

Helena Vigilante Runners

Board Meeting #31

Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2015

I. Call to order

Patrick Judge called to order the 31st meeting of the Helena Vigilante Runners at 7:01 pm on February 16th, 2015 at 107 W. Lawrence, 2nd Floor conference room.

II. Roll call:

The following 13 board members were present, making a quorum:

Pat Judge, President
Jeff Thomas, Vice President
Aubrey Curtis, Secretary
Ann Seifert, Treasurer
Chris Beskid, Board Member
Sean Connolly, Board Member
Mike Fanning, Board Member
Erik Makus, Board Member
Kathleen McElwain, Board Member
Rebecca Shaw, Board Member
Lila Thomas, Board Member
Todd Younkin, Board Member
Jesse Zentz, Board Member

Other:

Matt Elsaesser, Helena City Commissioner
Shiloh Hernandez, candidate for the board
Sarah Urban, candidate for the board

Regrets:

Samsara Chapman, Board Member
Janet Robinson, Board Member

III. Special Guest -- Matt Elsaesser

Commissioner Elsaesser delivered an update on the Centennial Trail project. The board was pleased to learn of the proposed work to be done this coming summer.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Jeff Thomas moved approval of the 11/17/14 minutes. Rebecca Shaw seconded the motion. Erik Makus noted that Section X didn't look right. Pat agreed (it was a holdover from a previous set of minutes). The section was removed, and the amended minutes were approved unanimously.

V. Financial Report

Pat discussed the 2014 Financial Report (P&L Statement, Balance Sheet, etc.). HVR had an excellent year, far surpassing the approved budget (year end balance of \$10,170.88 vs. \$6848.71). The net "profit" was \$2357.97. In addition, the NorthWestern Energy pledge of \$500 for the Mount Helena Run is still expected. Ann Seifert confirmed the current bank balance of \$8773.18.

VI. 2015 Budget

Pat discussed the 2015 draft budget, which was based mostly on 2014 actual figures. Major changes include: \$500 net loss on August Road Race (due to special treats associated with the 50th year celebration), and \$500 net loss on hosting the Montana Cup. But it was decided that the event was likely to at least break even so that figure was changed accordingly. The group decided NOT to send anyone to the RRCA convention in Des Moines this year. Pat reported that Samsara had applied for Lewis & Clark Ales for Charity and Blackfoot Community Monday nights for 2015. Jeff Thomas moved adoption of the budget, Rebecca Shaw seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

VII. Website & Social Media Report

Jesse Zentz and Samsara have been doing excellent work keeping the Vig Facebook site current, with multiple new posts per week. Jesse said that anyone can send him items to post, and that visuals are always good. Jesse reported that SSL encryption services were offered to us free by our internet provider, but we would need to buy a certificate and probably don't need it because we don't conduct financial transactions on our website. He also didn't think we needed to worry about the PHP update (March?), until or unless the website starts losing functionality. He did, however, note that the website definitely needs some work and he still needs to get access codes.

VIII. Outreach Report

Jesse also reported that he had been attending Helena Physical Activity Working Group meetings and also tracking the Bike Walk Helena group (but really, it should be Bike-Walk-Run!) There was nothing too monumental to report on those fronts yet.

IX. Race & Event Reports

Event recaps, success stories, and lessons learned were reported by the following board members:

Montana Masters Mile -- Jesse, Aubrey, and Sarah all participated in this year's event, along with Christy Stergar, Dan Sullivan, Bryan Johnson, and Kyle Strode.

Helena had a very strong showing for the 11th version of the men's event and 1st women's race. The runners rallied to re-arrange their schedule when they learned the night before that the race was being moved up to 5:00 pm (from 6:00 or 7:00 pm). It sounds like this will be the standard time for future years, which actually works well for the group. Next year, John Zombro wants to have a great field with 16 runners in each race followed by a first-class post-race celebration.

X. Upcoming Events

Mike Fanning reported that Dr. Buzz may present to Speaking of Running on March 12th. He also thought it would be great to reserve a room in the Library or someplace to show the Nikki Kimball film. He passed around the poster she had signed when she came to speak last year. HVR will get it framed.

Sean Connolly reported that the HEAT Meet will take place June 7th at 1:00 pm. He handed out the 2015 budget, which was based upon 2014 actual figures. He asked the group if they had ideas for awards (usable goods vs. ribbons or some such).

Jeff and Lila Thomas indicated that they would be available to help out with the Mount Helena Run (September 12th), but that they wouldn't have enough time to serve as Race Directors. Chris Beskid, Erik Makus, and Mike Fanning offered to take over this year. What's needed most is better advertising. At its peak, the event drew 178 participants, which was down to 32 last year. It will not conflict with The Rut this year.

Shiloh Hernandez discussed his idea for the 1st Helena Sun Run (5k with a 1k Walk-Bike parade) tentatively scheduled for October 3rd. The group responded positively to the proposal, and is moving forward with the idea that it would be an HVR-owned event, falling under the HVR insurance plan and making use of HVR's equipment and expertise. The Sleeping Giant Citizens Council is a major sponsor of the event and should be able to generate a lot of volunteers. Shiloh is working closely with conservation and literacy groups. Net proceeds will be donated toward a solar electric system for L&C County Library. He's hoping to pull in 100-500 participants, and \$5000 in net proceeds (which would be potentially eligible for a sizable match from NorthWestern Energy's USB program). The event would also include a Clean Energy Fair at Anchor Park. In the future, the event could raise money for other public buildings.

XI. Elections

Pat apologized that the election cycle had gotten scrambled somehow. On his list, he had 6 people up for election this year and 4 people next year. He suggested allowing Erik Makus to slide to 2016, and no one objected.

Todd Younkin moved the following slate of 5 candidates for the 5 positions:

- Jeff Thomas
- Rebecca Shaw
- Jesse Zentz
- new candidate to the board Shiloh Hernandez
- new candidate to the board Sarah Urban

Ann Seifert seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Todd Younkin moved the following slate of 4 officer candidates:

- Pat Judge, President
- Jeff Thomas, Vice President
- Aubrey Curtis, Secretary
- Ann Seifert, Treasurer

Jesse Zentz seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

XII. Montana Cup

Pat, Jeff, and Mike discussed the successful site visit to Sieben Ranch. Pat called for initial committee volunteers. The following members were appointed:

Pat, Jeff, Mike, Rebecca, Jesse, and Sean.

Some other non-board members have also expressed interest in the event. They should be asked as well.

Pat reported that Competitive Timing will donate services, in exchange for lodging & fuel. We will be converting to runsignup (preferred by Competitive Timing). HVR already uses runsignup for its membership database, and Jesse is familiar with it as well (Gov's Cup).

XIII. Adjournment

Next Meeting Date: May 18, 2015

Adjourn at 8:32 pm

Minutes Prepared by Pat and reviewed by Aubrey.