

Helena Vigilante Runners

Board Meeting #52

Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2020

-- action items bolded below --

I. Call to Order

Patrick Judge called to order the 52nd meeting of the Helena Vigilante Runners at 7:02 pm on May 18, 2020 using the Zoom video conference platform.

II. Roll call:

The following 12 board members were present, making a quorum:

Pat Judge, President
Jeff Thomas, Vice President
Sarah Urban, Secretary
Ann Seifert, Treasurer
Julie Ackerlund, Board Member
Jason Brown, Board Member
Sean Connolly, Board Member
Erik Makus, Board Member
Abigail McLane, Board Member
Christy Stergar, Board Member
Emily Thiessen, Board Member
Jesse Zentz, Board Member

Regrets:

Beau Downing, Board Member
Joel Harris, Board Member
Shiloh Hernandez, Board Member

Guests:

Cora Makus
King Bear Thomas

III. Minutes

• Julie Ackerlund moved adoption of the February 17, 2020 minutes. Em Thiessen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. Opening Items

• **Erik, Sarah, and Pat will meet about updating the voting procedures and bylaws before next meeting.**

V. Financial Report

• Checkbook Balance as of 5/18/20: \$28,253.27 (Pat & Ann are in agreement.)

- Budget Review
 - membership status: 139 (unchanged)
 - no HVR members have asked for refunds yet
 - if it becomes an issue, Em suggests rolling them forward to 2021
 - Windbag Community Night fundraiser canceled
 - probably not worth trying to forecast a new budget because:
 - 1) it would be inherently difficult to know what lies ahead
 - 2) more or less, foregone income is balanced by foregone expenses
 - 3) budget is in good shape
 - Jeff recommends not making any big changes at this point
there's no sense in making commitments without more information
 - Jesse reported that Blue Cross wants to support non-profits at this time
and probably won't be asking for any refunds (just use it in the future)
(thank you Blue Cross!)

VI. Governance Calendar

- HVR events were submitted for the Independent Record's summer activities guide
- Jesse made some excellent progress updating the website
- **Christy offered her Wordpress skills and ideas as well**
- Remaining items include:
 - **Posting Races to Key Websites (rrca, 406running, etc.)**
 - **State Employees Charitable Giving Campaign (SECGC) Application**

VII. Novas Report -- Jesse

- Novas Spring Track & Field Season Canceled
 - 43 were registered, with interest from 15-20 more (expected 60+ total)
 - About 10 donations /10 deferrals / 7 refunds so far
 - People will be automatically deferred if they don't reply by June 1st
 - New equipment is in Jesse's garage
 - Lack of facility access is a major reason for canceling the season
 - No facilities are to be used for groups through June 30th (may be relaxed earlier)
 - Helena-based MHSA probably polices things more strictly here

VIII. Program and Event Reports

- Track Workouts - have been suspended since the beginning of Phase 1 (March 17)
 - Pat hoping Montana gets to "**Phase 2 by Phase 2" (June 16)**
this would allow for in-person group workouts of up to 50 people
 - Abigail: Meet in smaller groups on different days?
 - Erik: Have tree groups meet in different areas of Centennial, for example
or different areas around town even
 - How many will we see? Impossible to predict. Maybe a lot:
"LeGrande is a madhouse." - Em?
 - Jason & Jesse: Strava virtual workouts (Vig group of about 95, Joe Roberts)
 - Jesse: Give swag once or twice a week to motivate people? Raffles or challenges
 - Promote on Facebook to take pictures, etc.
 - There are other websites to try as well – challengehound

- But always allow non-techy people to self-report virtual workouts too!
- Phased re-start, starting with purely virtual?
- Youth sports are starting back up (soccer, baseball, etc.)
 - but with precautions, and youth may not be as susceptible as our members
- We want to continue to be thoughtful about our members who are older, or health-sensitive, or tech-challenged/disinterested
- Jesse reported that MHSAs has not yet announced a decision date for fall sports
- **Pat will ruminate on all of these ideas and try to come up with a plan**
- Trail Workouts
 - Jason: probably just **mirror the Tuesday workout plan** although you could argue for an earlier re-start (usually less than 10 people)
- HEAT Meet (Thursday, 5/28/20)
 - canceled after the Gov's Cup & schools announcements
 - there were no expenditures made, or income other than the BCBS grant
- Governor's Cup (Saturday, 6/13/20)
 - Kid's marathon in the fall with a possible race
 - 12 days of Christmas with a 5K to raise money for the Caring Foundation
- The August (Thursday, 8/20/20)
 - registration is live
 - monitoring the situation
- Mount Helena (Saturday, 9/19/20)
 - registration is live
 - **need to move forward with park reservation**
 - sponsorships will be difficult this year
- Sun Run (Saturday, 10/3/20)
 - registration is live
 - committee has been meeting
 - starts and ends at Central School and beneficiary is the school district
 - take cues from the district: in-person classes, fall sports, etc.**
 - MREA Clean Energy Expo may be canceled even if the race isn't
 - scenario planning
 - if Montana gets to Phase 3 by then:
 - proceed with in-person race, but don't expect much \$
 - otherwise cancel, or shift to a different type of event or project curriculum-related, student presentations, etc.
 - get sponsorships for student steps? walk-a-thon type thing
 - no interest in a virtual race for this event
 - decision probably doesn't have to be made until T-shirt order (Sept)
 - update
 - Central School will be getting its solar array by August 31
 - Jim Darcy will be getting its array by October 31 (later delayed to 2021)
 - Bryant will probably have to wait until 2021 at least (technical issues)
- MT Cup (Saturday, 10/31/20, Butte, Halloween!)
 - Butte's Wulfman 14k race was canceled (June 19)
 - MT Cup is in a holding pattern
 - if it happens, it will be simple: in-or-near Butte, easy to organize, etc.

