

USATF Niagara Association Annual Meeting

2:00 PM, Sunday, September 26, 2010

St. John of Rochester Church in Fairport

1. **Sign In and Roll Call:** 25 attendees, 24 Members, 1 Non Member
2. **Meeting was called to order** at 2:10PM.
3. A moment of silence was taken for the passing of George Tilson and Pete Glavin
4. Bill Quinlisk inquired about the approval of the **minutes from the 2009 Annual Meeting**. Kevin Lucas advised that the minutes had been approved at the October 2009 Board Meeting as per standard procedure. Bill disputed this and said the Annual Meeting Minutes must be approved at the next Annual Meeting. Kevin stated that this was not correct and that all prior years had been approved at the next regular meeting of the Board of Directors. After heated dispute from the floor and significant input from Craig Litt who suggested he was well versed in Roberts Rules of Order and meeting rules, it was decided that a second vote would be made at the Annual Meeting to approve the minutes from the 2009 Annual Meeting. David Hastings made a motion and Chuck von Holtz seconded the motion to approve the minutes as written. It was voted 6 in favor and 10 against approving the Minutes as written. There was then discussion about what needed to be changed in the minutes with input from several on the change requested. Marc Discoll requested that reference to the Syracuse Chargers not providing follow up bid information for the 2009 JO XC Meet and Marc Grasso requested HOF problems be removed from the minutes. A vote was taken to accept the minutes with the changes noted above. Craig Litt motioned to accept the changes, Jim Glinsky seconded. It was voted 6 in favor and 10 against approving the minutes with the above changes. (Kevin Lucas opined that it should be noted that the Minutes from the 2009 Annual Meeting stand as is. Lucas believes that it is correct legal protocol to approve these minutes at the next successive meeting of the Board of Directors which was done at the October 2009 meeting.)
5. Kevin Lucas announced that Jim Derek will be awarded the **Master's Athlete of the Year**, but was absent from the meeting and receive the award at the Masters XC Championships on October 31st.
6. Jim Glinsky was presented with the **Outstanding Service Award for Officials** by Niagara Officials Chair, Chuck Von Holtz..
7. **Report of Officers and Committee Chairs:**

President's Report:

- Kevin Lucas reported that there have been some **great performances** by Niagara athletes, Molly Huddle and Jim Derek over the past year
- **Added road race championships** in the half marathon, 8km, 1 mile, and 4 mile distances
- Had a great turnout at the **National/Niagara 15km Championships** on Labor Day weekend in Buffalo
- Reported on **new awards medals** purchased for various championships
- Reported **growth of sanctions** for the year at 198 and counting
- Emilio Mancino of West Seneca will be putting on the **JO XC Meet** on 11/6

- Kevin asked who would be interested in being **delegates for the Annual Meeting** on 12/1-5. Kathy McLymond and Mark Driscoll raised their hands. Kevin asked any others to get in touch with him.

- Syracuse Festival of Races was awarded the **National Masters 5km Championships** again by USATF National Masters LDR Sports Committee.

- It was discussed to potentially schedule both **the Outdoor T & F and JO Championships Meets** on July 23, 2011 to avoid conflicts with the Empire State Games.

Vice President's and Membership Chair Report:

- Jim Glinsky reported that the **Outdoor T & F Championships** in August were very successful despite poor athlete turnout thanks to the Games Committee who stepped forward to make the event happen. Still working on growing participation at our t & f meet. More marketing is needed. There was a comment from the floor inquiring about why the T&F Chair was not in charge of this event and Jim noted "that was a good question". Basically he got the job "by default" because "it was not getting done".

Vice President's and LDR Chair Report:

- Eric Boyce, was not present.

Treasurer's Report:

- Joni Lucas was not present at meeting and no report was submitted.

It is believed that there was \$36,852.57 in the bank between checking, savings and CD's. The CD's would be maturing in October 2010.

Officials Chair Report:

- Chuck Von Holtz reported that Lou Ann Tierney was a new official. Dave Hennessy complimented ESG Officials. ESG 2011 will be scheduled in Rochester. Niagara will provide Officials. Several meets are coming up on the schedule.

Men's LDR Chair

- Kyle Heath, was not present.

Women's LDR Chair:

- Katie Eldridge, was not present.

Master's LDR Chair:

- Christine Klein, was present but had to leave before she could give her report as the meeting duration was unusually long..

Youth Chair:

- David Reinhardt, was not present.

Cross Country Chair:

- Ryan Pauling, was not present.

Race Walk Chair:

- Position is vacant.

T&F Chair:

- Perry Jenkins, was present but had no report.

Master's T&F Chair:

- Laurence Guilford, was present but had no report

Women's T & F Chair:

- Vanessa Martell, was not present.

