



UTICA ROADRUNNERS BUSINESS MEETING

Monday, April 15th, 2024 6:15 pm, Boilermaker Headquarters

Board Attendance: Andrew Rubino, Melissa Barlett, Rebecca LaPorte, Mason Hedeem, Andrew Hartnett, George Searles, Frank Vellone, Erik Winberg

Meeting called to order at: 6:17pm

Motion to accept minutes from last meeting: 1st G. Searles 2nd M. Hedeem

INITIAL BUSINESS

- Update Handbook
 - Need to remove the Thursday night language
 - M. Barlett will do the updates and send to group by email for approval

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Activities & Events – Erik Winberg**
 - **Races**
 - **The UR Four Pack - Andrew Rubino**
 - Swag is in process - should have everything by SOS
 - Online swag store is also in process
 - **Save Our Switchbacks - Melissa Barlett & Sarah Harrison**
 - April 20, 2024 - currently around 150 registered
 - Swag arrived and is at The Sneaker Store
 - Police working on moving fence on course by Valley View
 - Additional Report - M. Barlett & A. Rubino have been in contact with the city and rec center for planning related to the ongoing construction and things are working out. Email with information to runners coming soon. Rec Center opening at 7:30am for restrooms and such
 - Volunteers are all set for the event
 - We now have signs for races now! (Can be used for other events as well) - worked with McClain press and they were done and printed in less than a week. Will be doing a thank you (facebook? Email? Letter?)
 - Still need to buy food for the event - will contact Carlo Massi for fruit and maybe check Price Chopper. A. Rubino suggested bagels and coffee for volunteers

- P. Trzcinski reported that he will move the trailer back to the Parkway this week before SOS
 - Police will be shutting down the road for the start of the event with car following up to watch for the last running so they can reopen the road
 - **Summer Sizzle** - Jim Mott & Travis Olivera
 - June 16, 2024 - near 100 registered
 - E. Winberg will reach out to find out volunteer needs, purchasing needs, and any other needs
 - June 15th at Masonic 4-7pm packet pickup
 - Looking for volunteers for all positions related to packet pickup and event
 - **Falling Leaves** - Andrew Rubino
 - September 22, 2024 - 50th Anniversary
 - Attended event with G. Searles where event was recognized by Oneida County Tourism
 - **Skeleton Run** - Rob Kapfer
 - October 13, 2024
 - A. Rubino is working on insurance
 - E. Winberg will reach out to find out if there are any needs at this time
 - **Run 2 End World Hunger** – Rebecca LaPorte & Mason Hedeem
 - No Report
 - **New Year’s Run** at Accelerate – Melissa Barlett
 - No Report
- Virtual Events
 - **FIVE after FIVE** – Jim Mott & Melissa Barlett
 - Event is in motion and advertising is ongoing
 - Will increase advertising after SOS run
 - J. Mott is doing the strava side of event and A. Hartnett will be doing the facebook side of the event for participant prizes
 - J. Mott was checking in with start and end events at Saranac brewery
 - M. Barlett looking into meet-ups during the event - call for board member interest to help support the in-person events during the 5 after 5
- Activities - Limited
 - Scholarships - Travis Olivera
 - Updates - received 2 letters of recommendation but no applications with them. Encouraged guidance counselors to ensure students apply
 - Will continue to promote the scholarships for applications
 - A. Rubino will reach out to guidance counselors again
 - Boilermaker Training Program - Erik/Wendy/Pete
 - Updates - going well!
 - UR Day at Sneaker Store - hoping for update on Wednesday, Erik planning to go and talk with them

- Will have BTP and SOS options
 - Boilermaker Expo table and volunteers
 - <https://kesslerpromotions.com/vendors>
 - Andrew will set this up
 - Grand Prix - Gary LaShure
 - Fort to Fort Complete
 - A. Rubino points out a known member was missing from results, M. Barlett and A. Hartnett will reach out to ensure the member is included in results
 - Will also ensure Gary sends results to Michelle and Erik
 - CNY Running Club Cup - Tim Kane
 - Fort to Fort complete
 - Update from Tim - Utica Roadrunners had a strong 2nd place finish at the first event of the season
 - We were beat by the Roman Runners at this first event
 - Next Race is Towpath Trail Run
 - Tim would like to send a congratulations and thank you for participating. R. LaPorte will put the list of emails together for A. Rubino who will send the list to Tim
 - Development Runs - Ashley Mancini
 - Start Date is May 1st
 - Planning for a 12-week season
 - Additional updates
 - Youth XC Training Program - Nate Getman & Abbie Sutliff
 - Request up to \$1,200 for medals and shirts (still waiting on quote) - A. Rubino will give green light based on the budget
 - 160 kids signed up already, 80 kids per session
 - Insurance Completed
 - Invite Board Members to come to training sessions
 - Need to get information to SplitTimes
- Activities - Ongoing
 - Volunteers - Rebecca LaPorte
 - Request from P. Trzcinski to send call for volunteers for Grateful for Graham through RunSignUp - R. LaPorte will send out and set up volunteer list
 - Rebecca will put something out for D runs soon (after Grateful for Graham) and promote Red Jacket
 - Social - Melissa Barlett & Rebecca LaPorte
 - April Happy Hour is at Beer Hub on April 19 - also will be SOS packet pickup
 - May Happy Hour on May 17th possibility at Saranac to correspond with 5a5 (potential backup is Nail Creek)
 - Banquet and Awards - Jenna Stefka/Melissa Barlett
 - Updates
 - Thursday Night Runs - Wendy Bowers
 - Runs are discontinued

