

# USATF- New England Annual Meeting

Regis College, Student Center, Weston, MA

Sunday, September 23, 2018

## **The meeting was called to order at 4:09 pm**

The current board secretary was not in attendance due to illness and no one was assigned to take minutes.

A quorum was established by noting that well over 25 members had signed the sign-in sheet at that time. Treasurer Stephen Peckiconis verified that all but one were eligible members approved to vote. Approximately 10 more members came in during next 30 minutes. Final count attending the meeting was 50 members, 2 non-members.

## **President's Opening Remarks** Chris Pasko

Chris presented a short slide deck leading off with the meeting agenda as well as highlighting board accomplishments in the past two years. [\[Provide link to report\]](#). Among those accomplishments are: Hiring our first Marketing Director / Revising bylaws / Hosting national championships in three different sports / Renovating the office / Membership growth crossing the 6,000 mark.

Future goals are:

1. Develop more sponsorships
2. Bring a Level II Coaching School to New England
3. Work with National Office to address IT issues

Chris announced that he is running for a USATF (national) Board seat, known as the General Competition seat, in December to address some of the issues he mentioned. That is independent of his position as association President.

Slide: Membership growth opportunities should be addressed at the Serious and Recreational level of athletes. Most of our members now are at the Competitive Level. We need to expand beyond that.

Slide: Retiring board members were thanked. Tom Derderian, Past President; Shaun Dever, VP; Amanda Wright, VP; Jen Mortimer, Women's LDR; Gordon MacFarland, Masters LDR; Alexandra Mindel, Athlete Rep.

## **Treasurer's Report** – [\[Provide link to report\]](#)

Net assets as of Aug 31 are \$507K, up \$17K from a year ago. Operational deficit over last 12 months was \$22K, slightly less than expected. Revenue from membership is down slightly even though number of members has increased, mostly on the youth side. Sanction revenue dropped again. Our Programs, primarily all the events we hosted, netted a gain of \$3K due to increased entries. Our Vanguard portfolio is worth \$356.3K, with \$243K in US stock index funds (limited to 45% of our net assets) and \$113K in a short-term bond fund in place of a bank savings account. The stock portion of the fund returned about 19.6% over the 12 months. The past 12 months was a vanilla year in that there were almost no extraordinary items, so is a good baseline for the future. Expected operational deficit for next 12 months is \$28K. The treasurer recommends an increase in our Association sanction fees.

The treasurer was asked one question by Ron Boemker about the lack of revenue from sponsorships in 2018 on the P&L statement, acknowledged that is the case, and noted that this is one of Chris' current goals.

## **Managing Director's Report**– [\[Provide link to report\]](#)

The competitive end tends to be shrinking, many events not as competitive as they were in the past  
No shortage of events, it is completing vs competing  
Our membership is looking for participation events, race series, or a full XC Season

We try to fill the gaps that rest of marketplace is not  
Facility access is an ongoing problem  
Things will be tough for another year at the National office (see President's goals)

### **Grant Committee Report**

Mike Travers, grant committee chair spoke. We awarded about \$3,500 in last 12 months. Most of the funds were for travel. We are trying to increase funding for Programs, such as putting on a clinic, starting a new race.

**There was no Unfinished Business.**

**There was no New Business.**

### **Elections started at 4:53pm**

This is an even-numbered year so all board positions are contested. Chris outlines handling any position with matching number of openings and nominations first. Then contested positions, then unfilled positions. To summarize, Chris suggests we go through the officers in serial order and then handle the sports committee chairs in more of a hunk.

**President:** Incumbent Chris Pasko, Wellesley Youth T&F is the only prenomination on the posted agenda who met the deadline. Motions to put him on the ballot. Seconded. Chris asks if there are any other nominations for President. [Secretary's Note: The updated bylaws prohibit nominations from the floor for President in this situation] Motion made to close noms. Passes. Chris asks if people are comfortable having a vote.

Ron Boemker motions that due to lack of a Secretary in attendance, that Justin Kuo be officially assigned the role of Secretary for the meeting and will cast one vote for everyone who runs unopposed. **Motion passes.**  
As he is running unopposed, Chris Pasko retains the President post for a second two year term.

