly.
 - Continue discussion for volunteer incentives
 - Social - Melissa Barlett & Rebecca LaPorte
 - Discussion of January Happy Hour
 - Suggestion of trivia, looking at Bagg Square on Thursdays, January 19th. Will check with others to see if date works.
 - Banquet and Awards - Jenna Stefka/Melissa Barlett
 - Continue discussion about date – consider early March 2024
 - Date finalized as March 2nd, 2024 at Club Monarch.
 - Who is on the committee
 - Melissa has ideas on who can assist.
 - Thursday Night Runs - Wendy Bowers
 - Runs from the Mill Family Fitness Center in New York Mills 5:45pm
 - Runs are still occurring and need to advertise in Splitimes and FB
 - Run 3-4 miles for a variety of terrain and meet at Packy's after at 7:00
- UR Supported Events
 - **Tunnel to Towers Utica 5k** - Phil Trzcinski/Alex Gonzalez
 - August 18, 2024, 9am Start
 - Will begin permitting and other steps in January.
 - **Trenton Fish and Game Club Trail Run-Rob Kapfer**
 - No report
 - **Grateful for Graham 5k**
 - April 27, 2024
 - First meeting will occur soon.
 - **Skeleton Run**
 - No Report
- Committees
 - Diversity Committee - Melissa Barlett/Michelle Truett
 - **Run Against Racism**
 - Discussion of Check presentation
 - Motion to donate \$250 to Johnson Park Center by M. Bartlett. 2nd by M. Hedeem. Unanimously approved.
 - Blood Drive - Andrew Rubino

- January 15, 2024 MLK JR Day 12:30pm-5:00pm VFW Post 229

- **Administration & Finance – Melissa Barlett**

- Financial - Travis Olivera
 - Report submitted
 - Discussion of high interest savings accounts
 - Motion to put approximately 1/3rd of savings account into a 1 year CD, approximately 1/3rd of savings account into a 2 year CD, and approximately 1/3rd of savings account into a 3 year CD by M. Bartlett. 2nd by M. Hedeem. Unanimously approved.
 - Future discussion to be had regarding use of interest income from CDs.
 - Schedule Budget meeting for February 2024
 - 2/5/2024 at 6:15 at Babe's.
 - Race directors and finance committee members will be invited.
- Merchandise - Sharon Scala (contact at Sneaker Store)
 - Hats are in the trailer - for sale for \$15
 - USA Racing online store update
 - Original sale didn't have sufficient volume. Confirm details of pending orders and will vote by e-mail.
- Equipment and Rental - Phil Trzcinski
 - Updates
 - Tent and backdrop were ordered. Should arrive this week.
 - Interest in purchasing kettlebells or dumbbells as a superior alternative to sandbags as weights to hold down tents/arches at events. Will investigate details and return to.
- Membership - Rebecca LaPorte
 - Currently 489 members, 317 memberships
 - 2022 - 509 members and 320 memberships
 - Membership renewal email was recently sent out.
- Webpage/Race Calendar - Melissa Barlett & Andy Hartnett
 - Update banner for New Year's Day Run
 - Remove past events from banner
 - Melissa and Andy will connect to ensure he has access to all platforms necessary for updates.
- Facebook & PR - Andy Hartnett
 - Advertise for new memberships and New Years Day run
 - Call for mileage, red jackets
- Clubs & Organizations Liaisons - Melissa Barlett/Erik Winberg (USATF and RRCA)
 - Updates
 - Melissa renewed club insurance.
- Sponsorship - Sarah Harrison
 - Get Sarah your sponsors list
 - Race directors need to provide sponsor list to Sarah ASAP.

- Start mailings to sponsors with ask letter
 - Bank of Utica wants to continue to be a sponsor.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Race Directors meeting
 - Working on dates
 - All board members are invited. Club members who may be interested in assisting with directing a race are encouraged to attend to learn about being a race director.
- Mill Family Fitness Center Deal
 - January 1, 2024 until December 31, 2024.
 - The cost is only \$325 OR \$30/month.
- Safety Run
 - Original Safety Run was canceled due to weather. Looking into when this may next be able to happen. Andrew will connect with Wendy to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS:

- USATF ADK Grand Prix 2024 Bid Request
 - Andrew will investigate the financial details and report back.
- Vote on board positions - Motion by M. Bartlett. 2nd by M. Hedeem.
 - President - Andrew Rubino
 - VP for Finance and Administration - Melissa Barlett
 - VP for Activities and Events - Erik Winberg
 - Secretary - Rebecca LaPorte
 - Treasurer - Travis Olivera
 - Unanimously approved.
- Set dates and times for future board meetings
 - Will determine 2024 meeting dates for or at the January 2024 meeting.
- Announcements

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM

Next Meeting: January 8th 2024 at Boilermaker Headquarters - 6:15 PM

Future meeting dates: