

Helena Vigilante Runners

Board Meeting #66

Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2023

-- action items bolded below --

I. Call to Order

Patrick Judge called the 66th meeting of the HVR Board of Directors to order at 7:01 pm on November 20, 2023 at “Vig World HQ” (107 W Lawrence, 2nd floor conference room).

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
Michael French, Board Member
Joel Harris, Board Member
Mike Kaiser, Board Member
Erik Makus, Board Member
Ben Quiñones, Board Member
Emily Thiessen, Board Member
Mitch Young, Board Member
Jesse Zentz, Board Member

Regrets:

Abigail McLane, Board Member
Christy Stergar, Board Member
Cara Uribe, Board Member

Guests:

None

III. Minutes

- Jeff Thomas moved that the minutes from the 8/21/23 meeting be adopted with the edit that the trailer be described as "light" but not "quite light." Mike Kaiser seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
- Jeff Thomas moved that the minutes from the 10/9/23 meeting be adopted as written. Em Thiessen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. Special Announcement

- Joel Harris is the Volunteer of the Year! Joel is completing his 8th year on the board and has logged many hours of volunteer service at Vig events, culminating in his role as Sun Run Race Director (2022, 2023). He has a special connection to that event, having attended all 8 editions and raced in the first 7 (including a win in 2017). He has authored

write-ups for the Montana Cup, serves as the "Speaking of Running" program director, and volunteers for other groups like the Last Chance Nordic Ski Club. Pat presented him the traditional "Wheaties Box Award" pending the preparation of the official 2024 plaque.

- **Distinguished Vigilante Award – nominations are open for the 2024 award! (done)**

V. **Financial & Membership Report – Ann, Ben, Pat**

- Current Assets (11/20/23): **\$71,096.19** vs \$48,443.47 last year
 - this includes the \$30,000 invested in CDs
 - this balance will drop with upcoming credit card payments, etc.
 - Ann noted that she successfully bumped the daily credit card limit to \$7500
and will continue to apply for higher limits
 - Ann will also investigate opening a Vig Venmo account
initial research suggested it probably wasn't worth it
but Jesse has expressed renewed interest for Novas purposes
 - the first CD matures on 12/1
the group agreed to re-invest the \$15,000 in a one-year CD,
assuming the interest rate is still 5.0% or higher on that day
(otherwise, the group will be polled via email) - done
- Current Membership (11/20/23): **80** vs 69 last year; **\$3325** of \$6000 raised
 - Ben is optimistic that we will hit our target of 150 by December 15
 - **"Board Member Challenge" google sheet is live!**
 - **Giving Tuesday is November 28!**

VI. **2024 Budget (see attachment below) – Pat, Ann**

- Pat proposed adopting the annual HVR budget before the start of the fiscal year
- the presented budget is conservative (i.e. "semi-worst-case" with expenditures)
- the club's reserves are sufficient to cover the \$6,633.92 "deficit" if it were to occur
- in reality, Pat expects that the club will finish 2024 with a "profit" as we always have
- but this budget allows the club to spend "up-to-those-amounts" in 2024 without having to seek additional board authorization
- **idea: online store for the "swag" item this year; people can choose their membership item**
- after some further discussion and Q&A, Ann Seifert moved adoption of the proposed budget with the following changes:
 - 1) \$50 instead of \$20 for "MT SOS Corporate Filing Fee"
(to allow for the application of a MT Cup service mark)
 - 2) \$1000 instead of \$558 for "Porta-John for the Track"
(to allow for additional months)
(Jesse said Novas budget can also pitch in if needed)
(Jeff will contact Littl John's about winter functionality)
- Jesse Zentz seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously
- **Pat noted that it would also be good to adopt an official Financial Policy in 2024**

VII. **Governance Calendar**

- Website updates made & races renewed (RunSignUp/Competitive Timing calendars)

- EOY Party scheduled (12/1, Broadwater, 5:00-8:00), Cara & Em are leading the charge!
stay tuned for a SignUpGenius invite (done)
- Other Year-End tasks to perform (RRCA renewal & calendar, vig list clean-up, etc.)
(done)
- 2024 Elections coming soon
 - Pat appointed Erik and Abigail to conduct the election
Erik will send out a "call for nominations" in January (done)
Sarah declined reimbursement for her ElectionRunner expense last year
 - Jeff, Ben, Em, and Jesse intend to run again
 - Sarah Urban will be stepping down
the board expressed deep gratitude for her many years of tremendous service as board member and officer – she will be sorely missed!

