

**MINUTES OF THE USATF-NIAGARA ANNUAL MEETING HELD AT
ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2014**

Board Members Present: Terry Eason; Ron Heerkens; Perry Jenkins; Kathy McLymond; Melissa Senall; David Reinhardt; Rob Liebers; Bill Quinlisk; Demetrius Bennett; Lawrence Guilford;

Non-Board Committee Chairs: Jim Glinsky

Members: Dave Hennessey; Brian Sparacino; Jim McCall; Paul Kosek; Josephine Cross; Chuck VonHoltz; Bryan Kemmerer; Fred Covelli; Brian Harris.

The meeting was called to order at 11:06 AM.

- A. Minutes: Bill Quinlisk moved to approve the minutes from the 2013 annual meeting. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.
- B. President's Report:
 - a. David Reinhardt discussed the Athlete of the Month program wherein the Board will name athletes who have distinguished themselves in the various activities. At the end of the year, Athlete's of the Year shall be chosen from the athletes of the month.
 - b. David noted that both membership and sanctions had increased since the last annual meeting. He thanked all of the sports chairs for the efforts. He noted the the Youth program had grown and thanked Demetrius Bennett and Terry Eason for their efforts.
 - c. David remarked that our finances were doing well and that we should now pursue setting up some reserves. He believes 2 to 3 years of operating expenses would be a good goal.
 - d. David suggested that we can work more on our "brand" and could improve our website. He suggested that we might be able to find a corporate sponsor or two.
 - e. David discussed our championships. Bill Quinlisk said he is working on championship bid packages and hopes to attract some better bids by encouraging competition for the championships.
 - f. David reported that we received the full accreditation from National.
- C. Associations Workshop :
 - a. Bill Quinlisk reported that Niagara received a bronze plaque for meeting accreditation standards. The only reason we did not get the gold plaque is that our membership per 100,000 population does not meet the criteria. Among all of the districts only 9 or 10 got plaques.
 - b. Bill Quinlisk reports that the Association Workshop is a very good way to network with the National office as it is much more focused than the National meeting.
 - c. Bill Quinlisk reported that the workshop will be part of the annual meeting for 2 years and that we are required to attend for full accreditation.

- D. Track Meets:
- a. There was discussion about the new indoor facility at Staten Island. Dave Hennessey will talk to Lauren Primerano about its availability.
 - b. There was a further discussion about the Club National track meet not being well attended and that perhaps there could be east and west regional meets.
 - c. Bill Quinlisk added that the Syracuse Chargers might host an indoor meet at Onondaga CC. Bill noted that our indoor championships would be on 12/27 at RIT and that he is adding some youth events to get more young people attending. Terry Eason stated that he would be glad to help get more young people to the meet.
- E. By-Laws: David Reinhardt stated that he wanted our by-laws revised. He set a committee of Bill Quinlisk; Chad Byler and Rob Liebers to work on this.
- F. Treasurer Report: Melissa Senall reports a total balance of \$63,799 with \$10,936 in savings and \$52,863 in checking. She reports net income of \$23,362 which is an increase over last year.
- G. Grant Reports: Bill Quinlisk met with National representatives regarding our ineligibility for grants until some old reports are submitted. He was informed that they agreed to wipe out any pre-2013 post-grant reports and to restore us to eligibility. Bill suggested we created post-grant report form so that we do not run into this problem again. He encouraged all to get any grant applications submitted.
- H. Equipment: Bill Quinlisk suggested that the Board get a full inventory of equipment including its location; and condition.
- I. Membership: Jim Glinsky reports that membership continues to grow. We have 1843 members. He sees a trend of high school coaches creating their own clubs in order to have continuity of training. Bill Quinlisk added that he met with Lori Bird and that National might institute 1 day memberships like USA Triathlon.
- J. Sanctions: There was no sanction report.
- K. Officials: Kathy McLymond reports that Niagara has 76 officials and 17 apprentice officials. She reports that two officials passed away: John Beishline and Mary Thomas.
- L. Outstanding Service Award: Terry Eason, David Reinhardt and Perry Jenkins discussed this award.
- M. LDR: Bill Quinlisk reports that the Lilac 10K was well attended and that the Bergen 5k had the best collection of open runners he has seen in quite awhile. The masters participation was down. He said that the XC masters participation is ok and that National does not recognize it as a problem. He noted the outdoor championships had no masters women at all. Jo Cross remarked that the clubs are not serving the masters very well. Bill Quinlisk agreed that the clubs have to prime the pump and encourage participation.
- N. Track and Field: Perry Jenkins sees the lack of the Empire State Games as a problem as that kept people training. He said masters do show up at Drake and Penn Relays. Bill Quinlisk suggested open/masters/youth meets all go over one weekend. David Reinhardt discussed his efforts to organize a NY State track

- meet with each of the USATF Associations sending teams. He had it worked out with a budget, uniforms and dates but could not get a final commitment.
- O. Masters Track and Field: Lawrence Guilford reported on his activities for the year. There was additional discussion about combining the championships. Bill Quinlisk discussed the need for more grass roots activity; more summer track meets; more encouragement of masters of all abilities by the clubs.
 - P. Cross Country: Mike Reif was not present and there was no report.
 - Q. Youth: Demetrius Bennett reported that the Association championship will be on November 9 in Elmira. He also reported that the indoor championship would feature Youth competition in the long jump; 200; 800 and a relay.
 - R. MUT: Ron Heerkens reported that he had good feedback on the trail championships. He said the Ultra might not have been the right race and that a 50k might be better. He reported that he is trying to get more USATF runners into the trail series.
 - S. Race Walking: Erin Talcott was not present. Bill Quinlisk reported that the indoor 5K championships will be on 12/27; that a block of rooms has been reserved at the Radisson and that Dave Talcott is working on getting officials.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. National Convention: David Reinhardt reported that the convention will be 12/2 – 12/7 in Anaheim, California. Registration is \$175 and the hotel is \$139 per night. Definite attendees are David Reinhardt; Bill Quinlisk; Lawrence Guilford; Kathy McLymond; Terry Eason; Demetrius Bennett. Rob Liebers moved that we budget \$6000 to reimburse persons attending the National convention; Dave Hennessey seconded; and the motion was approved unanimously. Jim McCall reported that David Oja and Micki Piscitelli should be attending as well.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Finance Committee: David Reinhardt reports that Missy Senall thinks we should have a finance and investment committee. Perry Jenkins and Jim Glinsky volunteered to be on the committee.
- B. Grand Prix: David Reinhardt suggested that we try to do a Grand Prix like New England and New Jersey. Bill Quinlisk stated that those associations can do it because they have a full time paid director. He said that New Jersey Grand Prix encompasses over 200 events and is very cumbersome to administer. The New England Grand Prix is 60 to 70 events. Bill Quinlisk suggested it would need a budget of about \$10,000. David Reinhardt suggested 10 events. Ron Heerkens added that New England has a trail series. David Reinhardt appointed a sub-committee of Eric Boyce; Trish Byler; Mike Reif and Ron Heerkens to look into a Grand Prix series.
- C. Budgets: David Reinhart requested preliminary budgets by the end of October so that they can be discussed in November and finalized in December.
- D. Motion to adjourn by Jo Cross and seconded by Lawrence Guilford and approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 12:47 PM.