

# ***Helena Vigilante Runners***

## ***Board Meeting #11***

### ***Meeting Minutes***

***August 23, 2010***

#### **I. Call to order**

Steve Engebrecht called to order the eleventh meeting of the Helena Vigilante Runners at 7:08 pm on August 23rd, 2010 at 107 W. Lawrence.

#### **II. Roll call**

The following persons were present:

Steve Engebrecht, President  
Patrick Judge, Vice President  
Lori Heit, Secretary  
Michele Bazzanella, Treasurer  
Chris Beskid, Board Member  
Mike Fanning, Board Member  
Mike Jacobson, Board Member  
Ann Seifert, Board Member  
Sarah Slinger, Board Member  
Scott Story, Board Member  
Jeff Thomas, Board Member  
Brian Wieck, Board Member  
Todd Younkin, Board Member  
Bryan Johnson, Observer :)

#### **III. Minutes**

The board agreed to hold off on approval of the May 17, 2010 minutes until a complete draft could be prepared (including the addendum).

#### **IV. Financial Report**

Treasurer Bazzanella reported that the club has a balance of \$1767.62 in its checking account. She was happy to announce that the club had accomplished its fundraising goal. It took four months (3/15 to 7/15) to raise \$2000, and the club has since exceeded that goal. Here are the statistics for the four-month period:

Total Raised: \$2000

Number of Donations: 55

Mean: \$36.36

Median: \$25

Mode: \$20

Min: \$5

Max: \$150

Alan Wintersteen helped with awareness, by bringing the "Fill the Water Bottle" sign to many workouts. Michele reported that she had identified the appropriate person to receive the Vig Mile proceeds, and had mailed the check. She reported that other routine expenses have been paid out, and that the PO Box renewal was due in a month.

The group agreed to continue to fund the "Vigipottie" through October, if the school district hadn't taken it over by then.

Steve Engebrecht reported that the Lewis & Clark Community Foundation had rejected our grant application. Nonetheless, the group expressed its thanks to Mike Fanning for giving it a try. The group is still interested in acquiring a dual-sided timing clock at some point.

Steve reported that the Elkhorn races were very successful, in terms of participation, volunteers, and club finances. He has received a LOT of positive feedback. There weren't a ton of out-of-staters, but many of those who attended indicated that they would be back, and that they would be bringing their friends! Steve and the HURLers are planning to keep the new ~20k option. Steve praised Alan for his great work organizing the volunteers, and several others gave high marks for how the volunteers were trained and rewarded (with a picnic, although the scheduling wasn't ideal due to a conflict with the August Road Race).

The August Road Race raised \$450 for Helena High Cross Country, thanks in large part to the generous donations of Todd & Steph Younkin (to cover the porta-johns) and others. Porta-potties at the starting line WERE used and appreciated. There may be an option to open the Church at the finish line in future years. Also, the race could be better promoted (by distributing flyers at health clubs, for example).

Pat said that he had provided assistance to the Running Water for Helena on behalf of HVR (with our logo on mile marker signs, for example), and that the race organizers were very appreciative. HVR's name was included in subsequent thank-you ads in the Independent Record.

Pat also reported that the Non-Motorized Transportation Advisory Committee position still had not been filled. Hopefully the Mayor will take action in the next couple months (and hopefully select Chris Colberg as a representative from the running community).

While Marta Fisher could not attend this meeting, Michele reported that the Forest Service trail effort was successful. Apparently, the group that had expressed some reservations about the proposal is now satisfied. Michele also reported that the Helena Institute trail running class could be cancelled.

Pat expressed his excitement that HVR has had such a good year so far (events, fundraising, another singlet order, etc.).

## **V. Short Discussion Items**

The group agreed that the "Fanning Lecture Series" should be postponed to the off-season winter months. The Staggering Ox would be a great venue for this series.

The group also agreed that the "Race Directors Guide" could be postponed until sometime after the Montana Cup.

