



FINGER LAKES RUNNERS CLUB
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March 10, 2021 at 5:33 PM
Virtual meeting held via Zoom

Attendance

- **Present:** Mike Allinger, Heather Cobb, Adam Engst, Tonya Engst, Charlie Fay, Jullien Flynn, Nancy Kleinrock, Pete Kresock, Gary McCheyne, Mickie Sanders-Jauquet, Steve Shaum, Charlie Trautmann, Bill Watson
 - **Absent:** Peter Dady
 - **Club members and guests:**
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Reports & Discussion (5:33–7:09)

Welcome of the Board (Adam Engst)—10 minutes

- Revisions to the agenda
 - No revisions.
- Acceptance of the [February meeting minutes](#)
 - Minutes are accepted without objection.
- Acknowledgment of notable volunteer efforts
 - Adam extends appreciation to Steve Desmond, Pete Kresock, and Heather Cobb for their work on the FLRC Challenge.
- Volunteer Coordinator and Skunk Cabbage race director positions remain open.
- Please sign the [Ethics Statement](#) if you haven't already done so.

Road, Trails, Track (Gary McCheyne, Mickie Sanders-Jauquet, Adam Engst)—30 minutes

- Discussion of FLRC sponsoring an aid station at Ian's [Virgil Crest Ultra](#) in September (Gary)
 - Ian has requested that FLRC run an aid station for the reinstated Virgil Crest 50K, 50 mi, 100K, 100 mi; the commitment is for manning the aid station, not payment for food/supplies, for the weekend of Sep 11, 2021.
 - The sense of the board is to move forward, with Gary volunteering to serve as aid station captain.
- Discussion of whether to hold Tortoise & Hare and Twilight 5K (Mickie)
 - Tortoise & Hare:
 - Two waves of 50 starters have been approved by Jim Brophy of NY State Parks.
 - The new date is June 6, 2021.
 - Tonya suggests that the registration information be explicit about how the race will be conducted, including the details of how bare bones it will be.
 - Pete K. notes that the logistics of Thom B., assuming that goes forward as an in-person race, will carry over to the other trail races (with the exception of the Finger Lakes 50s).
 - Gary notes that Thom B would be May 22, by which time the COVID restrictions could well be different.
 - Twilight 5K:
 - Mickie reports that Ithaca High School is not open to FLRC holding the race at the school, and with several local Girls on the Run teams opting for other types of events on the one hand, and with traffic control being an increasing challenge on the other hand, she would like to cancel the race.
 - **Motion:** Mickie moves to cancel the Twilight 5K for 2021.
 - Seconded. Approved unanimously.
 - Women's Distance Festival:

- Lorrie Tily and Chris Irving will be directing this race, holding it May 9, 2021 (Mother's Day), at Dryden Lake on the Jim Schug Trail.
- Discussion of our remaining race schedule—should we proceed on the assumption that we'll be conducting our races, with the notable exceptions of Skunk Cabbage (cancelled), FL50s (still in limbo), and Twilight (cancelled)?
 - The sense of the board is to post all other races on the website, with registration opening four weeks prior to each respective race, with caveat that plans could change; all of this is with the proviso that each RD confirms the intent of moving forward with their respective race.
- Update on FLRC Challenge participation levels and course openings (Adam)
 - 98 people have registered, with many runs already recorded for both the Pseudo Skunk Cabbage and East Hill Downhill Mile courses.
 - Adam will soon open the Botanic Gardens (2.4 mi) and Waterfront Trail (5K) courses.

Group Runs (Heather Cobb)—10 minutes

- Discussion of restarting weekly group runs with a focus on FLRC Challenge courses.
 - With it getting warmer and more people becoming vaccinated, Heather is interested in restarting group runs, but is personally interested in focusing on running the FLRC Challenge courses.
 - Heather welcomes others to host group runs.
 - The idea would be to post 8:30 am, Saturday group runs, specifying which course would be run that day.
 - A proviso for participation is that each individual must either be in the FLRC Challenge or register through Webscorer (to ensure a waiver has been signed and COVID restrictions are understood).
 - Pete K. likes the idea of running the Pseudo Skunk Cabbage HM as a group run on the day that the Skunk Cabbage would have otherwise taken place.
 - A decision is made to do this Saturday, April 10, commencing 8:30 am.
 - Pete will provide promotional materials.
 - Gary will provide a water table.
 - **Motion:** Heather moves that FLRC restart group runs.
 - Seconded. Unanimously approved.

Philanthropy (Mickie Sanders-Jauquet, Mike Allinger)—15 minutes

- Request to the board to increase the 2021 budget by \$5000 for charitable giving to groups we've supported in the past, starting with \$2000 to Girls on the Run (Mickie)
 - The Philanthropy Committee has learned, through Lorrie Tily, that there will be several local Girls on the Run teams getting underway this spring.
 - Lorrie has requested funds to support Girls on the Run.
 - The Philanthropy Committee requests additional funds to support other groups that FLRC has conventionally funded.
 - The Finance Committee believes that sufficient income will be available from small-race income along with profit from the FLRC Challenge.
 - The Philanthropy and Finance committees agreed that a 2021 allocation of a total of \$5000 toward philanthropy would be reasonable (\$2000 for GotR, as well as \$3000 for other past recipients with a current need), even if there were a need to dip into savings a bit.
 - Note that this allocation would not include solicitations for new recipients.
 - Note also that this allocation is distinct from scholarships.
- Presentation of a revised 2021 budget with Philanthropy request and small races (Mike)
 - Mike presents the revised budget, with anticipated net revenue of \$4600.
 - **Motion:** Mike moves that FLRC adopt the revised 2021 budget (including the recommendations for the \$5000 philanthropic allocations discussed in these minutes).
 - Seconded. Unanimously approved.

