



Hudson Mohawk Road Runners Club

Board Meeting

Point of Woods Community Center

March 8, 2017 @ 7:30 p.m.

Attendance: Tom and Marcia Adams, Maureen Cox, Ed Neiles, Ray Newkirk, Brian Northan, Chris Nowak, Jon Rocco, Ken Skinner, Jim Tierney.

Call to Order (Ray Newkirk):

1. Approval of February 8, 2017 minutes. Motion to approve minutes made by Marcia Adams and seconded by Jon Rocco. Motion passed.

2. Reports of Officers

2.1 President (R. Newkirk):

Ray is meeting with Lara monthly. She has begun working with Ken Skinner on Just Run. A file structure has been set up for the GSuite and it has been sent to Chris and Frank for their consideration.

A nominating committee needs to be appointed. Current members are Ken Skinner and Sally Drake. Dana Peterson has stepped down and a new member needs to be appointed. A discussion regarding the committee and terms of office ensued.

Ray received a thank you note from Harriett Thomas taking HMRRRC for inviting them to Winter Series #5.

2.2 Executive Vice President (F. Broderick)(absent – report submitted):

Schrader Scholarships: A reminder email was sent to Section 2 principals and AD's on March 1. Application period is open until April 1. As expected, no applications have been received to date.

Distinguished Service Award nominations: Three nominations have been received to date: Mark Warner (by Jon Rocco); Jon Golden and Dee Fisher Golden (joint nomination by Ray Newkirk); Josh Merlis (by Aaron Knobloch). No additional nominations were submitted at the meeting. The list of finalists, together with a description of their qualifications, will be posted on the HMRRRC website by March 31, 2017. The election of the DSA recipient(s) will take place at the April 12, 2017 monthly club meeting. At that meeting, each finalist's qualifications will be presented by the nominator or the nominator's designee. All club members in attendance can vote.

In regard to the Schrader Scholarships, notices have been sent out to all the schools. With April 1 being the deadline, perhaps another blast or a notice on Facebook is in order. An ad is up on the website for nominations for Distinguished Service for this year. So far no nominations have been received. Frank advised he would not be at the March meeting.

2.3 Executive Vice President – Finance (C. Nowak)

Finalized direct deposit setup for admin. Still finalizing payroll tax setup. Mailed forms to NYS to obtain registration numbers to finalize setup. Will contact NYS on 3/13/17 in order to finalize setup and pay the employer payroll taxes. Completed disability insurance paperwork and mailed \$60 payment.

Spoke with Tom Hosey, a local accountant, regarding a potential accounting audit. He recommended that we start with a review instead of an audit. He did not think starting with an audit is our best plan of action, as an audit requires a very thorough review of both 2015 and 2016. An audit of 2015 would be required in order to establish starting balances for 2016. A review, which is less thorough than an audit was recommended just for 2016, thus establishing closing balances for 2016 which can then be used for an audit in 2017 or we can continue with another review in 2017, as we are not required to be audited until revenues exceed \$500,000. An audit at a minimum would cost \$7,500 and would cost more if issues were discovered that slowed down the audit, etc. A review is estimated to cost at least \$4500 and would cost more if issues were discovered that slowed down the audit (i.e. if there are many issues with our record keeping and supporting documentation). He suggested that we file a 6 month extension to file our taxes, which would then give us time to complete the review and clean up any issues prior to filing our tax returns. He suggested the best time to schedule the review would be in the summer months. Jon Golden, Cathy Sliwinski, and Chris met with Laura Keyes, the Club's external accountant.

2.4 Vice President for Running Events (J. Rocco):

Only one race since the last meeting and it is the only race that has been postponed 3 years in a row – Winter Series #5. Prior 2 years, it was postponed due to cold temperatures and this year is was due to snow. Forecast was for snow to begin in a.m. and get heavier throughout the day into early afternoon. Snow started by 8:30 a.m. The call to cancel the race came at 5 p.m. on Saturday and there was a plan in place to alert members and participants – email blat to membership, FaceBook post, email to runners and volunteers who registered on line as well as post on website. Ed Hampton also had a list of those non-members who had signed up for the marathon – one was already in town from Colorado.