VIII. **Race, Program, and Event Reports (2023 Recap & 2024 Planning)**

- Track Workouts (Tuesday, 3/19/24) – Pat
 - 2024 workout schedule is [posted](#)
- Trail Workouts (Thursday, 3/21/24) – Erik, et al
 - **Erik is planning a SurveyMonkey survey (Google Forms may be cheaper)**
- HEAT Meet (Thursday, 5/30/24) – Em
 - 2023 went really well, but Em has some **minor tweaks** in mind for 2024
(color-coded groups, etc.)
- 50th Governor's Cup (Saturday, 6/8/24) – Jesse
 - lots of fun activities planned to celebrate the Golden Anniversary
 - promotional videos will be broadcast in the greater region
 - **Pat suggested Vig play a more prominent role this year**
increase our "sponsorship" level?
include our brochures in the swag bags?
new club singlets for our runners?
- JOTF (Friday & Saturday, June 14-15) – Jesse/Mike/Abby
 - date will be June 14-15, will need lots of help! SignUpGenius
 - Regionals will be in Bozeman the following week
- August Trail Race (Thursday, 8/22/24) – Pat
 - 4th Thursday of August this year
 - no major changes planned; hoping for cooler temps!
- Vig Scrimmage (Tuesday, 8/27/24) – Pat
 - confirmed that this date will be before the teachers & kids return to school
- Mount Helena Run (Saturday, 9/21/24) – Abby/Erik, et al
 - Pat applauded the crew for a great event & an impressive profit!
- Sun Run (Saturday, 10/5/24) – Joel
 - this year's event was fantastic:
great weather!
\$11,000+ raised!
Em in the sun suit!
popular swag item!
 - **for 2024, we may partner with Helena Food Share as the beneficiary**
their new building will be opening around that time, and will include solar

re-locate the race route to the Sixth Ward for one year?

anticipate resuming our partnerships with the schools in the future

- MT Cup (Saturday, 11/2/24, Helena) – Pat
 - we were pretty dialed-in already, but can make the event even better for 2024!
- JOXC (Saturday, 11/9/24) – Jesse/Mike/Abby
 - went well, and now we have a good fall-back option – City was helpful
 - pavement wasn't ideal, but Centennial course on dry grass would be great
 - it's also much cheaper than Bill Roberts
 - **it would be fun to have it at the Old Broadwater site**, or “The Grove”
(historical note: Carroll's first XC meet was held there 9/29/07, including Vig!)
- Novas Report – Jesse/Mike/Abby
 - great turn-out this year, especially with the elementary kids
 - definitely needed all coaches (Kaiser, McLanes, Sarah Perry) to make it work!
 - hard to get middle schoolers because the post-season period is so short
 - middle school programs are just intra-mural, 3 crosstown meets at NW Park
other cities (including Montana City) have more robust travel programs
HMS/CRA 8th grade girls also have conflicts with volleyball
 - **idea to do an all-comers elementary meet in September (HEAT Meet XC)**
- Turkey Trot (11/23/23 & 11/28/24) – Mitch
 - Vig helping with registration (Mitch), arch and clock (Pat), and announcing (Jeff)
(done! also, obtained past results for posting)
 - This year's race is benefiting Impact Montana. Next year Vig! :)
 - we will offer to further support the race in future years (RunSignUp reg, etc.)
- Speaking of Running (2024) – Joel
 - David Curd history talk
 - Mark Feig, team-mate of Steve Prefontaine, lives in Bozeman:

<https://fanhubtf.com/runjackw/maybe-the-best-and-most-poignant-prefontaine-story-ive-ever-heard/>

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

- Round Robin
 - Jeff reported on the "ARC" sports & event facility meeting
 - this is the former "HRSA" project (Helena Regional Sports Association)
<https://helenasports.org/>
 - The site is now at the Fairgrounds. 1-mile horse track may be resurrected for a running/walking loop. This meeting was about the "turf building." They currently have no track facility planned for ground level. They are talking about a suspended track (200m). There is another meeting 11/21 for swim facilities and also turf field.
 - **JT will continue to advocate for a competition-worthy track**
 - Jesse announced the "Frosty 5K" scheduled for December 9 at Centennial Park
- Next Meeting Date – February 19, 2024
- Adjourn – 8:28 pm

Minutes prepared by Sarah Urban and Patrick Judge.

