



Hudson Mohawk Road Runners Club
General Meeting
Point of Woods Community Center
October 8, 2008

Mission Statement

The Hudson-Mohawk Road Runners Club (HMRRC) is dedicated to promoting the sport of distance running through education and training to promote running as a part of a healthy lifestyle, promoting personal fitness and community through organizing and managing running events, providing means of communication among club members and creating opportunities for social activities. We believe in encouraging participation in running events for individuals of all levels of running abilities and acknowledge that volunteer participation is a foundation upon which HMRRC exists.

Attendance: Rob Moore, Ed Hampston, Ray Lee, David Newman, Doug Bowden, Chuck Terry, Mark Warner, Cathy Sliwinski, Mike Kelly, Vince Juliano, Ed Gillen, Nancy Briskie, John Kinnicutt, Elaine Humphrey, Tom and Marcia Adams, Robin Pendergast, Josh Merlis, Sara Brenner, Ray Newkirk, Barb Light

Call to Order (M. Kelly): 7:35PM

1. Reading and approval of minutes (B. Light): In the September minutes need to change Paragraph 3.4 # of runners to 337 made by Doug Bowden. Cathy Sliwinski made motion to approve 2nd by Robert Moore. Motion passed.
2. Reports of Officers
 - 2.1 President (M. Kelly): - Thanked the immediate past President Cathy Sliwinski for her time, humility and service to the club. Cathy has set the bar high for Mike Kelly and all future club officers.
 - Meeting date changes: December meeting has been changed to Tuesday, December 16 from Wednesday, December 10. Mike is looking to make minor changes to the March and May meeting dates. Ed Gillen to send out email with date change and will post it on website.
 - \$1,500 was sent to sponsor Healthy Living Expo in association with 2008 Stockade-athon which will be held on Nov 8th. Vince Juliano reminded the club that this sponsorship includes an ad to be placed in the Schenectady Gazette. Vince reported that this would be a great opportunity to build membership as 3 out of 4 applications for the race that he has received are not members.
 - Officers are examining ways to secure the Club's monies. We are sitting on almost \$300,000.00 in light of financial upheavals, need to evaluate where our money is at. We need to look out for members monies.
 - Mike will look into proposal to hire a financial advisor that specializes in working with not-for-profits. He was wondering if a possible club member does this. Ed Gillen can do search on members by occupation. Ray Newkirk suggested to just let Chuck Terry do it. One issue was how much money we could accrue without jeopardizing not-for-profit status. It was determined that there was no limit. Marcia Adams said that Mark Brian, a sponsor for Delmar Dash is a financial advisor. Mike will talk to Chuck Terry and John Kinnicutt about this.

- Mike also would like club to consider paying for an accounting firm to do a professional audit of the clubs finances. Mike wondered if we had ever had an audit done? Yes, by Al Maikels. Do we have legal obligation to have a yearly financial audit? We do have fiduciary duty, but not a legal obligation. Mike thinks it is worth looking into having audit done on annual basis to report back to club. Ray Newkirk said the Executive Vice President of Finance is a CPA, he is more than capable about having audits done. Mike will talk to Chuck Terry. Chuck reported that he did audit some races and report at earlier meetings. He said that an audit should be done by a third party and not an officer of the club.
- The Club's Annual Banquet and Hall of Fame Induction will be held on Saturday, February 7, 2009 at the Desmond in Albany; more details to come.
- Judy Lynch, Club Clothing Sales Extraordinaire, wanted Mike to report that the first collection for the shirt and shoe recycling program will be held at the packet pickup for the Club Marathon and ½ Marathon on Saturday, October 11. Jennifer Senez and David Newman have been kind enough to help out with the program. You can bring in old shoes, shirts and put in a bin and then they are sent off to company. They are donated to people in other countries or if the shoes are in bad condition they are ground up and the material is used to build tracks. Marcia Adams also heard of a "Medals for Metal" program where medals are collected that people donate and then the medals are donated to children with cancer.

2.2 Executive Vice President (M. Warner): No report

2.3 Executive Vice President – Finance (C. Terry): He is working on the 2009 Budget and he will have something for the November meeting to review and discuss.

2.4 Secretary (B. Light): No report.

2.5 Treasurer (J. Kinnicutt): sent email to officers with financials for the month and distributed copies to those present.

3. Reports of Committees

3.1. Membership (E. Gillen): Ed reported that last month we had 25 new members join, 32 renewals. There are currently 2300 active members.

3.2. Volunteers (M. Adams): Thanked John Kinnicutt for his help with prizes. They did arrive for volunteer program. Information meeting on Oct 20th at the Stadium Golf Club. She asked that we please let people know. Tom & Marcia just returned from Portland, Oregon. She requested to be put on the agenda for November so they can go over their written report on the seminar they attended.