Finance (Mike Allinger, Adam Engst)—15 minutes

- Report on [the club's financial position](#) as of February 2021 (Mike)

- It is noted that no race registrations from the FLRC Challenge are included in February 2021 numbers, and only partial registrations for Super Frosty Loomis are included; this income will be accounted for in March 2021.
- Discussion of the request (made originally in July) by the Friends of Hammond Hill to serve as their fiscal sponsor in an upcoming fundraising campaign (Adam)
 - Friends of Hammond Hill have shifted their fund-raising platform to the Ithaca company Give Gab.
 - Friends of Hammond Hill is a nonincorporated, nonprofit entity that is the official steward organization for Hammond Hill State Forest.
 - FLRC would be using our nonprofit status as a means for the Friends of Hammond Hill to raise money.
 - Being a “fiscal sponsor” is a reasonable legal process for FLRC to enter into with Friends of Hammond Hill, given that Mike Ludgate and Ann Leonard are trusted and trustworthy individuals.
 - Similarly, FLRC receives its nonprofit status as a pass-through associated with the Road Runners Club of America.
 - The number of transactions would be minimal, therefore impacting FLRC’s accounting very little.
 - There should be no hidden fees to FLRC associated with Give Gab.
 - **Motion:** Adam moves that FLRC act as the fiscal sponsor for the Friends of Hammond Hill on a one-time trial basis for their upcoming fundraising campaign.
 - Seconded. Unanimously approved.
- The FLRC credit card has been approved and should be arriving this week (Adam)
 - There will be one card for Adam, one for Gary, and one for Mickie.
 - The credit limit is \$20K; a limit can—and will—be placed each individual card according to decisions made previously.

Membership (Adam Engst, Charlie Fay)—5 minutes

- **Members:** 405 members (up 21 from last month), down from 651 at this time last year
- **Memberships:** 248 memberships (up 15 from last month), down from 402 last year
- **Breakdown:** 178 individual, 224 family members
- Discussion of the idea of free one-year memberships (individual or family, as appropriate) to anyone who has been hurt financially by the pandemic. (Charlie F.)
 - The sense of the board is that this would be a great idea.
 - Adam reports that RunSignup has a free coupon capability; the process would be to create a 100%-off coupon, with the question being how to word the opportunity and convey it to the appropriate people, with the offer being open for a full 12 months, so that anyone who has recently joined or re-upped can use the code for next year.
 - Announcements would go out in the Announcements section of the Discourse-hosted forum.
 - **Motion:** Charlie Fay moves that we offer free membership for one year for anyone expressing negative financial impact from the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Seconded. Unanimously approved.

Old Business (Adam Engst)—10 minutes

- Discussion of the Citizen Climate Education presentation last month and whether FLRC wants to endorse the carbon fee and dividend bill that Zoe Getzin and Miranda Phillips told us about last month. Please [review the slides](#).
 - Jullien shares that Canada has a similar act regarding carbon pollution; she receives a rebate on her taxes yearly.
 - She adds that climate change isn’t a political matter; it is scientific fact.
 - If all that is required is a statement to Zoe and Miranda to include FLRC as a signatory to their documentation, Adam expresses positivity toward endorsement.
 - Tonya suggests explicitly tying the negative effects of climate change to matters associated with running, such as damage to trails from severe storms.
 - Mike A. suggests that someone should read the bill in full and ensure that it holds no negative components.

- Charlie F. volunteers to read the bill and report back to the board.

Events (Adam Engst)—5 minutes if time available

- Liz Hartman is working with Ian Golden on a presentation from ultrarunner and author Katie Arnold in conjunction with Ian's Trails Collective site. It will take place on March 25, 2021, 8 pm.
 - FLRC will co-promote the event.

Web/Tech Team (Adam Engst)—2 minutes if time available

- Discourse community engagement report
 - Currently has 780 users (up 13), 232 posts in the past 30 days (up 87), and 12900 pageviews (up 4000)

Diversity (Jullien Flynn)—No report necessary

- Several board members attended a webinar on promoting inclusivity in races. [Notes and supporting documents](#) are available in the Diversity Committee forum.

Communication (Adam Engst)—No report necessary

- February Footnotes happened.
- March Footnotes will include a bit on the FLRC Scholarship at Lorrie's request.

Governance (Charlie Trautmann)—No report necessary

- No activity on which to report

Equipment (Gary McCheyne)

- No activity on which to report.

Tonya moves to adjourn at 7:09 pm. Seconded; approved.

Upcoming Board Meeting Dates

- April 14, 2021
- May 12, 2021
- June 9, 2021
- July 14, 2021
- Aug 11, 2021
- Sep 8, 2021
- Oct 13, 2021
- Nov 10, 2021
- Dec 8, 2021