

Helena Vigilante Runners

Board Meeting #42

Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2017

I. Call to Order

Patrick Judge called to order the 42nd meeting of the Helena Vigilante Runners at 7:04 pm on November 20, 2017 at 107 W. Lawrence, 2nd floor conference room.

II. Roll call:

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

Pat Judge, President
Jeff Thomas, Vice President
Aubrey Curtis, Secretary
Ann Seifert, Treasurer
Julie Ackerlund, Board Member
Jason Brown, Board Member
Joel Harris, Board Member
Erik Makus, Board Member
Christy Stergar, Board Member
Lila Thomas, Board Member
Sarah Urban, Board Member
Jesse Zentz, Board Member

Regrets:

Sean Connolly, Board Member
Shiloh Hernandez, Board Member
Rebecca Shaw, Board Member

Guests: (none)

III. Financial Report (Ann & Pat)

Current Quickbooks Balance:

\$11,118.60

Two outstanding checks:

- \$80 ASCAP music license fee for Mount Helena Run
- \$74 Littl John's final bill for the track porta-potty

Updated Balance:

= \$10,964.60

Expected 2017 "Profit":

+\$1,722.13 (very close to the 2/20/17 budget projection of +\$1,715.80)

Other possible expenses:

1) improved functionality of our website (directory add-on) -- less than \$50
2) MT Cup website expenses (to be recovered from the event) -- "stay tuned"

Other financial news:

- fundraising campaign: we exceeded the \$5000 goal, and counting!
76 contributions so far (67 last year)
socks have been delivered to almost everyone
postcard receipts have been mailed out
- we now have a PayPal account, and a "DONATE" button on our website!
- brainstorming for 2018 promotional item:
long-sleeve shirt, jacket, vest, gloves, buffs, arm warmers, hoodies, etc.
Jesse thought JV parents would be interested in "fan wear"
- Christy will work to set up a "vig-gear for sale" section of our website
may be able to use a widget (like what Jesse did on the youth page)

Music Licensing:

- Jeff gave an in-depth description of the music licensing rules
- it turns out HVR should be paying for both ASCAP & BMI
- even with reduced rates offered through RRCA, this could cost ~\$400 per year
- these costs have doubled JET Announcing's expenses
- JET Announcing's last event will be the Helena Turkey Trot this week
(the group expressed shock & sadness at this news)
- HVR will decide on a case-by-case basis whether to include music going fwd

IV. Jesse Reports

- Junior Vigilantes XC program has experienced tremendous growth:
2015 - 13 girls (13 registered for the state meet)
2016 - 24 kids (19 registered for the state meet)
2017 - 45 kids (33 registered for the state meet)
several young kids participated (including a 9 year old)
& kids came from Helena, East Helena, Clancy, and Montana City
- the JV runners performed very well at state (Bozeman), and got great press coverage
(which led to 10 more parent inquiries)
- Jesse and Odessa also traveled to the Nike regionals meet (always in Boise) -- very cool
- next year, the group will team up with Bozeman on a charter bus to nationals (Reno)
- the first track event will be the MSU Open Indoor meet on February 11, 2018
- Jesse is now on the Helena Area Trails Committee, which meets monthly
 - current focus is building some new trails in the Mount Ascension area
 - also working to maintain trails (leveling them better & removing obstructions)

V. Julie Reports

- Membership Report
 - after just 2 or 3 notices, we're already up to 100+ renewals
 - deadline is late December (vig listserv "purge" on 1/1)
 - all runsignup memberships will be adjusted to expire on 12/31/18
 - membership forms could be added to our website
but members cost us, so perhaps out-of-area members should pay
- Helena Regional Sports Authority
 - the idea is for it to be a partnership, including YMCA, City of Helena, others?
 - consultant will likely be hired to run the capital campaign -- goal is ~\$35 million

- the first phase will be a "quiet campaign" with big donors
- track specifications will probably depend on the level of funding secured