Michele reported that an "HVR-specific" trail work day didn't work out this year, and that it might not be the ideal model. The idea needs some more development before being implemented (perhaps in 2011).

Pat reported that the new Carroll Track Coach, Matt Morris, had met with him and Jeff Thomas, and that Matt was working to lay out new cross-country courses at Bill Roberts for both high school meets (1 mile loop) and the Carroll Open (2k loop). HVR runners are invited to take part in the Carroll meet on September 25 (and also in an informal track meet on October 7). The High School schedule includes the following local meets:

- October 7 -- 7 x 7 meet
- October 13 -- Crosstown
- October 23 -- State

Jeff Thomas reported that HVR volunteers will definitely be needed for the first and third meet in this list. Ultimately, the Montana High School Association would be delighted if a local group (like HVR) were to take over the organizing of the state meet entirely.

## **VI. Longer Discussion Items**

Steve reported that the Mount Helena Classic preparation is in good shape, and that he will continue to act as race director (now that he's gotten some extra help for Elkhorn). Unfortunately, it will again conflict with the high school Mountain West race in Missoula.

Pat and Jeff led a discussion about Montana Cup-related issues, including their recent course visit and transportation options.

The Girls Thrive! organization is progressing nicely, even though Suzanne Bessette will be leaving town shortly. Viger Kyla Wiens is involved.

The group had a long discussion about equipment. Pat observed that currently, HVR as a corporation does not own any property, and maybe that makes sense for awhile (despite its previous promises to Jeff Thomas, which have shamefully not been honored). There is, however, a LOT of good equipment that exists at various members' households. Pat suggested that a master inventory list be prepared, so people could borrow equipment from one another. Several board members agreed to approach Team Great Divide with the idea as well, to see if we can include Helena's running, biking, and triathlon event equipment together. Scott Story will be the keeper of the list. The group will attempt to complete a first draft by the next HVR meeting. It should include equipment currently at Pat's house, Jeff's house, Slangers' house, Jacobsons' house, Martin Miller's house, Great Divide, etc. (and let's be sure not to forget Greg Wirth's great track batons!). Other entities who have loaned equipment to us include: the school district, the city, the state department of transportation, etc. There was also a discussion about whether it would make sense to have a central repository for all of this equipment (commercial storage unit?). But it was agreed that an inventory would be a good first step.

Michele & Sarah reported on shoe-drive issues. The collection at Tread Lightly is ongoing, and Dave Stergar is a great contact for us at the middle school. It's unfortunate that the "Run for Montana's Future" event used a bullet-point in its press release that seemed to denigrate the effort to get recycled footwear to kids who need it (NOT necessarily runners). Counselors and nurses have expressed their appreciation for the shoe drives.

## **VII. Adjournment**

At 8:25 pm, Pat Judge moved that the meeting be adjourned. Sarah Slanger seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **VIII. Addendum**

On September 7, 2010, Patrick Judge circulated draft minutes from the May 17 meeting, and moved their approval. The board approved the minutes with the following Aye votes: Bazzanella, Engebrecht, Fisher, Jacobson, Judge, Seifert, Story, Thomas, Wintersteen, and Younkin. There were no votes in opposition.

On October 25, 2010, Patrick Judge emailed the board with the following motion:

"I hereby move that, according to custom and as previously described, HVR help underwrite the transportation costs to the 2010 Montana Cup event in the following amount: total cost for the bus is \$1541 minus \$750 (\$15 from 50 passengers) = \$791". The board approved the motion with the following Aye votes: Bazzanella, Beskid, Engebrecht, Fanning, Fisher, Jacobson, Judge, Story (voice vote, at the 10/26 track workout), Thomas, and Younkin. There were no votes in opposition. Michele Bazzanella wrote a check for the full amount, with the understanding that HVR would be reimbursed for the passenger portion (\$750).

**These minutes were prepared Lori Heit and Patrick Judge.**