

Helena Vigilante Runners

Board Meeting #60

Meeting Minutes

August 15, 2022

-- action items bolded below --

I. Call to Order

Patrick Judge called the 60th meeting of the Helena Vigilante Runners to order at 7:04 pm on August 15, 2022 at “Vigilante World Headquarters” (107 W. Lawrence, 2nd floor conference room). There were no changes to the draft agenda.

II. Roll call:

The following board members were present (8 needed for a quorum):

Pat Judge, President
Jeff Thomas, Vice President
Sarah Urban, Secretary
Ann Seifert, Treasurer
Jason Brown, Board Member
Erik Makus, Board Member
Abigail McLane, Board Member
Ben Quiñones, Board Member
Christy Stergar, Board Member
Mitch Young, Board Member

Regrets:

Sean Connolly, Board Member
Joel Harris, Board Member
Mike Kaiser, Board Member
Emily Thiessen, Board Member
Jesse Zentz, Board Member

Guests:

None

III. Minutes

Jeff Thomas moved that the minutes from 5/16/22 be adopted as written. Abigail McLane seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. Financial & Membership Report – Ann, Ben, Pat

- Current QuickBooks Balance: \$48,879.26
Jeff noticed a small discrepancy on the “Other/Unknown” line items.
(Pat corrected the mistake later that evening.)
There was one outstanding check from last year that has been voided.
- Current Membership: 170 (149 this time last year)

V. Governance Calendar

Annual admin tasks are up to date.

VI. Program and Event Reports

- Track Workouts (Tuesday, 3/15/22)
 - Going well.
- Trail Workouts (Thursday, 3/17/22)
 - The new “leadership rotation system” has been working well.
 - Erik and Abigail have web credentials, and can update the calendar as needed.
(we forgot to do so once or twice, but will remedy that going forward)
- HEAT Meet (Thursday, 6/2/22) – Sean (via text):
 - Thanks to everyone who volunteered! 98 kids and it went so smoothly it was scary. I think the experience of Dave Stergar and Sheila Plant at the start line was a huge factor. By this point, our collective experience also helps tremendously.
- Governor's Cup (Saturday, 6/11/22) – Jesse (via email):
 - The event was an awesome success, and we want to thank the Vigilante Runners who volunteered to help stage the event and to those who participated in the races themselves. Also, big thanks to Pat Judge and Jeff Thomas for their expert painting services. (Pat noted that the 10k was more like 6.07 mi. – working on it!)
 - Meeting soon to decide whether to continue the 12 Days of Christmas 5K virtual and in-person event in December. Feedback here would be helpful. The board recommended keeping if doable. It’s nice having a winter event.
- Junior Olympics State Track & Field Meet (6/24-6/25) – Jesse (via email):
 - Hosted State Track and Field for the first time and had 310 participants, including a whopping 118 from the Novas, our most participants ever.
- August Trail Race (Thursday, 8/18/22) – Pat
 - making good progress: PPLT, Spring Meadow Resources, George’s Distributing, and Spring Meadow Lake State Park are all cleared
 - working on volunteer plan: Registration and parking volunteers 5:45. Finish line volunteers 6:45. Volunteers should wear Vig gear to be easily identifiable.
 - Jeff will call St. Petes to see if they can have an ambulance available.
The weather is expected to be hot! We will have plenty of water on-site.
- Vig Scrimmage / Group Photo Day (Tuesday, 8/30/22) – Pat
 - will need some volunteers for this event as well
- Mount Helena Run (Saturday, 9/17/22) – Erik, Abigail, Christy, et al
 - Sponsor list is set, raffle prizes, T-shirts are planned.
 - Needs: advertising on HURL list.
 - Ben Burgess’ family considering a donation to help bring back the plaque and keep it updated annually. Need to approach the library about hanging it there again. Ann inquired with Bill Coddington about the old plaque, but hasn’t heard.
- Sun Run (Saturday, 10/1/22) – Pat
 - Joel was appointed as the official Race Director
 - Continue to benefit the school district, raise funds for Bryant school solar
 - MREA expo will not take place this year due to staffing changes
- MT Cup (Sunday, 10/29/22, Missoula) – Pat
 - awaiting confirmation that Missoula will host

- JOXC State (Saturday, 11/5/22) – Jesse (via email):
 - It's likely that Missoula will take over hosting for the state meet this year after a three-year run in Helena. We will host if Missoula is unable to organize.
- Speaking of Running (SoR) – Joel (via email):
 - Friday, September 2, L&C Library Large Meeting Room, 5:30 pm: "Running for the Health of It" with Marc David (39-year running streak, and counting), www.theaddictedrunner.com
 - Marc will also join us for the Thursday, September 1 trail run.
- Social Report & Community Night Fundraisers – Sarah
 - Phase 1 – party was amazing at Em's house!
 - Phase 2 – possibly do something, maybe as part of the SoR event?
 - Phase 3 – Jason could host sometime after the MT Cup – details TBD
 - Email is out to Windbag and a form requesting a date has been submitted to Tenmile. Blackfoot isn't doing them anymore. Lewis and Clark is hosting trivia night for 4 weeks for organizations, but they seem to be for larger nonprofits. Other possibilities include Missouri River Brewing, Speak Easy 41, Ascension.

