

Helena Vigilante Runners

Board Meeting #8

Meeting Minutes

December 28, 2009

I. Call to order

Steve Engebrecht called to order the eighth meeting of the Helena Vigilante Runners at 7:06 pm on December 28th, 2009 at the Lewis and Clark Library.

II. Roll call

The following persons were present:

Steve Engebrecht, President

Patrick Judge, Vice President (with "Wilbur Buds" chocolate treats, in Marta's absence)

Michele Bazzanella, Treasurer

Lori Heit, Secretary

Mike Fanning, Board Member

Mike Jacobson, Board Member

Ann Seifert, Board Member

Sarah Slanger, Board Member

Sean Slanger, Board Member

Jeff Thomas, Board Member (with a very amusing Air Hockey Hover set, but no batteries)

Brian Wieck, Board Member

Alan Wintersteen, Board Member

Todd Younkin, Board Candidate

*Sarah Slanger announced she plans to open a new running store called Tread Lightly in April next to the restaurant, On Broadway. She asked for letters of support from members of the running community addressing why Helena needs a running store and why the Slangers would be super managers, etc.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Pat moved that the minutes of the November 16th meeting be approved. Alan seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

IV. Administrative Issues

a) Financial Report: Treasurer Bazzanella reported that the club currently has \$50 left in its checking account (from the original \$1300 that had been deposited), after paying various bills including the one-time 501c3 application fee of \$750 to the IRS (this check was cashed, meaning the IRS received the application and has begun processing it).

b) 501c3: It was agreed that once the club gets its 501c3 status, HVR should send out an appeal for tax deductible donations as seed money to get the club properly launched (pointing out that our members have not yet been asked to pay formal dues). It was also suggested that the appeal include a list of services provided by the club (such as the vig-a-potty, MT Cup Bus subsidy, organized workouts, etc.) and a list of items it would like to be able to invest in (timing system, finish line clock, etc.). The appeal should include a recommended donation level (e.g. \$25x100 viggers would give the club an excellent boost).

- c) **Board Elections:** There are 5 candidates interested in the 5 available spots. The board is developing voting procedures with the election to take place in February.
- d) **RRCA Membership:** Steve said the RRCA roster will include 99 people in 85 households and it will be sent out soon.
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| \$2.27 per household for membership x 85 = \$192.95 |
| + \$2.33 per household for insurance x 85 = \$198.05 |
| + \$175 for directors and officers insurance |
| \$566 |

V. Discussion Issues

- a) **Race Calendar:** The board reviewed the calendar and didn't notice any major conflicts (at least between different in-town events). Jeff Thomas pointed out that the GF Tribune reported on a new organization called "Race Montana" which is coordinating the scheduling of running events in the greater GF area (11 so far).
- As part of its RRCA filing, the board agreed to insure the following events (and possibly others, which can be added later): Elkhorn, August Road Race, Mt. Helena (in February, HVR needs to decide whether to renew with Perfect Timing), Brian's Trail Series, and "Camp Marta" (see below).
 - The board had a discussion about the need for additional income, whether it be through new races where the proceeds would be dedicated to the club, membership dues, or appeals (like the one described above). The board also discussed other race possibilities, including a 5K type event to fill the void from the former Spring Tune-up and Valentine's Day races (or possibly a Firecracker 5K). It was noted that most of the current HVR races are fairly strenuous.
 - Others at the meeting argued for keeping the HVR race calendar narrow for now, focusing on improving the events we already have, and being discriminating about adding events in the future.
- b) **Governor's Cup:** After a thorough discussion, the board decided that, for a variety of considerations, it must respectfully decline the Blue Cross Blue Shield invitation for HVR to become a more active partner in the Governor's Cup event. It was agreed that a letter to Janet Robinson should be drafted promptly thanking Blue Cross/Blue Shield for the lunch meeting on December 16th, and informing them of the decision. As a BCBS employee, Sean Slanger abstained from the decision.
- c) **"Camp Marta":** Jeff Thomas moved that HVR sponsor the Helena Institute "Singletrack n'Switchbacks Run Fest" being organized by HVR board member Marta Fisher, and tentatively scheduled for May 21-23. Such sponsorship would include insurance coverage, technical assistance, etc. In exchange, any profits from the event (conservatively estimated to be between \$39 and \$319) would flow back to the club. Marta clarified (via phone) that the \$20 processing fee for participants is in addition to the \$160 shown in the budget (confirming that the projected profit numbers do not need to be adjusted). Mike Jacobson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

VI. Next Meeting

- a) The next meeting is scheduled to take place on February 15th, 2010.

VII. Adjournment

- a) At 8:27, Pat moved to adjourn, Michele seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

ADDENDUM: On December 30th, Pat sent a letter (on behalf of HVR) to Janet Robinson (BCBS) as contemplated above. A preliminary draft of the letter, and the final version were circulated to the board. On December 31st, Pat circulated a draft “voting procedures policy” to the board.

These minutes were prepared by Lori Heit, and reviewed by Pat Judge.