

USA Track & Field - New England Board Meeting

MSPCA, Waltham, MA
Monday, November 7, 2016

7:00 The meeting was called to order by President Chris Pasko. He made remarks in regards to the successes of our fall programming and the progress of various agenda items.

A quorum was established.

Board members present: Scott, Sasha, Justin, Maggie, Sean, Stephen, Nicole, David, Jen, Steve, Jan, Jason, Shaun, Amanda, DJ, Mike, Brielle, Chris.

Present via conference call: Travis Kupiec, Laurie Boemker, Tom Derderian, Rich Hartnett, and Paul Kirsch.

- Motion was presented by Amanda Wright,
October Meeting Minutes to be approved.

Motion Seconded by Jan Holmquist

- **Motion Passed** with unanimous approval.

Treasurer's Report was given by Stephen Peckiconis.

Tom will sign some documents (see email). According to our best practices, we will share these documents with at least 1 VP. Good increase of memberships. 10/31/16 is membership year end. National membership is up 2%. We will probably have a few thousand extra from membership dues. Major difference in budget this year since JO provides an imbalance between years. We are positive by about 18k.

Managing Directors' Report was given by Steve Vaitones.

2017 numbers begin on 11/1/16. Race sanctions will drop since some races are shrinking, some are cancelled, and the national sanction fee has increased and late fees have been added.

Companies will look elsewhere for insurance, resulting in a loss of revenue for us. XC

Championships. Junior Olympics birthday verifications/athletic.net registration has been time consuming. Meeting for MSTCA and MIAA safety policies at Reggie Lewis Center - no protocols for fires, emergence situations. Mayors Cup and Mass Middle School Meet - BAA funds both races (850 t-shirts for Mayors Cup, finishers Medals, finish line decoration, bib numbers).

- Motion presented by Jan
To give \$250 donation to Hammer Out Cancer RI

Motion Seconded by Justin Kuo

- **Motion Passed** with unanimous approval.

Marketing Coordinator Search - Amanda gave update on work with Sasha, Brielle, & Mike.

Over 100 applications. Interviewed 12 candidates. Narrowed down to 4 locals from first batch.

- 2 young women with marketing experience and track & field experience
- Barry who is on the Board for Boston Road Runners and has a lot of road racing experience
- Pat Burn who is working on the USATF Conn. website, does event planning, Manchester Running Company. He is looking at the position as part time.

Committee will conduct interviews the week of 14th (wednesday and thursday). Discussion about what the applicants are expecting, full time or part time. Range of applicants...age, expectations, etc. Interested in local applicants that have background in track and field.

Website Revision - Update from Chris Pasko.

Received proposal from Andy Martin, subcommittee responded and approved proposal of \$5250 of \$10,000 budget- from a usability perspective it's good, from a mobile perspective it's fine. Chris has moved forward with Andy to do the translation to be up and working by Christmas. Maybe not 100% we want but aligns with what national wants and looks good and free template. At price and speed it's good. Andy is doing 4-5 other association's websites so he is familiar with the site and will do the upkeep (upgrades) every couple months. He also pitched after-market services but we have not moved on those.

7:30 Vin Lananna Conference Call

Mentioned his platform on the website. 3 reasons that he decided to run for president: 1.) USATF to represent the entire membership, his goal to provide a voice for all associations. 2.) Elite athletes, they need to take a center stage and play an active role in determining what is important to them and not having USATF guessing. 3.) Good people on board of directors. He wants to be a strong voice to an engaged board and build consensus. For national office to be carrying out what the mission is to the membership. He's "all in" - energy and time. Wants to voice needs of membership so they are articulated accurately and then can be listened to. Wants transparency. Will make sure the decisions of the board and the national office are communicated to the membership with explanations. He has completed required conflict of interests paperwork with his affiliations with Nike, Tracktown, and mentioned that USATF is connected with Nike by contract. There are mechanisms in place to make sure those conflicts of interest are not acted upon, but he might have a better chance of influencing decisions involving Nike because of his connections...needs to dig deeper to determine the extent of those interests legally. Mentioned that his opponent also has an affiliation with Nike. He also said, "Big things don't get done without collaboration. When you listen you can speak the language. X amount of resources (human or financial) is what's important". He has to constantly justify why he's spending resources at the University of Oregon.

Chris Pasko shared his support for Vin and his belief in the quality of the candidate. If Jackie wants to call in we will listen to what she has to say.

National Annual Meeting

Presidential election this year for USATF
Important to go as an organization.

Steve Vaitones talked about logistical stuff. - Meeting is Thursday afternoon through Sunday. The opening session is Thursday 4/5ish, it is important to attend. There are a lot of overlapping meetings and a lot of business is done in hallways and at social activities. It is important for first timers to attend the orientation. There is no executive board for youth athletics. Steve Vaitones is a member of the rules committee. At their meetings other people can sit around the side of room and can speak but don't run the discussion. Except for executive meetings you can go wherever you want. Athlete support varies from year and year depending on who shows up. Meetings are 9ish - 7ish. The New England association is the most generous in sending members to the

national meeting. Representatives in committee meetings are the chairs - those are the only people who can vote in those committees. Steve will send a list of who is the voting delegate for each committee. Saturday morning is the presidential vote, all must be present. This is a Rules year -50 rules changes are proposed to be voted upon on Sunday morning (NE association will sit together). Take notes when you're in the meetings.

