



FINGER LAKES RUNNERS CLUB

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

September 14, 2011 5:30pm

708 Rhodes Hall, Cornell University

Meeting called to order 5:38, Bob Talda presiding.

In attendance: Liz Brundige, Joel Cisne, Maria Costanzo, Jill Cusack, Tim Ingall, Karen Ingall, Chris Irving, Andy Jordan, Nancy Kleinrock, Gary McCheyne, Chris Reynolds, Joe Reynolds, Bruce Roebal, Steve Ryan, Steve Shaum, Kim Snedden, Bob Talda, Lorrie Tily

5:30 Additions or deletions to the agenda

Youth XC, Finger Lakes National Forest dedication event

5:35 Approval of the August Meeting Minutes

Chris Irving moved to accept minutes as submitted; Joe seconded; approved without dissent.

5:40 Races & Activities:

- Monster Marathon (Tim & Karen Ingall)
 - This year's race featured higher than normal numbers: 95 preregistered, plus 30 same-day registrants; 80 people finished half, and 36 finished full; one marathoner came in to the halfway point one minute before the cutoff time, got the okay to head back out, but then hung around for ten minutes before doing so; once finished with the full, he was thrilled to have completed the distance, but in the future the rule will be that runners need to depart the start/finish area by the cutoff time.
 - Wilderness Search & Rescue was called away midrace for an off-site search, which was subsequently called off; they returned within an hour or so and resumed their duties.
 - At the finish, Karen was concerned about one runner who kept vomiting, but the runner was assisted by Earl Steinbrecher, who hosed him down to moderate his core temp, and then he was okay and able to take in fluids and food.
 - Despite over-ordering, there was a slight shortage of food post-race for the slower marathoners because of the high number of entrants; the race directors will figure out a solution for next year.
 - Three runners got off course turning off of Tone Road and onto the trail; following some vandalized ribbons, they went up the creek and continued despite the lack of white blazes; one of the off-course runners complained vociferously, not only about course markings but also about the handicapped start times (although she received a substantial time advantage), but the others were good sports about the mishap.
- Ithaca 5 & 10 (Maria Costanzo & Gary McCheyne)
 - Maria and Gary gave the post-race report, although several people served on the race committee; Maria made a point to share the organizational credit.

- Numbers were good with 300 runners, and no one broke the well-publicized no-headphones rule (success!)
- Snafus: only half of the allotment of Cornell XC team volunteers showed up, making the race shorthanded; some Tioga Street intersections lacked course marshals, the Cayuga Street water stop was initially unmanned, as was the Stewart Park water stop, which Nancy Kleinrock and Gerrit van Loon took over with little negative impact to race participants.
- Some course marshals did a great job, but others did not take their responsibility adequately seriously and/or bunched up with friends rather than covering unmanned intersections.
- A suggestion was made to meet with teams volunteering to be course marshals a day or two in advance of the race to receive instructions from representatives of the Ithaca Fire Police.
- Two Fire Police marshaled at the entrance to Stewart Park, and they recognized the need for more manpower; this year's race was on the tenth anniversary of 9/11, limiting the availability of first responders; more people will be available to help in future years.
- Gary proposes making a donation to the Ithaca Fire Police from race proceeds.
- Cones all the way down the center stripe of the roads with "runners on road" signs alerted drivers that something was going on, but Gary suggests more/bigger cones and more "runners on road" signs; the goal is something large enough for cars to see but not so big as to block traffic.
- Preliminary figures show ~\$2200 profit (before donation to Fire Police).
- Jill reports on awards garnered from Six Mile Creek: After some negotiation, the new manager agreed to providing \$150 worth of gift cards at a price of \$110, whereas the expectation was to pay \$75 for \$150 in gift cards; the manager requested that race organizers inform the winery of desire for sponsorship in early winter 2011 for the fall 2012 race; moreover, larger sponsorship is possible in the form of vouchers for bottles (red, white, or juice) instead of gift cards, so this will be the plan for next year.
- A minor complaint came in that there were no prizes for kids this year in fun run; an attempt will be made to provide a token to all kids next year, perhaps recycled medals or something from the dollar store.
- Track Meet Recap (summer)
 - Joel Cisne recaps a series of exchanges with Craig Paiement, who hasn't followed through on his plans, which were in retrospect more than he could handle (5&10 and summer track series); the club can look at this as a lesson learned: don't let even a well-intentioned individual take on too much.
- FLRC Picnic
 - Although little notice is going out to the membership, the club picnic will take place at the Cass Park Children's Garden, starting at 3 pm with a 4 pm start for 5K and 1-mile self-timed fun runs, with food and games to follow.
 - Joel has laid out a course for 5K and mile fun run, sent out one notification, and will send out a reminder to the full club membership list and club listserv.
 - Games: three-legged, sack race, Frisbee toss
 - Attendees should bring a dish to pass, and the club will provide burgers, soda.
 - Joe will bring feather banners and the big clock for self-timing.
- Danby Down-n-Dirty (Andy Jordan)