3.3. Public Relations (R. Moore): Rob reported the press release was sent out for the Mohawk Hudson Mohawk Marathon and the Toys for Tots Half Marathon. On September 20th HMRRC had a booth at the Adirondack marathon. Rob ran the booth and he reported that he gave out a lot of information on the club and upcoming races. He reported that they would like us to attend again next year.

3.4. Race Committee (N. Briskie): Nancy reported on the Anniversary 5.6 Race, and the 2.8 race, and the Voorheesville 7.1 miler. The 5.6 Anniversary race had 100 finishers and the 2.8 miler had 40 finishers. The Voorheesville 7.1 Mile Run had 91 finishers. Upcoming events include the Mohawk Hudson Marathon, Toys for Tots Half Marathon, both events closed out. Stockade-athon on November 9th. At the Race Director meeting all the dates were set for next year. They also discussed van renting/leasing options.

3.5. Race Committee Treasurer (P. Zentko): No report.

3.6. Pace Setter (R. Nagengast/M. Adams): Robin reported that she was meeting with three Production Editors, hopefully will have position filled soon.

3.7. Website (E. Neiles): No report.

3.8. Conflicts Committee (C. Terry): No report

3.9 Safety (V. Juliano): Vince gave SUNY Albany safety brochures for an event they are having.

4. Unfinished Business: Ray Newkirk reported on the grant committee - Looking to expand size of the committee, Chad Davie has offered to volunteer the subcommittee of the youth program. He will organize a focus group and invite the whole organization. He would like to have as many people from the club to show up and he will ask for ideas on how different organizations can use money, how programs are structured, and to make sure money is used appropriately. Important to know who the money is given to and how it is used.

5. New Business:

5.1 Long Term Planning Committee: Ray Newkirk brought in guests to go over Voorheesville-Albany bike trail proposal. Michael Perrin, the Albany County Deputy County Executive, Mark Fitzsimmons, Director of the Albany County Dept of Economic Development and Herb Reilly, Albany County Legislator (and longtime club member).

Mr. Perrin, Mr. Fitzsimmons, and Mr. Reilly discussed Albany County's recent agreement with the Canadian Pacific Railway to purchase and convert a nine mile stretch of the Old Delaware and Hudson Railroad between the Port of Albany and Voorheesville to a public recreational trail. The Albany County Executive has made this a high priority job. Albany County has received \$700,000 in funds to purchase the land from the NYS Department of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and Scenic Hudson. Albany County is in the process of finalizing the contract with Canadian Pacific Rail. Once the contract is finalized, there is a 300 day due diligence period when environmental and other studies are conducted. If all goes well, the County expects to begin construction in late 2009 and finish in late 2010. The Long Term Planning Committee recommends that the club appropriate grant money to support this project. One way we could get involved is to have a club representative attend meetings with Albany County and other local organizations who are working on this project. Mike Kelly asked Mr. Perrin, Mr. Fitzsimmons and Mr. Reilly to keep HMRRC informed so that we can become more involved in the development of the trail project.

5.2 Sponsorship of Adirondack Winter Expo on November 15-16 in Saratoga Springs City Center. We had a booth at the Adirondack marathon and Rob reported that many people stopped by. The attendance at the winter expo is expected to be about 5000 people. Rob Moore is willing to staff both days. It is \$380 for a booth for non-profit group. Expo will cover all winter sports, a lot of hands on demonstrations. Doug Bowden said if we do the expo that we need to update our brochure and 2009 calendar. We are ahead of time with our race dates, so we can update brochure. Need text updates for grant the programs. Nancy will send Ray the new race schedule and Ray will write up new grant program and get brochure ready. Marcia brought up that we need to think about how we want to market ourselves at expos. We need to put something together to give us a professional look. We need to educate the public what we are and what we do. This needs to be included in our budget. John Kinnicutt will look into free standing display or table top display. Elaine suggested that we could do a gift if they join that day at booth at expo. Give away t-shirts, or something similar. Vince suggested that it would be nice to look at the end of day how many memberships we sold, how much clothing did we sell, how much money we spent and how much money we brought in. This may be another option that the club can look into to raise money. Marcia made motion to spend the \$385 to sponsor the booth at the Adirondack sports and fitness expo. Mark Warner seconded the motion. Motion passed.

6. Announcements: Josh Merlis reported that Sunday, October 26 4th Annual Hairy Gorilla Squirrely Six event at Thatcher Park 9:30AM start.

Ray Lee Eastern Mountain Sports club day on October 17th, 18th, 19th of October.

Snacks for November meeting: Ray Lee

Adjourn: Motion made by Marcia Adams to adjourn with a second by Josh Merlis. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Barb Light
Secretary