Friday night - Chris Pasko is hosting a dinner, location TBD.

Friday 5pm Vin has invited us to his social.

Schedule Online.

Grant Process

In the event that a member of committee has an conflict of interest in a grant, they are not allowed to vote on that grant. Grant Committee: Sasha, Jen, Amanda, Mike.

To eliminate taking up board meetings with voting for grants:

- Motion presented by Amanda Wright,

The Grant Committee shall have power to make individual grants without additional Board approval as long as the individual grant is up to and including \$2,500 and the grant budget for a given calendar year has not been exceeded.

Motion seconded by Jen Mortimer.

- **Motion passed** with unanimous approval.

Awards Banquet - Proposal by Jason Ayr

He presented a detailed budget with event schedule.

Instead of 1 speaker, have a panel with Q&A session.

From a budget perspective he understands that \$1000 for a band is high but made a good case: a live band could add a lot and draw higher numbers to the event.

Schedule: Cocktails 45 min, Dinner, short Welcome, and about an hour of an Elite Athlete Panel.

We would shorten awards portion by limiting awards that athletes are called up to podium for, such as only awards we don't know who has won, as opposed to announcing previous winners that have been cumulative throughout the year.

Social, Dancing would be a large portion of the night.

We would keep deal for tables of 10 for \$300, but increase individual fee to \$40/person.

For approval tonight, hotel (Hilton Garden Inn) needs \$500 deposit.

- Motion presented by Jason Ayr,

To proceed with awards banquet as per the budget presented.

Motion seconded by Amanda Wright.

- **Motion passed** with unanimous approval.

Budget Reviews - Chris encourages all groups to provide a clarity in budget changes.

MUT - Paul is not ready with budget - not that different from last year but no formal proposal now.

He will submit between now and December as an email proposal.

Cranmore Mountain climb - National Championships in 2017. He is hoping to grow the event by adding other races that weekend (1 lap race or uphill only), after party at

Tuckerman brewing company, looking to get sponsors.

David - will present budget in December - reached out to New Balance for sponsorships. Wondering what it would take to attract sub-elites, prize money? good competition? Still needs to determine location. Incorporate Friday Night Lights? Maybe include other age groups? Continue in conjunction with masters champs? pros: 1 facility fee, timing.

ATR - Stephen presented for Dave Dunham since he submitted a budget a couple weeks ago. Last year's budget was \$9000, new proposal is \$5000 for awards + \$200 for advertising, but structured the same. The series requires you to participate in 4 events to get prize \$. It's good to get people to cross over to other disciplines that they wouldn't otherwise try.

- Motion presented by Stephen Peckiconis, ATR gets budget of \$5,200 for 2017 with breakdown of \$5000 (awards) + \$200 (advertising).

Motion seconded by Amanda Wright.

- **Motion passed** with 12 for, 3 against, and 2 abstentions.

General info: LDR normally gets \$12000 in prize money and MUT gets \$2000.

Sports Committee Updates

Cross Country - Nicole Hamilton

Cross Country is almost over. Survey about XC a couple months past - didn't get out to the number of people they wanted so it will be resent in the November newsletter. Asking questions about rules, specifically women's rules.

Youth - Sean Duncan

Middle school championships were this weekend, there was a good turnout. Only 1 person with negative opinion about registration. Many people interested in registering for Junior Olympics but confused about the process. JO XC and Elementary XC Championships are Friday in Lynn.

Mens LDR - Scott Mindel

Shared the finalized Grand Prix selection process that will be shared with clubs. Compiling bid to put in survey monkey for general membership to vote for races. December 7th meeting - anyone is welcome to come, but each club has only 1 representative with voting power. Will present options of racing schedule, some with most popular races, but also present with less popular choices. Marathon was yesterday. Will be announcing the winners for all series soon. Will send out survey to potentially change the scoring for women in 2 categories (open and masters - 40-49). Will send survey to teams who actually participated in series.

Masters T&F - Mike Travers will update in December.

Other Info

CVS dropped sponsorship of Downtown 5k last Friday

David - If anyone is interested in being a manager for USATF, head managers and event managers. Dec 3rd 10-noon. Asked for any volunteers to see what is feasible and doable in this area.

Tom, wants to hear about Chris' relay ideas - Chris ran a youth relay only event this summer. Idea to spotlight relays as part of FNL? Involve college and high school teams? Ideas as ways to cut across different age groups.

Thank you to Jan for hosting us.

We will reimburse Jan for any costs incurred this meeting i.e.. phone costs

December meeting will be at the office - we will discuss redoing office decor.

8:55 Meeting adjourned.