**Three VP positions:** There are three nominees on the agenda: Larry Libow, Mass Velocity TC; Barbara Hamilton, Boston United T&CC Club; Margaret Fox, Greater Boston TC.

Nomination of all three is made to be put on ballot. Motioned. Seconded. No additional nominations (noms) made. Motion to close noms. **Motion passes.**

**Treasurer:** There are no prenomination on the agenda. Since no noms were received prior to the written nomination deadline of September 3, Chris asks the floor if there are any nominations. There are none.

**Secretary:** Chris announces we will skip Secretary for now and moves on to Men's LDR Chair.  
Member Jim Garcia speaks up that historically we've always done all four of the officer positions (Pres, VPs, Secty, Treasurer) as a block before moving to any chair positions. Alex Ivanov had earlier suggested that this year we change that usual order of elections and Chris says he was trying to accommodate his suggestion. Some discussion ensues. We move on to secretary nominations without a clear decision on voting order.

Chris notes there are two nominations for Secretary. One is pre-nominated Treasurer Stephen Peckiconis, Cambridge Sports Union, being term limited out of previous position. Also Kourtney Bonsey, a coach at Regis College. Bonsey was not listed on the final written agenda posted on 09/18/18 to the website nor was a nomination heard from the floor. Chris asks for a motion to put both on the ballot.

Ron Boemker asks Peckiconis if he would run for Treasurer and withdraw for Secretary. Peckiconis answers "No". Moved to accept the two nominations. Seconded. Vote started with question "All in favor?"

Member Stephen Peckiconis interrupts before vote finishes to ask if Bonsey is a USATF member. She responds, "Not currently". Chris outlines that you must be a member prior to the meeting so Kourtney is not eligible to run.

Chris asks if there are any other nominations. Motion to close noms. Motion passes. Stephen Peckiconis, Cambridge Sports Union, is the new Secretary.

Men's LDR: Incumbent Scott Mindel, Central Mass Striders, is sole prenomination, confirmed. Motion to close Noms. Motion passes. Scott continues as Men's LDR.

Women's LDR. No prenominations. Amanda Watters, BAA, nominated from the floor. Motion to close Noms. Motion passes. Amanda is new Women's LDR chair.

Men's LDR. No prenominations. Steve Viegas, NE65+ nominated from the floor.

Chris notes that Michael McGrane would run for Masters LDR chair if he lost out on XC Chair. He asks Steve Viegas if he is okay with postponing Masters LDR vote until after XC chair vote, Steve is fine with it.

Open T&F. Incumbent Jeff Rockwood, Boston-North TC, is sole prenomination,. Confirmed. Motion to close Noms. Motion passes unanimously.

Masters T&F. Incumbent Mike Travers is sole prenomination. Confirmed. Motion to close Noms. Motion passes.

MUT: Incumbent Paul Kirsch, acidotic RACING, is sole prenomination. Confirmed. Motion to close Noms. Motion passes.

Race Walking: Incumbent Justin Kuo, New England Walkers, is sole prenomination. Confirmed. Motion to close Noms. Motion passes.

Chris makes a motion to thank Justin Kuo for all his extra work in and outside the office. Motion passes.

Youth: Incumbent Alex Ivanov, Nitehawks Sports Club, is sole prenomination. Confirmed. Noms closed. Motion passes.

Two prenominations for Cross Country chair are Incumbent Michael McGrane, BAA, and Chris Wargo, HFC Striders. Chris makes motion to put them both on the ballot. Motion passes. Motion to close Noms. Motion passes.

They are allowed two minutes to speak. A video made by Michael McGrane was played as he is in Buffalo for the US Masters XC 5K championship. Then Chris Wargo spoke. Ballots were distributed and collected.

While XC votes were being tabulated, Rebecca Breslow, M.D., spoke about USATF National level sports medicine and science. Rebecca is a Sports Medicine physician at Brigham Women's Hospital and serves on the Sports Medicine Committee at USATF. Is also a part of the national team medical staff this year, travelled with youth team to Youth WC in Finland in July. A core initiative she would like to spearhead in collaboration with USATF-NE. There is a need to form a network of health care providers interested in taking care of T&F and running athletes. Create a network, compile a database of health care providers with expertise in taking care of athletes from our members. P-T, Chiro, Trainers, massage therapists, acupuncturists, a multi-disciplinary approach to health and wellness. She provided an information letter [\[Provide link to letter\]](#) with her contact info: She hopes to put together a database over next two months.