Winter Marathon has 19 finishers, down from 41 and 37 the prior two years and from the 129 record five years ago in 2012. The winner was Joshua Keena, 42, from West Point in a time of 2:39:37. For the women, Jennifer Flaherty, 44, from Easthampton, MA, won for the third time in a row in a time of 3:39:34. She ties HOF Daniele Cherniak with three wins. Of the 19 finishers, 4 were female. We had 3 runners from MA and 1 from CT

A wrap up of the Ed Thomas Winter Series is 1750 total finishers, down 134 or 7% from last year - fifth lowest of last 7 years. Winter Series #4 tied its 2016 record in the 3 mile race with 138 finishers. All in all, it was successful and weather was cooperative for all 5 events. A discussion ensued regarding why the numbers were down in comparison to previous years. Total number reflects 20% drop from the 2011-12 record year. The Food Pantries collection for Winter Series was 20 pounds and \$36 at WS #1; 45 pounds and \$46 at WS #2; 60 pounds and \$32 at WS #3; 52 pounds and \$7 at WS #4; and 33 pounds and \$15 at WS #5 for a total of 220 pounds of food and \$236 in contributions.

Registration for the marathon and Hannaford Half opened on March 6. 293 club members registered as of this morning. Race opened for regular registration today. As of 7 p.m., 338 registered for the marathon and 833 for the Half Marathon. The race is moving the Expo to the Albany Convention Center and Adirondack Sports and Fitness is taking it over as their event. It is going to be more than the Expo for the event. HMRRC will continue with its perks. Running of the Green is this Saturday and event will be in the cafeteria rather than the gym. This year there will be a mixed gender team event with prize money. The Delmar Dash is on April 2. Jon and David Tromp did attend the USATF Grand Prix expo at Fleet Feet.

The Anniversary Run has a new race director, David Glass. Dave runs for the Adirondack AC Runners.

Ray and Ed met with Chuck Thorn, City Clerk, from Schenectady in regard to the Stockadeathon. There is a concern about closing the streets for the casino. Ray has a contact with the casino and is looking into that. There is a possible thought of using the casino as packet pick-up and bringing them on as a second tier sponsor. Talk about bringing on a relay and dropping the kids race to a 1/2 mile vs. a mile. The search for a race director is still ongoing.

There was a discussion about providing a port-a-john or two at all of the winter series rather than just at the marathon.

2.5 Treasurer (J. Golden): See attached report. Total of general accounts: \$417,089.06

2.6 Treasurer of Running Events (C. Sliwinski): See attached report.

Outstanding reports are SEFCU 5K, Turkey Raffle Run, and WS#1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

2.7 Secretary (M. Adams): No report

3. Reports of Committees

3.1 Membership (D. Fisher-Golden): (Not present; report e-mailed) See attached report.

Total membership: 2,760

Change in membership: -57

New memberships: 64

Facebook followers: 2,757, an increase of 15

Twitter followers: 269, +3 change

3.2 Volunteers (M. Adams): Still looking for volunteers for Running of the Green.

3.3 Public Relations (R. Moore): Sent press releases to papers for all races.

3.4 Website (E. Neiles): No report.

3.5 Conflicts Committee (C. Nowak): No report.

3.6 Grants Committee (F. Broderick): See Vice President report.

3.7 Just Run Program (K. Skinner):

It looks like there is going to be about the same number of schools as last year – 26 or 27 - and that includes at least one new school from Amsterdam. Watervliet had expressed an interest but will be delaying until the cross country season. Tentatively, the track meet will be on June 13 and 14 with the 15th as a rain date at the Guilderland High School. Lara and Ken met to determine her assistance level with the program. Bob Oates will be here thru June and Ken will talk with Bob regarding a replacement, possibly Sandy Morley.

4. Old Business:

We need to train someone to handle timing of races and use of the equipment. Ed indicated it is more of a hardware issue than a software issue. Problem is just in recruiting people willing to do the work. Ed and Ray will continue to address the issue. A discussion regarding the extent of the duties and races involved ensued.

5. New Business

A discussion ensued regarding the Distinguished Service nominations and posting of the qualifications.

Announcements: None

Refreshments: Marcia Adams

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn made by Marcia Adams and seconded by Chris Nowak.