



## UTICA ROADRUNNERS BUSINESS MEETING

Monday, January 8th, 2023 6:15 pm, Boilermaker Headquarters

Board Attendance: A. Rubino, M. Barlett, F. Vellone, A. Hartnett, E. Winberg, M. Hedeem, R. LaPorte, T. Olivera

Meeting called to order at: 6:17pm

Motion to accept minutes from last meeting: Motion by T. Olivera. 2nd by M. Hedeem.

Unanimously approved.

### INITIAL BUSINESS

- None

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Activities & Events – Erik Winberg**
  - **Races**
    - **The UR Four Pack** - Andrew Rubino
      - Registration is open, discount for members
      - We have 10 registered
      - Will be advertised in SplitTimes
    - **Save Our Switchbacks** - Melissa Barlett & Sarah Harrison
      - April 20, 2024
      - Andrew is working on the permit
      - TNT timing has confirmed availability for the race date
      - Price remains the same as last year, anticipating ~200 participants
    - **Summer Sizzle** - Jim Mott & Travis Olivera
      - June 16, 2024
      - No additional updates
    - **Falling Leaves** - Andrew Rubino
      - September 22, 2024 - 50th Anniversary
      - Reviewing and starting to solicit sponsors
      - Planning to give shirts and medals to participants
    - **Skeleton Run** - Rob Kapfer
      - October 13, 2024
    - **Run 2 End Hunger** – Rebecca LaPorte Mason Hedeem
      - Event raised \$4,595.40

- Motion by M. Barlett to round up donation amount to Utica Center for Development to \$4,600. 2nd by M. Hedeem. Approved unanimously. T. Olivera will send check this month
  - **New Year's Run** at Accelerate – Melissa Barlett
    - Great job Melissa!
    - Run had enough volunteers for event to run smoothly
    - ~50 participants, all children registered for the kids run attended the run
    - Raffles went well
    - At least 2 brand new members to the club
- Virtual Events
  - **FIVE after FIVE** – Jim Mott & Melissa Barlett
    - Discussion the future of the event
      - Group agreed the event generally has good engagement and people have historically liked the event swag
      - Event can be expensive
      - Discussed decreasing swag for event and having a free option (no swag) and paid option (with swag) to cover the costs if people want stuff but also keeping a free option to increase club engagement
      - Proposed event will be an individual event not included in the Four Pack
      - Andrew will check in with Jim to discuss the event and determine final plans
- Activities - Limited
  - Scholarships - Travis Olivera
    - Planning/activity will resume February 2024
    - F. Vellone agreed to join scholarship committee
    - Planning to send scholarship information to school guidance counselors, athletic directors, and coaches
  - Boilermaker Training Program - Erik/Wendy
    - Tentative start mid February 2024
    - E. Winberg is reaching out to Utica College and Accelerate for possible meeting locations
    - E. Winberg plans to run the registration and social media
    - Plan is for runs to be held on Saturdays
    - M. Barlett floated idea of a true beginner program, has a draft program to share with E. Winberg for possible consideration
    - Wendy plans to help lead more, looking for a second leader for the program, share suggestions with E. Winberg
  - Boilermaker Expo table and volunteers
    - <https://kesslerpromotions.com/vendors>
    - No updates
  - Grand Prix - Gary LaShure
    - No Report
    - A. Rubino plans to connect with G. LaShure after the Directors meeting