Attachment – Proposed Budget 2024

**2024 HVR BUDGET
(11-13-23 Proposal)**

	Expected 2023	Proposed 2024	Δ
STARTING BALANCE (checkbook + CD investments)	\$51,458.61	\$50,168.88	-\$1,289.73
Event & Program Proceeds			
HEAT Meet (2023 actual, includes \$1000 BCBS)	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
JOTF Hosting (2022 actual)	\$0.00	\$3,358.00	\$3,358.00
August Trail Race (2023 actual, includes \$500 BCBS)	\$3,327.50	\$3,327.50	\$0.00
Mount Helena Run (2023 actual, includes \$500 BCBS)	\$4,273.50	\$4,273.50	\$0.00
Sun Run (2023 actual, includes \$500 BCBS)	\$11,098.42	\$11,098.42	\$0.00
Montana Cup Hosting Income (includes \$1000 BCBS for 2024)	\$10,653.16	\$8,575.00	-\$2,078.16
JOXC / Fall Classic (2023 actual, includes \$1500 BCBS)	\$2,370.00	\$2,370.00	\$0.00
Novas Youth XC & Track (2023 actual)	\$43,220.35	\$50,000.00	\$6,779.65
Contributions & Other Income			
Montana Women's Tri	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	-\$5,000.00
Memberships & Contributions	\$6,604.17	\$6,604.17	\$0.00
SECGC (2023 actual)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$88,547.10	\$91,606.59	\$3,059.49
Event / Program Expenses			
HEAT Meet (matched to income)	\$2,068.24	\$2,068.24	\$0.00
JOTF Hosting (matched to income)	\$0.00	\$3,358.00	\$3,358.00
August Trail Race Expenses (2023 actual)	\$1,066.00	\$1,066.00	\$0.00
August Trail Race High School Contributions (2023 actual)	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00	\$0.00
Mount Helena Run (matched to income)	\$2,104.36	\$4,273.50	\$2,169.14
Helena Sun Run (matched to income)	\$11,098.42	\$11,098.42	\$0.00
Montana Cup Hosting Expenses (matched to income)	\$12,024.72	\$8,575.00	-\$3,449.72
JOXC / Fall Classic (matched to income)	\$2,370.00	\$2,370.00	\$0.00
Novas Youth XC & Track Operating Costs (matched to income)	\$43,220.35	\$50,000.00	\$6,779.65
Montana Women's Triathlon	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	-\$5,000.00
General & Administrative Expenses			
Board Expenses (inflation cushion)	\$49.00	\$100.00	\$51.00
Advertising (Track Signs, 2 x \$500 annual + \$1000 for new signs)	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00
RRCA Membership & Insurance (inflation cushion)	\$895.84	\$1,000.00	\$104.16
Porta-John for the Track (\$93 x 6 mo, May-Oct)	\$438.00	\$558.00	\$120.00
MT SOS Corporate Filing Fee (2022 actual)	\$60.00	\$20.00	-\$40.00
Awards (inflation cushion)	\$60.00	\$100.00	\$40.00
Web & Listserv Expenses (2022 actual, including MT Cup)	\$452.98	\$452.98	\$0.00
Office (PO Box, Postage, etc., inflation cushion)	\$176.00	\$200.00	\$24.00
Promotional Swag – magnets	\$205.37	\$205.37	\$0.00
Promotional Swag – shirts, etc. (estimate)	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
SECGC Application Fee (2022 actual)	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$0.00
Facility Permit Fees (Vig Stadium, 2023 actual)	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$0.00
Equipment & Supplies (including Novas, tent walls, etc. estimate)	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00
QuickBooks Subscription (inflation cushion)	\$183.00	\$200.00	\$17.00
Tax Forms (990 EZ for the first time, estimate)	\$3.49	\$100.00	\$96.51
Speaking of Running	\$100.00	\$500.00	\$400.00
Social Event(s)	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
Refunds	\$266.06	\$0.00	-\$266.06
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$89,836.83	\$98,240.51	\$8,403.68
NET PROFIT	-\$1,289.73	-\$6,633.92	-\$5,344.19
ENDING BALANCE (checkbook + \$30,000 in CDs)	\$50,168.88	\$43,534.96	-\$6,633.92

HEAT Net	-\$68.24	-\$68.24
JOTF Net	\$0.00	\$0.00
ATR Net	-\$138.50	-\$138.50
MHR Net	\$2,169.14	\$0.00
SUN Net	\$0.00	\$0.00
MTC Net	-\$1,371.56	\$0.00
JOXC Net	\$0.00	\$0.00
NOVAS Net	\$0.00	\$0.00

Addendum – Post-Meeting Interim Board Activity (especially votes, usually e-votes)

- On 1/1/24, a motion was made to select David Curd for the “2024 Distinguished Vigilante” award. The motion passed unanimously.
- On 1/16/24, Erik Makus made a motion to compose and send a letter on behalf of HVR to MT DOT “to connect the North Benton Trail (along the east side of Benton) to both Batch Field parking lot (so as to connect to the Nature Park trail on the east side), and also extend it up the east side of the road to the Centennial Park connector (which is on the east side). Stopping a trail half a block short of connecting to another trail makes no sense, and forcing a dangerous crossing of Benton TWICE in one block to get to Centennial trail (with no stop lights/stop signs/minimal lighting at night), seems like a dangerous situation for runners that could easily be fixed.” The motion passed with additional support from French, Judge, McLane, Quiñones, Stergar, Thiessen, Thomas, Urban, Young, and Zentz (11-0).
- On 1/26/24, Pat Judge moved that HVR petition the Secretary of State to update our classification to “public benefit corporation with members” for a nominal filing fee of \$15. The motion passed with additional support from Harris, McLane, Quiñones, Seifert, Thomas, Urban, Uribe, and Young (9-0).