Rebecca is willing to put together a program on any health issue if requested by members, including presenting at a club or school. Her personal research interest is a registry of masters' athletes to collect injury data and medical history from many competitive athletes across all our sports. She hopes to recruit subjects at USATF events. This will provide a data set for future health care initiatives.

Vote count for XC Chair is announced: Michael McGrane 22, Chris Wargo 25. Chris Wargo, HFC Striders, is new XC chair

Back to Master's LDR Chair. Michael McGrane was nominated by Chris Pasko per Michael's wishes. Amanda Watters spoke on Mike's behalf about his interest in this position. Then Stephen Viegas spoke. Ballots were distributed.

Chris announced that we are looking for a Treasurer now. Good systems are in place. Stephen is here to talk to if you are interested. If you have a background in finance or know of anyone who might be interested, let us know.

Vote is announced for Masters LDR Chair: Steve Viegas 34, Michael McGrane 13 so Steve Viegas, NE65+ is new chair

Nominations were opened for the three Athlete Representative positions. Two incumbents were pre-nominated, Sarah Thornton, Unattached but a member of Twilight Throwers, and Alexander Engel, Boston-North TC. Motion to add them to ballot. Motion passes. There are three positions in total and nominations were opened to the floor. One member was nominated but it was determined she was not an “active competitive athlete” and thus not eligible to be a representative of athletes, the technical definition of an Athletes Rep. Nominated from the floor were Michael McGrane, BAA; Mark Reeder, Greater Lowell RR; and David Teszler, Heartbreak Hill Striders (also coach for Youth club Waltham Track Club). Motion to close nominations passes. Each gave a short talk about themselves.

Ballots were distributed, collected, and vote counters went off to count.

Vote count for Athlete’s Rep is announced: Alex Engel, 42; Sarah Thornton 40, David Teszler 22, Michael McGrane 20, Mark Reeder 13, Alex, Sarah, and Dave Teszler are the Athlete Representatives for 2019.

### **USATF Annual Meeting Delegates**

Next step is to select delegates to the Annual Meeting in Columbus OH from Nov 29 – Dec 2. This is a working meeting. Ballot will be handed out which contains 16 pre-printed nominations plus blank lines for written additions. USATF-NE has 18 slots for annual meeting delegates in 2018.

There was a question about eligibility of David Watkins who works out of state. Response is that his eligibility was specifically checked and he meets all the criteria including maintaining a local address. Nominations taken from the floor for additional annual meeting delegates, especially looking for interest from newly elected board members.

Tom Derderian nominates Chris Wargo (new XC chair)

Larry Libow (new VP) nominates himself

Amanda Watters (new LDR chair) nominates herself

Motion to close ballot, passes.

Ron Boemker motions to “Approve all 19 on the ballot to receive the \$800-\$850 subsidy determined by the board. If any of the 19 on the ballot cannot make it, only the 18 appointed delegates will be subsidized”.

There is always attrition (usually 3-7 people) when it comes to taking four days off including a plane trip, so confidence is very high that even if all 19 are approved, 18 or fewer will be able to make it and we will solicit other delegates.

Motion seconded. Enough No’s are heard that a raised hand count was taken by the President. Ayes: 23, Nays: 10. The motion passes to subsidize all 19 originally on the ballot if they all decide to attend.

Vote taken to select the 18 delegates via ballot. Members instructed to select 18 out of 19 on the ballot.

Note: Should all 19 on the ballot ultimately attend the meeting, David Watkins would be the non-delegate attendee.