- CNY Running Club Cup - Tim Kane
  - Meeting with Cup Captains in January
  - Races are expected to be the same as last year
- Development Runs - Ashley Mancini
  - Continued discussion on the length of the season
    - Planning for a 12-week season, unsure of exact May 2024 start date
- Youth XC Training Program - Nate Getman
  - No report
- Activities - Ongoing
  - Volunteers - Rebecca LaPorte
    - Continue discussion for volunteer incentives
      - Discussed possibly using already established point system for rewards, raffles, race discounts
      - M. Barlett discussed current language in handbook
    - RRCA is hosting a Zoom on January 23 @ 7pm
      - discuss Volunteers and how successful recruitment has been for the past year.
        - Here's the link to the meeting:  
Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://rrca-org.zoom.us/j/81406608665>  
Meeting ID: 814 0660 8665
        - R. LaPorte will attempt to participate in the meeting
  - Social - Melissa Barlett & Rebecca LaPorte
    - January Happy Hour Thursday January 18th @ 6pm Baggs Square
    - Trivia to follow at 7pm - will have running category!
    - M. Hedeem suggested planning them further in advance
    - Scheduled additional happy hour dates with tentative locations
      - February 9 - 3 Bastards Brewing (Erik & Melissa plan to attend)
      - March 22 - Herkimer area? (Melissa & Rebecca plan to attend)
      - April 19 - more information TBD but date scheduled
    - Agreed goal is to host in different areas to try and draw members who live in different areas
  - Banquet and Awards - Jenna Stefka/Melissa Barlett
    - March 2, 2024
    - Members have started to submit forms via online form
    - J. Stefka & A. Mancini agreed to help with banquet
    - Awards committee has tentative list of members
  - Thursday Night Runs - Wendy Bowers
    - Runs are discontinued
    - Group has merged with Wednesday Sneaker Store group
- UR Supported Events
  - **Tunnel to Towers Utica 5k** - Phil Trzcinski/Alex Gonzalez
    - August 18, 2024, 9am Start
    - Working on organizing safety
  - **Trenton Fish and Game Club Trail Run-Rob Kapfer**

- No updates
  - **Grateful for Graham 5k**
    - April 27, 2024
    - Has a new race director - Amanda
- **Committees**
  - Diversity Committee - Melissa Barlett/Michelle Truett
    - **Run Against Racism**
      - Check will be mailed this month
  - Blood Drive - Andrew Rubino
    - January 15, 2024 MLK JR Day 12:30pm-5:00pm VFW Post 229
    - Donate a pint and get a free UR event pint glass!
- **Administration & Finance – Melissa Barlett**
  - Financial - Travis Olivera
    - Report submitted - no questions on financial report
    - Budget meeting rescheduled for January 2024
      - Discussion of location - will be held at Babes January 30th 6pm
  - Merchandise - Sharon Scala (contact at Sneaker Store)
    - Hats for sale for \$15
    - USA Racing online store reopened with the Four Pack - will remain open until early March, please promote and share
    - Send any additional merch ideas to A. Rubino
  - Equipment and Rental - Phil Trzcinski
    - New tent, canopy, Step & Repeat banner, and accessories have arrived
    - A&P has better bags for the Step & Repeat banners we will utilize
    - Still working on pricing kettlebells to replace sandbags
    - Bottom shelf of the trailer has been reinforced with plywood so it can hold more weight
  - Membership - Rebecca LaPorte
    - Currently 265 members, 162 memberships
    - 2022 - 373 members and 222 memberships
    - Slightly behind numbers from last year, M. Barlett planning email reminder with banquet stuff, also planning email to 2022 members who did not renew to invite them back
  - Webpage/Race Calendar - Melissa Barlett & Andy Hartnett
    - Update banner on website for Awards Banquet
    - FB - Call for awards and mileage, advertise for Blooddrive
    - Email requested webpage changes to both M. Barlett & A. Hartnett
  - Facebook & PR - Andy Hartnett
    - Advertise for new memberships
    - Call for mileage, red jackets
    - Working on getting access to Instagram
  - Clubs & Organizations Liaisons - Melissa Barlett/Erik Winberg (USATF and RRCA)
    - M. Bartlett has renewed RRCA membership for another year
    - E. Winberg will provide USATF update at next meeting

- Sponsorship - Sarah Harrison
  - Get Sarah your sponsors list for each race
  - Start mailings to sponsors with ask letter
  - Bank of Utica made a donation for last year

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Race Directors meeting
  - February 5 @ 6pm at Boilermaker office
- Mill Family Fitness Center Deal
  - January 1, 2024 until December 31, 2024.
  - The cost is only \$325 OR \$30/month.
  - A. Rubino will follow up to determine number of members who took advantage of deal
- USATF ADK Grand Prix 2024 Bid Request
  - Will follow up at next meeting
- There are still 2 open board member spots

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Set dates and times for future board meetings
  - Meeting dates finalized, see below
- Announcements
  - Nonprofit town hall for Community Foundation zoom meeting on January 17th at 10am, M. Barlett will give information to G. Searles to possibly attend

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM (Motion by M. Barlett 2nd by T. Olivera)

**Next Meeting: February 12, 2024 at Boilermaker Headquarters -**

**Future meeting dates:**

March 11, 2024

April 8, 2024

May 13, 2024

June 10, 2024

July 8, 2024

August 12, 2024

September 9, 2024

October 21, 2024

November 18, 2024

December 9, 2024