- Group merged with Wednesday Sneaker Store group
- UR Supported Events
 - **Tunnel to Towers Utica 5k** - Phil Trzcinski/Alex Gonzalez
 - August 18, 2024, 9am Start
 - Planning underway, launching around May 1st
 - **Trenton Fish and Game Club Trail Run-Rob Kapfer**
 - August 4, 2024
 - Applied for insurance
 - Erik reaching out for additional updates
 - **Grateful for Graham 5k** - Amanda Robertello
 - April 27, 2024 - registration currently at 280
 - Updates - R. LaPorte sending call for volunteers email
 - Request for social media sharing - A. Hartnett will ensure to share once weekly and post once weekly
 - E. Winberg will reach out to P. Trzcinski to see if there is anything else we can do to support from the running community
- Committees
 - Diversity Committee - Melissa Barlett/Michelle Truett
 - **Run Against Racism**
 - Would like to continue the event but continuing to work on logistics
 - Will find out if the community would also like to continue the event
 - Blood Drive - Andrew Rubino
 - No summer date at this time
- **Administration & Finance – Melissa Barlett**
 - Financial - Travis Olivera
 - Report submitted
 - Merchandise - Sharon Scala (contact at Sneaker Store)
 - Hats for sale for \$15
 - USTA racing stuff should be available for SOS pickup
 - Still looking for a merchandise coordinator
 - Equipment and Rental - Phil Trzcinski
 - Trailer will be brought to the Parkway for the season before SOS, we do have permission to park this all season
 - Will be ordering the weights this week
 - Membership - Rebecca LaPorte
 - 2024 - 411 members (2023 - 445 members)
 - Webpage/Race Calendar - Melissa Barlett & Andy Hartnett
 - Remove SOS on Banner
 - Facebook & PR - Andy Hartnett
 - Continue to advertise Boilermaker Training Program, 5After5, and Sizzle
 - Will also advertise Grateful for Graham
 - Newsletter

- deadline is 20th of each month - will make sure 5 after 5 stuff is sorted before that deadline, will also reach out to Ashley to make sure D-Run stuff is added for the next newsletter
 - Will make note for Grateful for Graham to be printed in June
 - Member Spotlight - Will start with board members and will start with F. Vellone. First spotlight date for June. Suggestion to highlight Michelle too.
- Clubs & Organizations Liaisons - Melissa Barlett/Erik Winberg (USATF and RRCA)
 - M. Barlett got on the RRCA club leadership Facebook group and lots of interesting leadership and volunteer stuff is being posted, will report back on interesting findings
 - Board members interested in having access can apply to join the group
- Sponsorship - Sarah Harrison
 - Mailings to sponsors with ask letter
 - Continue to solicit sponsors on website
 - Was invoice sent to Utica First? - update will be provided at the next meeting
 - Bank of Utica update will be provided at the next meeting
 - Look into TownSquare Media update - now have the contact phone number but have not yet connected
 - Melissa will connect this week with Sarah for additional updates

OLD BUSINESS:

- Additional Youth XC Program
 - Update - we were unfortunately not selected for the grant funding opportunity from the Community Foundation, they encourage us to apply again in the future
 - Will reach back out to Jim to find out his desired next steps and will provide update
- Continued discussion about racing team/race captains
 - Brookfield Classic - 09/14/2024: Travis Olivera
 - We were able to get discount registration fee for 20 runners - will put a call out for interested members to contact Travis to participate so he can manage race team
 - Also will have a group training run organized
 - Travis will be the captain and lead of this event. Will be doing organizing and share more ideas as the event gets closer
 - Mohawk Hudson River Marathon and Half - 10/13/2024: Chris Edick
 - He was still interested, unsure what that will look like at this point
 - Chris would be responsible for putting together team, Andrew would reach out to race director for potential discount
 - Will be working with Chris to organize before the event
 - Old Forge 5k/10k/Half-Marathon/Marthon Weekend? Maybe put out there to see if anyone would like to captain it
 - May also see how the two events go and go from there

NEW BUSINESS:

- Announcements
 - Everyone Can Play 5k Run/Walk - Request to borrow the timing clock. Erik will find out if they need generator or just extension cord. \$20 to participate. Erik will find out if they want information in SplitTimes or Facebook post but will need to know by Friday for SplitTimes deadline purposes

Meeting adjourned at 7:51pm motion Melissa 2nd Mason

Next Meeting: May 13, 2024 at Boilermaker Headquarters

Future meeting dates:

June 10, 2024, July 8, 2024, August 12, 2024, September 9, 2024, October 21, 2024, November 18, 2024, December 9, 2024