**Motion to adjourn.** Seconded. Motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 6:09 pm.

Submitted by Stephen Peckiconis, newly elected USATF-NE Association Secretary

**Addendum:** There is a video of the meeting hosted on YouTube ([https://youtu.be/ndK\\_kU9G8Hg](https://youtu.be/ndK_kU9G8Hg)) which starts 1 minute into the meeting. Note that the time stamps from the video camera are off by 5 minutes (ahead). A timestamp at bottom of video of 16:16:00 actually occurred at 4:11 pm.

Note that all motions referred to in the minutes passed unanimously unless specifically noted otherwise. In the past we’ve sometimes noted who has made motions but as there was no secretary for much of the meeting those details are not available.

There were 50 verified members on the sign-in sheet. Employees Steve Vaitones and Tommy Mazza were not eligible to vote. That leaves 48 voting members and vote count was 47 for most of the votes.

## 2018 NE Annual Meeting Sign-In Sheet

09/23/2018

Line	Name	Club#	ClubName	Status
37	Amanda Watters	1	Boston Athletic Association	New Board
24	Alexandra Mindel	5	Battle Road Track Club	Board
8	Stephen Peckiconis	6	Cambridge Sports Union	Board
23	Scott Mindel	9	Central Mass Striders	Board
6	Laurie Boemker	15	RI Track & Field Officials Guild	Board
7	Ron Boemker	15	RI Track & Field Officials Guild	Ex Board
15	Tom Derderian	16	Greater Boston Track Club	Board
34	Thomas Mazza	16	Greater Boston Track Club/P-T Employee	Empee P-T
45	Iwona Boruch	20	Greater Springfield Harriers, Inc	
46	Peter Stasz	20	Greater Springfield Harriers, Inc	Ex Board
3	Paul Schell	37	North Medford Club	Ex Board
14	Joe Tranchita	55	Waltham Track Club	Youth
28	Luca Caira	55	Waltham Track Club	Youth
36	Jack Wozek	55	Waltham Track Club	Youth
48	Sean Thomas	55	Waltham Track Club	Non-Member
12	Steve Viegas	65	New England 65 Plus Runners Club	New Board
9	Mark Reeder	68	Greater Lowell Road Runners	
33	Jim Garcia	68	Greater Lowell Road Runners	Ex Board
27	David Teszler	87	Heartbreak Hill Striders/Waltham TC	New Board
30	Chris Wargo	111	HFC Striders	New Board
31	Jeff Cahill	111	HFC Striders	
38	Jason Cakouros	111	HFC Striders	Ex Board
39	Christine Howe	111	HFC Striders	
40	Dana DeIngenis	111	HFC Striders	
41	Mark Kenwood	111	HFC Striders	
43	Chris Canning	111	HFC Striders	Ex Board
44	Emily Larson	111	HFC Striders	
47	Lee Danforth	111	HFC Striders	
49	Steve Houde	111	HFC Striders	
50	Chris Diehl	111	HFC Striders	
1	Steve Vaitones	131	Somerville Road Runners/Employee	Empee
2	Justin Kuo	137	New England Walkers	Board
16	Mark Capparella	168	Tri-Valley Front Runners	
4	Chris Pasko	173	Wellesley Youth Track and Field Club	Board
13	Jan Holmquist	192	Whirlaway Racing Team	Ex Board
19	Alex Ivanov	230	Nitehawks Sports Club	Board
20	Stephanie Schneider	230	Nitehawks Sports Club	Youth
10	Jeff Rockwood	256	Boston-North Track Club	Board
32	Alexander Engel	256	Boston-North Track Club	Board
26	John Oleski	273	Mass Velocity Track Club	Ex Board
42	Larry Libow	273	Mass Velocity Track Club	New Board
22	Bob Gidari	307	New Hampshire Track Officials Assn	Delegate
21	Barbara Hamilton	355	Boston United Track & XC Club	New Board
35	Theodore Loska	355	Boston United Track & XC Club	
18	Nich Haber	376	NE Distance	
29	Jennifer Mortimer	396	Millennium Running	Board
5	Mike Travers	999	Unattached	Board
11	Rebecca Breslow	999	Unattached/Brigham and Women's	Presenter
17	Sarah Thornton	999	Unattached	Board
25	Katherine Adams	999	Unattached	Board
51	Kourtney Bonsey		Regis College Track Coach; sign in by Secty	Non-Member