



UTICA ROADRUNNERS BUSINESS MEETING

Monday, September 8, 2025 6:15 pm, Boilermaker Headquarters

Board Attendance: Frank Vellone, Rebecca LaPorte, Andrew Rubino, Andy Hartnett, Melissa Barlett, James Kuny, Erik Winberg, Phil Trzcinski

Meeting called to order at: 6:19pm

Motion to accept minutes from last meeting: 1st J. Kuny 2nd A. Hartnett

INITIAL BUSINESS

- None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Activities & Events – Erik Winberg**
 - **Races**
 - **Four Race Challenge** - Andrew Rubino
 - Get shirt ideas and sponsors after Falling Leaves
 - Design by January 1st
 - **Save Our Switchbacks** - Melissa Barlett
 - Proposed dates 11-April or 18-April
 - Still in the works to finalize date, need to discuss with the zoo
 - **Summer Sizzle** - Travis Olivera
 - No Report
 - **Falling Leaves** - Andrew Rubino
 - September 28, 2025
 - Final Report before raceday
 - Working on finding out if we can get apples from Twin Orchards Farm stand now that Twin Orchards has closed
 - Rebecca LaPorte will run things inside and Mike Brych will run things outside on race day
 - **Skeleton Run** - Rob Kapfer
 - Sunday October 19, 2025
 - **Run 2 End Hunger** – Rebecca LaPorte Mason Hedeon
 - Date is set for Thanksgiving — November 27th, 2025
 - **New Year's Run** at Accelerate – Melissa Barlett
 - No report
 - Looking for ideas to move away from Accelerate
 - Virtual Events

- **FIVE after FIVE** – Melissa Barlett & Andy Hartnett
- Activities - Limited
 - Scholarships - Travis Olivera
 - No report
 - Boilermaker Training Program - Erik Winberg/Peter Angelini
 - No report
 - Boilermaker Expo table and volunteers
 - No report
 - Grand Prix - Gary LaShure
 - Next Race: Falling Leaves September 28
 - CNY Running Club Cup - James Kuny
 - Discussion of new leaders - two people have expressed interest, may suggest that they are co captains to help share the workload
 - Cliff's Gift Card: \$300 in gift cards donated - there are still some assigned gift cards that need to be distributed, J. Kuny, M. Barlett, A. Rubino working on this
 - Next Race: Falling Leaves (last of the Club Cup races this year)
 - Development Runs - Ashley Mancini
 - Shirt Design contest for 2026
 - M. Barlett will connect with Ashley
 - Youth XC Training Program - Nate Getman & Abbie Sutliff
 - No Report
- Activities - Ongoing
 - Volunteers - Rebecca LaPorte
 - Possibly experiencing spam in the volunteer interest form online
 - Collecting volunteer interest for Falling Leaves
 - Social - Melissa Barlett & Rebecca LaPorte
 - Happy Hour Aug 22nd at Seven Hamlets
 - Great happy hour and great turn out with members and their families
 - September Happy Hour:
 - Main St. Tavern - September 19 - Andy. There will be a run beforehand (~4 miles)
 - October Happy Hour
 - Grow - Tentative date 10/17, Melissa will check in to see if they have food trucks, if no food truck we will buy food. If there is a food truck we will do drink tokens
 - Banquet and Awards - Jenna Stefka/Melissa Barlett/Ashley Mancini
 - No Report Until October
 - Racing team/Captains - Andrew Hartnett
 - Brookfield Classic - Travis
 - September 13
 - Wineglass Marathon - Tiffany
 - October 5
 - Willow

- Old Forge - good turnout for the race, pretty small turn out for the after party, possibly due to some confusion about the after party. The event itself was good although rainy
 - Boos and Brews 5k October 26
 - Ugly Sweater 5k
- UR Supported Events
 - **Tunnel to Towers Utica 5k** - Phil Trzcinski/Alex Gonzalez
 - August 16, 2026
 - 1600 people participated, 96 sponsors, unknown final amount raised
 - Able to get drinks for the finish line, finish line was busier than the after party at Celtic Harp
 - **Trenton Fish and Game Club Trail Run-Rob Kapfer**
 - Made a \$600 donation to the Utica Roadrunners
 - 17 kids for the half trail course
 - 83 runners and walkers participated, weather a little cool
 - Winners donated \$200 each to the charity of their choice
 - \$3000 donated to Kelberman Center
 - August 2, 2026
 - **Grateful for Graham 5k** - Amanda Robertello
 - *Tentative Date* May 2, 2026
 - More detailed report after meeting in December
- Committees
 - Diversity Committee - Melissa Barlett/Michelle Truett
 - On Hold no updates
 - Blood Drive - Andrew Rubino
 - no update
- **Administration & Finance – Melissa Barlett**
 - Financial - James Kuny
 - Report submitted, no questions on report
 - Cross country merch paid
 - Check provided for reimbursement for the Seven Hamlets Social
 - Merchandise - Frank Vellone
 - UR Weekend (Skeleton Run packet pickup) at Sneaker Store with conjoint Happy Hour at Grow
 - Work with Josh and Morgan on this idea
 - Melissa will text the sneaker store to see if samples can be available of merch for Skeleton Run Pickup. Josh has ideas for embroidered zip and will have samples and prices, everything else can be done in store.
 - Still just need to make it clear to people that any shirt in the store can have the UR logo added to it. Zips with the embroidery are the only things that need to be ordered ahead. Need to follow up to make sure that someone can be there to facilitate and provide

