



TRACK AND FIELD / ROAD RUNNING / CROSS COUNTRY

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Athletics Manitoba Board Mtg Minutes

7:00 pm Tuesday, May 28th, 2019

U of M – Seminar B

Attendance: G. Mitchell, K. Kelly (Skype), B. Walker, A. Boudreau, J. Vince, T. Turner, C. Boyd, D. Grey, J. Kist, K. Wiens, J. Howe

Regrets: J. Schofield, O. Babalola, P. Harms, K. Ferris, J. McMullen,

Agenda:

- Call to order 7:10 p.m.
- Adoption of agenda (J. Howe/J. Kist)
- Approval of Minutes (J. Kist/K. Kelly)
- President report
 - In addition to the submitted written report, provided a brief review of some of the key discussion points from the Athletics Canada AGM.
 - The Commissioner's report and fallout from the Investigator's report. Athletics Ontario request that the Investigator's report be removed from the website, due to its inflammatory nature and the ongoing repercussions.
 - Grant has been appointed to a 1 year term with the Athletics Canada Board of Directors. Noted conflict of interest in any matters relating to Athletics Canada.
 - CCES presentation, details surrounding the request for drug testing at International events held on Canadian soil and the complications that arose. BC Athletics will pursue/lead further conversations with CCES, around the logistics of ensuring SOME testing of International athletes can take place at these events in the future. There are restrictions that CCES must abide by (and substantial costs) but it has been identified as a priority and it is something they are willing to work through.
 - IAAF Female Eligibility Regulations + Canadian Domestic implications
 - Athletics Canada is bound by the IAAF rulings for National Team selection and International competitions, however at the Domestic level (and which is supported and emphasized by their funding partners) their policy is self-declare and run as you declare.
 - Kathy Wiens (Road Running) asked about what discussions have occurred at the National level, and how we should approach the conversation. They do have athletes self-identifying in their races now and they would like guidance on the topic.
 - It was noted this was a lengthy discussion at the AGM, with Athletics Canada bound by the IAAF ruling when it comes to National Team participating, but that ruling may be appealed further. Sport Canada vehemently opposes the most recent IAAF ruling and strongly encourages Athletics Canada to enforce a sport for all, inclusive policy. The topic of what safe and fair sport for all really looks like, was discussed at length, with no real resolution.
 - It was also noted that this would be an item for further discussion later in the Agenda.
 - Noted that this is his last official board meeting as President
 - B Walker noted a special thank you to G Mitchell for his hard work and dedication over the past 5 years.
- Office report
 - Summarized some key points from the submitted written report.
 - Further follow up is required on the request to have the MRA Hall of Fame in Max Bell.



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- Treasurer report
 - We are the process of finalizing and preparing our documents to hand off to the auditor this week.
 - Statement of Operations
 - Current Year column shows basic operating budget for the year – cash/flow. Generally operating programs and projects on a successful breakeven budget.
 - Forecast column includes Amortization of Capital assets, Interest revenue and Amortization of Capital Grants, and some bad debt, which results in a relatively small overall deficit.
 - Balance Sheet Review
 - Attention was drawn to the Deferred Revenue accounts, which will roll over into the 2019-2010 budget.
 - We need to follow up with Edith Lyon and establish some revised criteria for the Dave Lyon legacy grants, because we are expected to spend the income from this fund. We have a number of athletes attempting to achieve National Team selection this season. Teams include FISU, U23 and U18 NACAC, U20 Pan Am Championships
 - Kathy Wiens – request consideration that MRA could apply for some funding to purchase new equipment, or whether there might be an avenue to access some upgraded equipment.
 - This will need to be a further topic of discussion. It was noted that we cannot use funds designated for indoor/outdoor equipment purchase and repair but there might be other avenues through which we can support.
 - Some of the existing MRA race equipment is in fact still owned by Athletics MB.
 - Need to look at how we can support a long-term solution, including providing for equipment funding in the sanctioning fee charged to race directors.
- MRA report
 - 380 members as of May 28th, looking to get additional #s through the MB Marathon Fit expo.
 - As of July 1st, membership drops to ½ price
 - School membership are not being widely used. These provide schools with a substantial discount for MB Marathon registrations, but only have 2 current memberships.
 - Hope to hit 100 youth members, currently at 77 (124 last year)
 - Extremely successful 5K and Flapjacks fundraiser
 - 45 events on the Race Calendar with a 46th to be added. This is great, but it is starting to stress capacity and there are a lot of events competing with each other. They are truly Province wide!
 - This year's new event – Tough Track Mile saw 123 participants. Weather was terrible, but the course was very well marked and was a great idea. Attendance was lower than hoped but given the target demographic it was likely too early in the season, in addition to being the day before the Winnipeg Police Half Marathon, and in conflict with events in the Bison outdoor season. Suggestion that moving forward, hold the event on a weekday summer evening.
 - Hall of Fame – great evening with a great speaker. Very well received.
 - Unfortunately experiencing problems with Timing companies. Steve G is still one of the main operators, but one of their other companies is likely going to be moving away which will present some serious problems. Looking for support and/or information on alternative options/guidance. Want to be proactive and plan ahead.
 - Bib Trading - Run as Yourself campaign. Race directors are on board and with the help of timers they are starting to catch people more often. Wanting to focus on additional ways to educate participants.
 - Wooden Nickel campaign. These are being handed out at the finish line of events, if they are brought back to the MRA table, participants receive a entry to a free draw which is being held at the MB Marathon. This has been AMAZING, as it's getting people to their table and they are talking to them! They have often had more people waiting to talk to them, then they have the capacity to handle. Very positive initiative.
- Questions from submitted reports



