



FINGER LAKES RUNNERS CLUB

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, January 9, 2008

Martha Van Rensselaer Hall, Rushmore Conference Room (114 MVR), Cornell University

Meeting commenced at 5:35pm

Board members present: Karen Grover, Joe Reynolds, Chris Reynolds, Steve Shaum, Nancy Kleinrock, Lorrie Tily, Don Tily, Alan Lockett, Mark Thompson, Jim Miner, Steve Gallow, PJ Peterman, Bob Talda, Tim Ingall, Diane Sherrer, Joel Cisne, Casey Carlstrom, Chris Irving

Additions to the agenda: Chris Reynolds requested that the date of the Snowshoe race, Jan. 26, be added to the online race calendar.

November Minutes: Katie Stettler added that we gave two \$200 donations to the Ithaca Youth Bureau, for which we received two thank yous.

Changes: Under 2008 Calendar: Remove the word "Series". Under Other vice-president' business: Change to "do not conflict".

Race Reports:

FLRC January Track Meet: Tim Ingall reported that the meet started on time, ended early, and everything went well. The only snag was with the starting gun. The club made \$50 at the meet, plus lots of membership applications were received..

Upcoming Races:

FLRC February Track Meet: Tim Ingall announced that the meet is scheduled for Sunday, February 3, and will feature a 5k, 100m, 1 mile, 200m and a 2x800m Valentine relay.

Hartshorne Memorial Masters Mile: PJ Peterman suggested that those who want to attend the dinner following the meet could save \$2 by sending in \$20 for pasta or \$25 for salmon now.

Snowshoe Race: Joe Reynolds reported that the rentals are in and would be picked up Friday. Becky is working on getting hats, reportedly awesome, with a roadrunner on snowshoes. Chris and Joe will check out the trails soon. Red Feather is a race sponsor. Katie Stettler said that our dues to the National Forest have been paid.

Finances:

Katie Stettler reported that FLRC finances run primarily on a cash basis. Checking account is about the same as last year. Income is down \$3,000. The biggest loss was in race shirt sales, on which we spent \$17,000, \$11,000 more than last year on shirts. We lost \$8500 in shirts, most of which are sitting in a box. They're not inventoried because they're dated; FLRC clothing, on the other hand, IS inventoried. Katie's message was that we need to control costs on race shirts in the coming year.

Joe Reynolds asked that all shirts, as property of the club, be given to Joe/Chris to be stored with other equipment.

Mark suggested that shirts be given to volunteers. This has been done at many races.

The finance committee will present new policies in February or March after talking with the race directors. Financial revisions will involve levels of spending. For example, if planned spending is in excess of \$1000 per any single item two people will need to be involved.

Katie Stettler, Lorrie Tily and Shelly Marino will be authorized to sign documents on the club's behalf. Katie asked that the minutes reflect the newly elected officers: President, Lorrie Tily; Treasurer, Katie Stettler; Secretary, Shelly Marino; VP of track, Tim Ingall; VP of trails, Joe Reynolds; VP of roads, Jim Miner; Members-at-large, Steve Gallow, PJ Peterman, Mark Thompson, Diane Sherrer, Kate Supron, Don Tily.

Insurance of equipment: At present, FLRC equipment is not insured. Katie said that we can get equipment insurance through RRCA. This would be at replacement cost; but the "replacement" cost would be what we indicate. The premium for this insurance might be \$400-\$600/yr, and would probably not cover breakage.

Ten years ago our replacement cost estimate was \$9700. Jim Miner said that the replacement cost has at least doubled since then. Mark suggested we use \$15,000 as an estimate. There is an old list of equipment (timers, computers, etc) showing what we paid. Mark proposed that Joe and Chris R go over this list, and then someone can sit at a computer and figure the costs of new equipment.

Chris Irving said that the question is, does the club think we should insure equipment? Jim Miner and Lorrie Tily felt it was a good idea to do so. If we go ahead with this idea, Katie Stettler wants the board to provide a limit on cost, i.e., if the insurance will cost \$900/yr, is that too much?

Katie suggested that we "self insure". . The equipment is old, and we can save the insurance money to buy new equipment. Nancy Kleinrock would still like to see an estimate of insurance costs based on Mark's suggested \$15,000 replacement cost.

Katie Stettler passed around an *RRCA-Inside Track* article about what FLRC liability insurance will cover. Lorrie will scan this article and distribute it to the board so board members can familiarize themselves with this issue. Katie will purchase a couple more subscriptions to *Inside Track* to share with the board.

Course certification: President Lorrie Tily reported that all our courses are certified. The Fillmore certification expired last year. Lorrie submitted the paperwork to renew the certification for the 5K. All of our course certifications will expire in 2011, after which full certification will be required every 10 years. We will have to find people who can certify. There is a list of certifiers.

Jim Miner said that the counter we used to use for certifying courses is no longer made. He'll talk to the person who invented it.

