



FINGER LAKES RUNNERS CLUB
Minutes of BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
September 11th, 2013 5:30pm
105 Kennedy Hall, Cornell University

In attendance: board members Rob Kurcoba, Bruce Roebal, Gary McCheyne, Maria Costanzo, Steve Shaum, Nancy Kleinrock, Chris Irving, Charlie Fay, Time Ingall, Karen Ingall, KC Bennett, Lorrie Tily, Sue Aigen, Gerrit Van Loon, Melissa Hubisz, Joel Cisne, Shelly Marino, Andy Jordan, and Will Fox; and FLRC members Marvin (Rusty) Russell, Eamon Ingall, and special guests Joe Dabes and Ian Golden.

Meeting was called to order at 5:34 pm. by President Joel Cisne. Those present introduced themselves.

The president gave a recap of last month's meeting.

Additions and deletions to agenda: Green Monster has provided FLRC with a comp entry; also, slate of officers for 2014.

Review and approval of the August minutes: Chris moved and Lorrie seconded that the minutes be approved. Motion passed.

Main Topic: FLRC Races, Virgil Crest Ultras, & the Tillotsons (Joe Dabes, Ian Golden, FLRC Board)

Should the club allocate monies to the private landowner adjacent to the Rock Pile, for a) previous years' vehicle and pedestrian access upon his land and b) should there be a yearly donation for same in the future?

Joe Dabes spoke of club history, and his take on the history of the issue of the Tillotson's field. Discussion ensued. Ian spoke to the value of the aid station location. He is on board for supporting it for as long as the Virgil Crest Race is run. Gerrit and Nancy have no problem with paying for access; usage fees are often paid. Maria felt that if we caused damage we have an obligation to make it right. Melissa concurred. Rob suggested we seek an easement. Chris asked, as a farmer raising hay, is this damage or access? Gerrit pointed out that a trail through the middle of the field decreases the yield. Gary tried to use the perimeter of the field, but it was impassable. Karen said that we were always told to use the ridge. As race director of Monster, she sends spectators to Van Donsel Rd, and doesn't even have Search & Rescue come to the rock pile. Gary had put tape across the entrance during Monster.

Joe will put up a sign at the entrance, restricting access. He said that Lois Tillotson is happy with the arrangement/payment Joe suggested. Sue asked who initiated this whole issue: did the Tillotson's approach Joe? No, Joe approached them about 10 years ago, and again recently. The \$100/yr figure was Joe's.

If we pay, Will said that we will need very specific language in the agreement. And if we pay for access, then we should not worry about limiting access. Sue felt that it would be better to increase FLRC's contribution to the Finger Lakes Trail Conference. But Joe said that FLTC doesn't know about this, and anyway they do not deal with off-trail access to private property.

It was agreed that this escalated into a very upsetting issue, and a commitment should not have been made without formal board and finance committee approval.

Chris moved that Ian and Joe D. sort out the initial \$500 payment to the Tillotsons and that the club, going forward, change the location of the aid station. Steve seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Gary asked if this would set a precedent for the board telling race directors what to do. Karen and Shelly felt it was fair to compensate the Tillotsons for past usage. Tim pointed to the importance to the Monster race of having an aid station at the Rock Pile. A vote was taken. The motion failed to carry.

Maria moved that FLRC pay \$250 for FLRC's share of past usage of the Tillotson's land. Will F. seconded. Motion carried with 1 opposed and 4 abstentions.

What about the future? Andy felt that annual payments for usage were part of the cost of putting on a race. Let the race director negotiate it. There appeared to be agreement on this issue.

Previous and upcoming:

Track (Rob): The last meet was successful. Now we're moving forward to the fall/winter series.

Monster Marathon (Karen): 130 registered, 103 finished. It was hot and very, very muddy. The race went well. Karen's hand-painted finisher mugs were a big hit.

5 & 10 (Maria): 292 runners (20 less than last year); 254 of these preregistered. An Eritrean man won the 10 miles. His coach gave FLRC 2 comps to the Syracuse Festival of Races.

FLRC's Virgil Crest Aid Station (Maria): Need more volunteers.

Danby Down 'n Dirty (Andy): Andy has the permits, and will put out a request for volunteers.

Guthrie 5K (Joel): This benefit race was put on by JJ & Joy, who always help with the FL50s. Joel helped with this race. An IHS coach ran sub-15. It was a good time.

Youth XC: Liz Vance (Youth Bureau) will be holding Youth XC meets on 10/5, with 1k, 2k and 3k distances. Joel will attend; all are welcome. Ian can provide equipment.

Financials: August financials were available at the meeting. Updated financial info will be provided by Sophia. The finance committee will meet soon to review policies and work on guidelines for sponsorship.

Membership (Melissa): 406 memberships: 202 individual, 176 family, 27 life, 1 team.

News and Outreach: Sue Aigen (via text) moved that the board pass a resolution thanking Chris Reynolds and Joe Reynolds for their past service, and expressing regret for any hurt feelings due to short-circuiting of due process by the club over the past few weeks. Bruce seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Joel moved that we send a card and \$100 gift certificate to the Ithaca Beer Company to Chris Reynolds and Joe Reynolds. Gary seconded. The motion passed.

Marketing & Programming:

Website (Maria): We're still present.

Equipment (Joel): Rob agreed to store all track equipment in his office. Gary investigated a new equipment storage location near Wegman's. Cost would be \$75-\$100/month. Electronic equipment will still need to be stored indoors. Gary volunteered to take on equipment management. Joel appointed Gary as equipment manager. Discussion of equipment storage will continue at the next meeting.

Other VP Business:

VP for Trails: This is an elected position. We will wait until the next election to fill it. Note that Search and Rescue has provided new contact info. Also, the Green Monster 25k and 50k in Wellsboro, PA has offered FLRC a comp entry. Perhaps FLRC can offer them a comp entry to next year's Monster.

Roads: It would be very good for FLRC board members and race directors to attend the highway department classes discussed at the last meeting. Joel will find out when they're offered. We are still in need of a race director for Skunk.

Track (Rob): Nothing to add.

Race calendar for 2014 (Joel): Joel will schedule a separate meeting for this. Discussion will include finding race directors for Skunk and FL50s, and a trail series subscription.

Slate of officers for 2014: Shelly needs another person to join her in forming a nominating committee. Once a committee is formed, they will query all current officers to see if they want to continue in office, solicit nominations for all offices, and will present a slate to the board at the October meeting.

7:27 pm: Nancy moved and Gary seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, October 9th.

Respectfully submitted by Shelly Marino, board secretary