information about shirts. Possibly will get a sign together so those interested have more information that's easily accessible.

- Packet pickup for Skeleton Run Saturday October 18th 11a-3p, things will need to be put together by then
- Mystery Swag Bag (Andrew) for \$10 donation
 - Pushing idea during a Happy Hour
- Continue UR Merch Table @Running Events
- Coordination between Sneaker Store and USA Racing to stock UR Gear
- Set up online store with USA Racing
- singlets (\$30) ■ tshirts (\$5)
- cow bells (\$3) ■ hats (\$10)
- blankets (\$25) ■ hoodie (\$20)
- Equipment and Rental - Phil Trzcinski
 - Trailer is now back on the Parkway after cleaning and reorganization
 - Kettlebells have been reorganized so they won't roll around, there is also a grid to go under them that needs to be ordered so they won't be sitting in water
 - \$505 for new custom web netting that is adjustable, big cargo nets
 - Request for \$600 for trailer upgrades (Kettlebell grid and custom web netting), motion J. Kuny, 2nd F. Vellone, no opposition
 - Trailer will remain on the Parkway until Falling Leaves (Mike Brych will move) and Skeleton Run then will be stored for the winter
- Membership - Rebecca LaPorte
 - 526 active members currently, 358 current memberships
 - 2024 - 537 active memberships, 369 active memberships
 - 7 new individual and 4 new family 2-year memberships since last month
 - End of Year discount after Falling Leaves (1-Oct thru next year)
 - Discussion about how to use discounts and prorating to draw in new members
- Webpage/Race Calendar - Melissa Barlett & Andy Hartnett
 - A. Rubino organizing bios for A. Hartnett - On Hold
 - If you notice something is out of date let Melissa and Andy know
 - Promote memberships for new members starting in October, buy now and get membership through 2026 for new members
- Facebook & PR - Andy Hartnett
 - Email issue has been resolved
 - PR - Falling Leaves will do an ad to promote the race
 - Will also promote Mohawk Valley Gives - will do a reminder that it's coming up and a day of reminder (September 19). M. Barlett will forward template email to all board members for distribution to email contact lists
- Newsletter
 - deadline is 20th of each month
 - Promos of Award Nominations
 - Promo for Elections
 - New Liaison for RRCA (Melissa)
 - Michelle emailed SpliTimes procedure email

- Nominate members for profiles - let George know
- Clubs & Organizations Liaisons - Melissa Barlett/Erik Winberg (USATF and RRCA)
 - No updates
- Sponsorship - David Dietz
 - Looking to get sponsorships for Four Run Challenge - letter has been drafted for send out, Melissa will send to everyone, feel free to distribute as appropriate
 - David/Melissa
 - Pick Deadline for 2026
 - Connection with Indium
 - If you have a business interested in sponsoring please see David
 - make ad for Splitimes
 - If you know any organization or business who would like to help with volunteering please connect with David and Rebecca
 - Cliff's Fuel Cards for Club Cup
- Non-Profit
 - M. Barlett Updated Non-Profit documentation
 - \$500 per year
 - Ineligible for 2 years
 - A. Hartnett will make sure information is on the website

OLD BUSINESS:

- Board Elections - November 10th*
 - Discussed and agreed to move meeting to November 17th due to Holiday
- Mohawk Valley Gives - Friday September 19th, discussed above
- Plogging Run - Saturday, September 13th*
- Fitness Challenge - E. Winberg
 - Pushing event back to the spring
 - Currently pursuing Utica College for the dome after classes are complete, mid to late May
 - M. Barlett cautions to beware of Erie Canal weekend dates and Fitness Challenge dates

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Rubino has an email impersonator who is trying to get people to buy gift cards, beware mysterious emails, text the person to confirm
- Shoutout to A. Hartnett for all his work on captaining races

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm 1st P. Trzcinski 2nd A. Hartnett

Next Meeting: October 13, 2025 at 6:15 at Boilermaker Headquarters

Future meeting dates:

November 17, 2025; December 8, 2025