- JOXC/Fall Classic (Saturday, 11/7/20, Bill Roberts)
 - holding pattern -- just hoping we can pull it off
- Speaking of Running
 - **Jesse suggested working with Ascension PT**
 - they will be bringing in Rich Willy of the University of Montana's "Montana Running Lab"
 - will speak about preventing & dealing with running injuries
 - Ascension is interested in other educational events of this type

IX. Closing Items

- Other Announcements & “Round Robin” Session
 - Christy suggested looking at Nuun Hydration virtual resources
 - Runners Edge is part of the Great North American Relay (G.N.A.R.)
 - Jesse also said Helena has 3 new fast young runners for our MT Cup team!
 - Karsten Pease, Peccia
 - Nate Wellington, L&C County tobacco prevention
 - JR Thomas, former Runners Edge employee
- Next Meeting Date -- Monday, August 17, 2020
- Adjournment -- 8:02

Minutes prepared by Sarah Urban and Patrick Judge.

Addendum

- On June 23, Patrick Judge sent out the following email proposal:
Between Novas, Vig, and others who borrow the equipment from time-to-time, we could benefit from an additional “Digiroller”:
https://www.amazon.com/Calculated-Industries-6575-DigiRoller-Estimators/dp/B01M1V1WP2/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&hvadid=78065458276616&hvbm=be&hvdev=c&hvqmt=e&keywords=digiroller&qid=1592947788&sr=8-1&tag=mh0b-20
This would increase our equipment expenditures for the year to \$1000.02, versus the budgeted \$956.43. Our year-end balance is still expected to be well in excess of the budgeted “profit” of \$5000.
Please let me know if you’re comfortable with that alteration.
 The proposal passed with unanimous (15/15) support.

- On July 15, by unanimous email decision, the board decided to cancel the 2020 editions of the August Trail Race, Mount Helena Run, and Helena Sun Run. On July 18, the following email was sent to the vig listserv:
From: Patrick Judge <pljudge@bresnan.net>
Date: Saturday, July 18, 2020 at 9:47 AM
To: vig <vig@npogroups.org>
Subject: And now for the sad news . . .
By unanimous vote, the HVR Board of Directors has decided to cancel the 2020 editions of the following events:
 - August Trail Race (would have been 8/20/20)
 - Mount Helena Run (would have been 9/19/20)
 - Helena Sun Run (would have been 10/3/20)

We regret any inconvenience and will deeply miss hosting these beloved races, but felt this was the wisest course of action in light of the ongoing pandemic. We look forward to resuming all of our events and activities when safe to do so. For those who already registered, full refunds will be provided.

As of now, the Tuesday and Thursday workouts will continue. These have been attracting smaller groups of in-person attendees (~25 on Tuesday, ~10 on Thursday), and do not involve event-like transactions (registration, timing, swag, etc.). Still, we ask that all participants continue to practice good preventative behaviors, such as:

- *maintaining at least 6 feet of separation — no high-fives or other personal contact*
- *staying home if you're feeling ill (fever, cough, or any symptoms)*
- *washing hands and/or taking a shower, before and after the workout*
- *avoiding touching your face*
- *bringing your own water, as water jugs and cups will not be provided this year*
- *logging virtual workouts, which is even-more-acceptable-than-usual!*

Thanks to everyone for your understanding and cooperation. Go Vig!

• On August 10, Pat proposed (via email) canceling the August 17 board meeting, due to the lack of pressing business because of all the covid-related cancellations. There were no objections.

• On September 12, Pat proposed (via email) ordering another round of Racetraceker running caps for the 2021 membership renewal swag item. These were last ordered in 2013, and were pretty popular. The expected cost is \$1640.40 for 300 caps (half blue, and half white), and is within the promotions budget. A majority of the board concurred, although a few expressed a preference for a "trucker hat" style instead. This should be considered for a future order.

• On October 21, Pat proposed (via email) that HVR host a "Fake MT Cup" (aka "Viggie Cup") to be held October 31, 2020 and limited to HVR members only. The idea came from Rebecca Shaw, who proposed 5 x clockwise laps at Spring Meadow Lake (4.25 miles total). To maximize social distancing, Pat proposed the following start times:

10:00 Aspen

10:30 Birch

11:00 Cedar

The motion passed with additional support from: Beau, Joel, Abby, Jeff, Sean, Erik, Jesse, Julie, Sarah, Em, Christy, Jason, and Ann. There were no dissenting votes.

• On November 1, Pat circulated (via email) a draft membership renewal letter, along with a draft email message from Membership Coordinator Julie urging members to renew. A majority of the board (Pat, Jeff, Sarah, Ann, Julie, Joel, Erik, Abby, Em, and Jesse) approved going forward with this communication, which was distributed by Julie the morning of November 3. There were no dissenting votes.