Kevin Lucas added the following inappropriate comments to the minutes after the fact:

(As a note of record, many of the Committee Chairs who were missing served the Association well over the last year. However due to the hostile environment created by a few members at last year's Annual Meeting and the anticipation of a similar scene at this year's meeting, these Chairs elected to continue their work, but not participate in the Annual Meeting. It is unfortunate, but understandable that most volunteers would not wish to be subjected to this level of controversy and animosity from specifically two members of the Association, Cedric Walker and Bill Quinlisk. Additionally, the two Chairs present who provided no report provided no service to the Association in the past year. They were Chairs in title only. Officers and other Committee Chairs stepped up to handle their responsibilities.)

Note: The 2012 USATF Niagara Board of Directors refutes the comments from Mr. Lucas as biased, inappropriate and untrue. One need look no further than the actions of Mr. Lucas to locate the heart of the divisiveness.

Old Business:

• Kevin Lucas reported that significant work had been done with **reviewing and rewriting the By-Laws** to comply with NYS law. Will be setting up a Committee to review the proposed changes prior to putting them out to the Membership for their review and approval. Kevin also reported on the upcoming **Master's XC Championships** to be held on October 31st at Watkins Glen State Park, the **JO XC Championships** on November 6th at Fireman's Park in West Seneca, the **Open XC Championships** on November 14th at Centre Park in Fairport and the **8 km Road Championships** on November 25th in Downtown Rochester. There was also discussion about reviving the **USA/Canada Master's Championships** in Buffalo for 2011. Bill Quinlisk questioned the scheduling of the **8 km Championship on Thanksgiving Day**. Kevin Lucas responded that we wanted to take advantage of a great day to run. Mark Driscoll and Bill Quinlisk took issue with Niagara putting on the race while competing against the member clubs putting on events that day – sanctioned or not. Kevin clarified that Medved Running & Walking is sponsoring the event with PCR Timing and Tops. They (Mark Driscoll and Bill Quinlisk) then stated that Niagara could have selected a different date so as not to impose on other Thanksgiving Day races and noted that Niagara Championships have traditionally avoided major holidays that feature a plethora of well-run, well-attended events. (i.e., Thanksgiving – Buffalo Turkey Trot, Baldwinsville Turkey Trot, Webster Turkey Trot, RT Turkey Run, Newark Turkey Run, Race with Grace, etc...)

Mr. Lucas again offered these opinions after the fact and added the following comments to the minutes that were not raised at the meeting: “The fact that every weekend day in Rochester there is at least one other run in the area so there is not a date on the calendar that would not impose on another race. Additionally, Niagara has put on its' own T & F events for years and no one has taken issue with this practice. Member clubs have not suggested that Niagara is competing with them, but rather enhancing their common goals”.

8. New Business: There was no new business allowed on the Agenda.

Mr. Lucas ruled that meeting protocol requires advance notice of new business items.

Note: Mr. Lucas unilaterally established this policy and sent out notice establishing this new 'policy' that required 30 days notice for any new business to be added to the agenda. This notice was sent to the membership 20 days before the meeting. Thus it was impossible to add any new business to the agenda. Protests were made and ignored at the meeting.

9. Open Discussion: In protest to the new business protocol, Cedric Walker insisted on presenting a motion to the floor regarding the Niagara Hall of Fame. This business was not presented in advance of the meeting so the General Membership and the Board of Directors could have proper time to consider the recommendation. A motion was presented by Cedric as follows:

"I move to grant permission of the Niagara Association membership for the Niagara Track & Field Hall of Fame change from being a special committee to becoming a separate 501(3) Not-for-Profit Corporation effective immediately. The Niagara Association Board of Directors will select and assign a liaison between the Niagara Board and the Board of the new Hall of Fame Corporation. The liaison selected must meet with the approval of the Hall of Fame Corporation Board. The Niagara Board will provide seed money and make yearly grants to the Hall of Fame Corporation, the amount of which is to be negotiated between the two boards."

Kevin Lucas then discussed the recent troubled Hall of Fame history.

Laurence Guilford seconded Cedric's motion.

A vote was taken with 17 in favor and 2 not in favor.

Mark Driscoll made a motion to authorize up to \$1,000 to fund formation of the new 501(c)(3). The motion was seconded and voted 16 in favor and 2 against.

Again Mr. Lucas has added his inappropriate comments to the minutes subsequent to the meeting. These comments were not raised at the meeting:

"As this business was not presented in the time frame required to be considered by the Membership at the annual meeting, the above discussion and subsequent vote is considered invalid and will not stand."

Note: The 2012 USATF Niagara Board of Directors refutes the comments from Mr. Lucas as biased, inappropriate and untrue. It became very clear that Mr. Lucas would brook no opposition and deliberately chose to ignore the vote of the membership. This time of faux leadership was in dispute as a grievance against Mr. Lucas proceeded slowly on the National level."

10. Meeting Adjournment 5:40 PM

11/06/10 Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Joni D. Lucas, Acting Secretary

Note: The 2012 USATF Niagara Board of Directors refutes these biased minutes as obviously written by Mr. Lucas. We note that Acting Secretary Joni Lucas was not at the meeting.