The certification process involves calibrating, measuring twice, and recalibrating. A course must be 1% longer than the stated race distance.

Race Director Training: Lorrie, Joe and Jim will lead a race director training workshop in lieu of the February board meeting. The agenda will include course certification, entry fees vs. expenses, runner safety, preferred vendors, sponsors, buying shirts; also race numbers, Gatorade, post race refreshments, volunteers, marshals.

Steve Gallow mentioned that liability may be an issue, particularly under extreme conditions, as in the Chicago Marathon. Katie suggested that we use Gatorade Endurance for long and/or extreme conditions, and have ice on hand.

Lorrie presented plaques to outgoing secretary Mark Thompson and outgoing president Karen Grover, thanking them for their efforts on behalf of FLRC. Karen was also presented with a special FLRC patch.

FLRC 40th Anniversary Committee:

Lorrie felt that the font on the banner was not dark enough – it needs to be bolder. This banner will be displayed at all FLRC events.

Lorrie is collecting stories for the commemorative booklet.

At this point there was some discussion of the Turkey Trot, which Bob Congdon (not present) claimed was the oldest race. Diane Sherrer stated that Hartshorne is actually the oldest race. Bob will no longer be directing the race, and the name will be changed from Congdon's Turkey Trot to Turkey Trot. Bruce Roebal will be directing it. FLRC will provide insurance for the race as it will now be an official FLRC event. Katie Stettler noted that FLRC had paid \$50 to Bruce to give to the janitor at IHS in 2007 in support of this race. I[In 2006, FLRC paid

\$151 to Bob (Katie looked this up later.)] FLRC hadn't been providing an insurance certificate to ICSD. We need to make sure that we have permission. Mark asked if there was info in the bylaws about absorbing an existing event.

Lorrie will get into Herb Engman's FLRC archive in mid-January to find more info for the booklet. She'll also try to get access to Diane Sherrer's archive. Diane suggested that the booklet contain charts as well as stories. Gnomon, according to Joe Reynolds, has new equipment that can produce booklets in color.

Lorrie is seeking more volunteers for the anniversary events. It was suggested that a brief article on FLRC history be added to each month's newsletter.

Newsletter

Editor Nancy Kleinrock received requests to include non-FLRC entry forms and to list full results for non-FLRC events, and sought guidance from the board on this issue. Most recently she received a request to trade with Syracuse Chargers, putting one of our entry forms in their newsletter and vice versa. Nancy asked if race directors should be able to make these arrangements on their own.

Diane Sherrer said that these exchanges used to be made on a *quid pro quo* basis: either they'd print our forms, or would offer a significant number of volunteer hours to our events.

Lorrie pointed out that for Skunk, the exchange with the Chargers is a good deal for FLRC: We print 109 newsletters, but theirs goes to around 2000 members.

It was decided to accede to the Chargers request to include registration forms for their Cazenovia and Fayetteville races.

Discussion moved to the inquiry that Lorrie had published to the FLRC listserv list, asking members for their views on sponsorship of athletes by the club. Lorrie asked that the inquiry to be printed in the newsletter. Nancy demurred. At the last board meeting the minutes show that the board had discussed forming a committee "to make recommendations to the board on the Scholarship Fund that can match the needs of our members to the mission of the club." Nancy, Steve Shaum and Chris Irving expressed concerns that the publication of the inquiry both on the listserv list and in the newsletter was short-circuiting this process. Nancy felt that the questions were leading.

Much discussion ensued. Katie Stettler pointed out that according to the responses to Lorrie's listserv list query the membership isn't interested in the idea of sponsoring athletes, so the issue may be moot. Alan Lockett felt that it was reasonable for the president to use the newsletter as a vehicle for asking members for their thoughts on this matter. Joel Cisne asked that the discussion be tabled until the March meeting. Chris Irving would like a committee to make recommendations on what to do with the scholarship money. Katie Stettler is also interested in forming such a committee. Joe Reynolds would like the scholarship fund to be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Membership:

Steve Shaum reported that FLRC currently has 181 family, 131 individual, 26 life, 3 team and 11 complimentary memberships.

Web Page:

Casey Carlstrom said that there are still a few web chores to do.

Equipment

Chris Reynolds has a new, battery-operated cash register for the club. Chris Irving asked if we need to purchase a new starting gun. Tim replied that our gun is fine – Bruce doesn't like FLRC's gun so he was using Harshorne's gun at the meet, and that's the one that had trouble.

Other vice-presidents' business:

Trails, track and roads had no news.

Other Business:

Diane Sherrer has publicized, promoted and counted votes for the Hartshorne Memorial Volunteer Award for the last ten years. She will provide guidance to Shelly Marino, who will take on this responsibility.

Meeting adjourned circa 7pm

Next Meeting: February 13, Race Director Training; next full board meeting will be March 12.