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Discussion/Decisions

- Strategic Planning – Membership Survey Results review
 - Good sample size (92 on 1000 surveys issued). Upon initial review, overall tone seems positive. There are certainly some good, key pieces of critical feedback to consider.
 - A more thorough review of the data will be conducted, and a presentation will be made as part of the AGM, with a view to deciding whether a stakeholder in person meeting should be part of the SP process.
- Safe Sport – Website message draft
 - Quick review of the principles and the tie into conversations held recently at the Athletics Canada AGM. No discussion necessary, this is important messaging that needs to be visible on our site, and had the full support of board members in attendance.
- AM Branding guidelines 1.0
 - General review of preliminary brand package presented by Jared Kist.
 - Starting with colour and style, but also important to recognize and develop official Tone and Voice in our communication. How does it change based on the different contexts.
 - Could also look at photo guidelines – style and types of images.
 - Grant mentioned potential concern with the existing logo. Does the bison create unnecessary confusion – Athletics MB vs U of M Bisons? Are we further confusing the public?
 - How old is the logo? – Over ten years, developed by Alex Allen as a summer staff.
 - Perhaps a further analysis of the logo needs to be done.
- Code of Conduct and Ethics + Complaints and Discipline Policy review – Athletics Canada alignment
 - As a result of the renewed discussion at the Athletics Canada AGM, the office thought it prudent to review Athletics Manitoba's existing policies. We had discussed our desire to adopt the Athletics Canada Code of Conduct and Discipline/Complaints process, but upon revision, there was no motion or Board Approval to that effect.
 - In the case of any major complaints, we need to establish the line between our jurisdictions and where/when the Athletics Canada policy would come into action. There is language and definitions within our Policies outlining Major vs Minor infractions – suggest that any/all Major infractions would fall under the Athletics Canada jurisdiction.

MOTION that any major infractions would fall under the National jurisdiction and as such would be dealt with under the scope of the Athletics Canada discipline and complaints process. Any minor infractions would be dealt with through the local/domestic policy. - J. Howe (2nd - B. Walker) – carried

Action item – Alanna to update the phrasing of the policies to reflect this change. Will be circulated to the Board electronically for adjustments/approval.

Information Sharing

- U of M Display Board – fundraising project update
 - Alanna met with representatives at the University and it was decided that we would undertake this fundraising project together.
 - Their preference is for an Indoor/Outdoor option as opposed to a mounted indoor only solution.
 - U of M will utilize their resources to set up the fundraising account and process, utilizing the alumni and energy from the USport Championships.
 - Those Board members who had indicated their willingness to sit on a fundraising committee, will be engaged once further direction from the U of M is received.



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New Business

The meeting was adjourned at – 9:11 p.m. (B. Walker)