- Andy had the DEC permit in hand, has contacted town clerk, fire dept, and Wilderness Search & Rescue, and has secured portapotties.
 - A handful of people have already sent in entries.
 - He will provide Ithaca Beer for prizes.
- Youth Cross Country
 - One of the five regional Youth XC meets will be held in this area; the race will be Oct 22 at Buttermilk Falls State Park's Larch Meadow; Liz Vance has charts on how to set it up and run it.
 - Liz has helpers, but she needs to use the club's equipment, and a board member must accompany it; Joe R. assures that the entire process will last no more than two hours for the two or three races.
 - Looking for a volunteer: Bob Talda will check with on his availability.
- Finger Lakes National Forest New Facility Dedication Day: The Forest will reopen the lovely Caywood Point property on Seneca Lake on Sep 24 with a dedication event.
- Winter Track Meets (Bruce Roebal)
 - All meets will occur on Sundays
 - Dec 4, Jan 8, Feb 12, Mar 18, 2012.
 - Hartshorne Masters Mile is expected to be Jan 21, 2012.
 - Turkey Trot: Thurs 11/24
- FLRC Race Calendar
 - Bob Talda suggests composing the 2012 calendar as a spreadsheet of race dates for easy review; a simple list of race dates appear in Aug 2011 minutes.
 - Board members should review the dates and speak up if any cause major conflicts with other events; the goal is to finalize the calendar and publish in external entities: our posters and ads in the Cornell Daily Sun and Ithaca/Tompkins tourist guides.

6:00 Finances – Sophia Darling

- In lieu of attending the meeting, Sophia included the following comments with the distribution of the financials:
- I am still working with Maria to compile the final figures for the 5&10.
- Hartshorne 2012 has begun. We've sent the check for the Country Club.
- Under the General-Other category there are two line items with negative income figures. The fees of \$60 represent bank fees we have incurred as a result of bad checks we received. The bank assesses a fee for returned items and this is reflected in the line item as well. There were 2 insufficient checks: Brian Thiede and Jarrett Newby. I have sent both letters. Originally, I coded both checks to the General account since it was not apparent from the copies from the bank which races these were associated with. I did determine one was from the T&H, Brian Thiede. I will reclass both of these once I receive the payments.
- The \$218.55 represents the net change in value of our Prudential account.

6:10 Membership – Melissa Hubisz

- Melissa had a perfectly lovely excuse for not submitting membership numbers: her new daughter Maple.

6:20 Newsletter Update –Liz Brundige

- The beginning of September got away from Liz, but she will get a newsletter out this month.

6:25 Web Page Update

- The in-process Wordpress-based website is viewable at www.fingerlakesrunners.org/wordpress, and the website committee invites board members to peruse it and offer comments.

- Maria reports that it is very close to completion; the lingering issue is the longitudinal display of race results, and perhaps the best solution is to link to the current page, which is formatted as desired, even though it lacks the new Wordpress look and feel.
- The goal of using the Wordpress platform is to be able to let race directors have the latitude to do present their respective races as they desire.

6:30 Equipment – Chris Reynolds

- Chris and Joe’s DR mower/brush hog needs significant repairs due to damage incurred mowing the Finger Lakes Forest trails for the FL 50s; specifically, the differential between the wheels is kaput. They anticipate at least \$400 for repairs and will get an official estimate and submit a reimbursement request for board approval.
- They will take action on the previously mentioned request for more “runners on road” signs and more prominent traffic cones for road race safety.

6:40 Other Vice President’s Business

- Trails – Joe Reynolds
 - Virgil Crest Aid Stations
 - Maria is taking charge of the Daisy Hollow aid station.
 - She still needs to round up a few people for Saturday afternoon duty, but expects to fill in the roster.
 - Joe mentions that the generator is quiet and available for power if desired, along with the club banner and feather flags.
- Road – [vacant]
 - Nick Scalfone has expressed interest in this position for next year; he approached Joel, who will follow up with a discussion of responsibilities and commitment.

7:00 New Business:

- FLRC Nominating Committee
 - Joel will create a nominating committee to present a slate at the Oct (preferably) or Nov board meeting.
- USATF Certifications (Lorrie Tily)
 - Direct expenses for certifying the seven road courses was \$210, which course certifier Eric Smith has requested as reimbursement for payment of USATF’s fee for certification.
 - Lorrie proposes giving \$1000 to Eric Smith, perhaps in two installments, for his certification services; Gary seconds, and the motion carries without objection.
- FLRC & Southern Tier Help
 - Bob expresses his opinion on the club making a donation to assist the Binghamton area with flood recovery: As tragic as the situation is, such a donation does not fall within the FLRC mission.
 - The board generally agrees.
 - If a Triple Cities Running Club puts on a fundraising event, we will, however, put out a supportive notices on their behalf and encourage participation from FLRC membership.
- USATF Elections/Organization (Lorrie) and USATF Jr. Olympics
 - USATF Niagara Association President Kevin Lucas is stepping down, and the Association is looking for a replacement for that role.
 - Lorrie proposes that someone on our club leadership might want to step up, but no one does.
 - The Niagara Assn Jr Olympics is scheduled for Nov 5 and does not yet have a club sponsor, but the board deems it too short notice to volunteer to take on this event.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, October 12, 2011