VI. Joel Reports

- Speaking of Running
 - trying to arrange a talk by former Adams State XC runners
 - Jason Mohr (Legislative Services, Helena)
 - David Brooks (MT Trout Unlimited, Missoula)
 - the group thought January would be a good time frame
 - it would be good to advertise it to other MT clubs (Missoula, Bozeman, etc.)
- Montana Cup Website
 - working with Pat, as mentioned previously

VII. Race and Event Reports

- HEAT Meet (Pat for Sean)
 - Sean would like to revive the HEAT Meet in 2018
 - (but he would also like some additional assistance)
 - Sarah Urban volunteered, and also suggested elementary PTA groups
 - (and noted "people miss this event!")
 - Sean said they may changeover to runsignup for registration (if affordable)
 - also prizes (in addition to ribbons) are complicated, but the kids like them
- Governor's Cup (Jesse)
 - Jesse indicated that there will likely be course changes:
 - Marathon, Half, and Relay will come in from Jeff. City / Clancy
 - 10k & 5k tweaks to avoid collisions with Marathoners on 6th / Cruse
 - physical race packets are back this year (we can ask them to include fliers)
 - Jesse is in need of a new announcer if JET goes away -- heartbreaking!
- Sun Run (Pat for Shiloh)
 - 3rd Annual Sun Run took place on Saturday, 9/16/17
 - attendance was improved, thanks to partnership with Carroll College
 - once again partnered with MREA Clean Energy Fair (but moving to Bozeman)
 - great fundraising again, due to Shiloh's amazing outreach efforts
 - courses were better this year -- no confusion
 - same day next year would be 9/15/18 -- need to confirm with Shiloh
- Mount Helena (Erik)
 - very successful Mount Helena Run on 9/23/17 -- clear air! a little snow
 - the Burgess Family reunion was an added bonus (& making a documentary!)
 - attendance was decent, but it would be nice to grow it some more
 - (brainstorming: inserts, beer wine or cone coupons, runsignup referrals, etc.)
 - (currently & historically, women represent only about 1/3 of the field)
 - the event made a modest profit of \$200-\$300
 - Competitive Timing's "small event option" worked great, and was only \$290
 - (\$3 / participant + \$50)
 - video backup didn't work (but thankfully didn't need it) - Pat will investigate this
 - Precision Embroidery shirts were great (SportTech)
 - survey feedback was positive

Erik could use a Volunteer Coordinator to help him next year
volunteer photographer would be good
stick with that date (9/22/18)

- Montana Cup (Pat)
 - very successful trip to Billings on 10/29/17 (with the plush bus!)
 - Helena won 3 cups: men's open, men's masters, and women's masters
(need to retrieve the women's masters cup from BRC)
 - we also had one individual champion: Jesse Zentz, men's masters division
 - next year's event will be 10/27/18 in Great Falls
 - Pat tried to contact Kristina Smith to see if she will be race director again
 - Pat & Joel are in the process of adopting the MT Cup website from Ray

VIII. Closing Items and Adjournment

- Upcoming board elections for the positions currently held by:
 - Jason Brown
 - Jeff Thomas
 - Shiloh Hernandez
 - Rebecca Shaw
 - Sarah Urban
- Jason and Jeff indicated they would seek re-election. Sarah and Rebecca expressed a willingness to continue to serve, or to step aside. (They would be missed if they chose the latter, but it's certainly understandable in terms of other commitments.) Other names mentioned included Anna Doran, Sam Sullivan, and Ella Krumm.
- Officer elections take place annually. Ann, Jeff, and Pat are happy in their positions. Aubrey indicated that he would let the group know (hopes to be running again soon!).
- RRCA State Rep -- John Devitt is stepping down, but no one seemed interested.
- Upcoming RRCA Coaching Clinic in Bozeman -- again, little interest expressed.

Pat Judge adjourned the meeting 8:42 pm. Next meeting is currently scheduled for February 19, 2018.

Minutes prepared by Pat Judge.

IX. Addendum

On December 1, the board unanimously agreed on a "Volunteer of the Year" recipient for 2018 (except for the member receiving the award, who was not notified).