VII. Novas Report

- Incredible year with 146 kids signed up and outstanding showings at state, regionals and nationals.
- Hosted State Track and Field Jos for the first time and had 310 participants, including a whopping 118 from the Novas, our most participants ever at a state meet.
- 28 Novas made the trip to Orem Utah for Regionals and had a very successful meet, while contending with intense heat.
- From there, eight Novas travelled to Sacramento for Nationals and had an incredible 7 days in California with Madi Todorovich winning the girls 15-16 nationals championship in the heptathlon and Logan Todorovich placing third in the 17-18 hep, while younger brother Tyse placed fifth in the 11-12 javelin and third in the shot put for two All-American finishes. Younger brother Kruze was 11th in the 8 and younger javelin and 14th in the shot put. Also making the trip to Sacramento was Quynlyn Simmons, who finished 24th in the 200 and 22nd in the 100 for 13-14 girls, Lane Eckerson 2qas 33rd in the 200, 26th in the 400 and 25 in the long jump for 11-12 boys, Tate Harrington was 58th in the 100 and 41st in the long jump for 11-12 boys, and Alyssa Shaferly competed in the 13-14 girls long jump and was 67th in the 200 with a big personal best for 13-14 girls.
- We will likely run a short cross country season in October and early November, and it's likely that Missoula will take over hosting for the state meet this year after a three-year run in Helena. We will host if Missoula is unable to organize.
- The Novas are making \$250 donations to HHS and CHS girls and boys cross country programs, and \$250 donations to Townsend and Jefferson combined girls and boys programs for a total donation of \$1,500 to local cross country programs. We see this as an opportunity to build a bridge and re-emphasize our commitment to expand the sports reach and to avoid interfering with the great work the scholastic programs are doing.
- Jeff agreed to make the announcement at the August Trail Race (ATR). As for the actual checks, Ann thought it would be simpler to combine these Nova donations with the

ATR proceeds following the event. We will also include the “Townsend Youth” donation from last year (voided due to incorrect naming on the check).

VIII. Closing Items, Other Announcements & “Round Robin” Session

- Vig membership & guest attendance policies
 - people are welcome to try a few workouts before officially joining the club
- Vigapotty – Jeff
 - may soon be locked due to vandalism – we were given the code
 - HVR will still probably fund it even though no longer publicly available 24/7.
- MT Cup 2023 site ideas – Jeff
 - Tenmile Park would be an easy option (basically replicate the ATR)
 - Trail condition would likely still be good in late Oct (10/28/23)
 - Helena Trap Club may be another good option
 - \$200 to rent, including a nice clubhouse for awards & lunch
 - “Hotshots” youth could potentially help (maybe donate to them)
 - Good spectator viewing
 - Approx 1-mile perimeter could be made into a 4-mile course
 - Would need to do some work to address cobbles, etc.
 - Just 2 miles from Jeff & Lila’s house
 - Pat mentioned that Juedemans also offered their ranch near Craig
 - Ben suggested investigating the McMaster Ranch North, Jeff asked about parking (this site was strongly considered previously – Pat will send the map)
- Is the Turkey Trot happening? Crossroads is interested in hosting again, but would love to have some assistance. Erik moved that HVR offer such assistance. Mitch seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The Turkey Trot is a much-loved event. Mitch and Ann will continue to discuss with Rhonda Schlosser (general manager).
- Ben asked if there’s more that could be done with Vig and HURL jointly supporting each other. Perhaps Vig could adopt/run an Elkhorn aid station? Some Vig members are already participating and/or volunteering at that event, but more could be done!
- Next Meeting Date – Monday, November 21, 2022
- Adjournment – 8:44 pm

Minutes prepared by Sarah Urban and Patrick Judge.

Addendum – Post-Meeting Items

- In early November, the board approved the membership renewal appeal letter via email vote. The “motion” passed with support from (and helpful edits from) Em, Joel, Abigail, Sarah, Ben, Christy, Jeff, Ann, Jesse, and Pat. There were no opposing votes. On November 8, Membership Coordinator Ben Quiñones sent out the appeal with a finely-crafted personal message to the Vig listserv.
- In early November, the board also arranged for a \$100 gift card (and Vig Thank-You Card) to be sent to Michael French, as a small token of appreciation for MT Cup transportation and other support (trail shuttles, etc.). No opposition was expressed, and no motion was deemed necessary (the board-approved budget already included unspent money for MT Cup transportation – Tucker Transportation bus was unavailable this year). Thank you to Erik and Em for making this happen.