

USATF New England Annual Meeting
Meeting held at Doubletree Guest Suites, Waltham, MA
Minutes
09/18/08

Members Present: Barry Auskern (SMAC), Carolyn Bird (FTC), Courtney Bird (FTC), Laurie Boemker (RITOG), Joan Bohlke (NBB), H.Oldham Brooks (WMTFOA), David Callum (GBTC), Caitlyn Clark (SISU), Rich Clark (GSH), Skip Cleaver (GCST), Kevin Curtin (NBB), Tom Derderian (GBTC), , Lisa Doucett (CSU), Dave Dunham (CMS/GCST), Jim Garcia (GLRR), Matt Germain (SISU), Laura Golitko (ATA), Yvonne Green (NBB), Mary Harada (LAC), Kasey Hill (un), Barbara Jordan (MVTC), Paul Kirsch (WMM), Justin Kuo (NEW), Chris Lane (MTFOA), Mike Lauro (WLT), Pat Lavelle (WMTFOA), Larry Libow (MVTC), Kathy Nary, Mike Nary, Frank Neely (Colonial RR), John Oleski (MVTC), Stephen Peckiconis (CSU), Tom Petranoff (WLT), Louis Raffetto (RTK), Jeff Robbins (ATA), Ken Robichaud (NMC), Everad Samuels (GBTC), Josh Seeherman (GBTC), Gary Snyder (GBTC), Thom Spann (PC), Peter Stasz (GSH), Glenn Stewart (GLRR), Tucker Taft (MVTC),, Dacia Taylor (GBTC), Jonathan Tetherly (MVTC), Joe Tranchita (WTC), Mike Travers (MVTC), Steve Vaitones (SRR), Steve Viegas (Mystic Runners), Tim Weir (Unat/Governors Acad).

Non-Members Present: Steve Simoni, Katheie Rougeau, and Steve Rougeau

Meeting called to order at 6:45 PM by President Kenneth Robichaud

Athlete of the Month: John Oleski presented framed copies of the awards to the athletes of the month for the past year. The write-ups of Athletes of the Month can be found on the USATF New England website (www.usatfne.org).

President's Remarks: Kenneth Robichaud thanked the officers and sports chairs of the association and its managing director, Steve Vaitones for their work in the preceding year.

Managing Director's Report: Steve Vaitones reported that the New England Association ranks in the top 3-5 associations nationally. We have the most sanctioned events. We have a steady stream of national events. We have a good relationship with the facility owners where we hold our events. We receive good support from Harvard, Springfield, Fitchburg and others. We had to be flexible with MIT this summer because of its sudden decision to close the track to construct the infield of field turf. Our meet at Bentley went well. We were grateful for the assistance of Bentley College and the track coach.

Treasurer's Report: Stephen Peckiconis reported that the association's funds are at Brookline Bank. Because of the size of our deposit, it is not fully FDIC insured. However Brookline is a solid bank.

There was a question about the \$7,400 note receivable listed on the association's books. It dates back to indebtedness incurred by the local organizing committee from our first National Masters Indoor Championships (NMIC). It is probably uncollectable.

A general discussion of the dues and newsletter ensued.

Stephen pointed out that the association will not be hosting the NMIC this year. We will be receiving no income from it in 2009.

A discussion ensued about lowering the dues in light of our \$300,000 bank account. Ken Robichaud pointed out that the dues are set at the national level and that we receive a small portion of those dues for the association's use. He pointed out that we have a grant program which could be used to assist some athletes with the cost of dues.

Peter Stasz moved to accept the treasurer's report. Gary Snyder seconded. It was unanimously accepted by voice vote.

Elections:

President: Kenneth Robichaud (North Medford Club) was nominated as President. Harry Brooks moved to close nominations. Peter Stasz seconded his motion. Ken Robichaud was elected president on a unanimous voice vote.

Vice-President: The following persons were nominated for the three Vice President positions:

James Garcia (Greater Lowell Road Runners), John Oleski (Mass Velocity), Barry Auskern (SMAC) and Harry Brooks (SMAC).

Larry Libow moved to close nominations, Mary Harada seconded his motion.

Members voted by secret ballot. Garcia, Oleski and Auskern were elected

Secretary: Stephen Viegas (Mystic Runners) was nominated as Secretary. Larry Libow moved to close nominations and Gary Snyder seconded. Steve Viegas was elected on a unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer: Stephen Peckiconis (CSU) was nominated as Treasurer. Harry Brooks moved to close nominations and Gary Snyder seconded. Stephen Peckiconis was elected on a unanimous voice vote.

Sports Chairs:

Men's Long Distance Running Chair: Courtney Bird (Falmouth TC) was nominated as Men's LDR chair.

Women's Long Distance Running Chair: Lisa Doucett (CSU) was nominated as Women's LDR chair.

Master's Long Distance Running Chair: Skip Cleaver (GCS Triad) was nominated as Master's LDR chair.

Open Track and Field Chair: David Callum (GBTC) was nominated as Open Track and Field chair.

Master's Track and Field Chair: Michael Travers (Mass Velocity) was nominated as Master's Track and Field chair.

Cross-Country Chair: William Newsham (GBTC) was nominated as Cross-Country chair.

Youth Athletics Chair: Tom Petranoff (World's Longest Throw) was nominated as Youth Athletics chair.

Race Walking Chair: Justin Kuo (NE Walkers) was nominated as Race Walking chair.

MUT Chair: Paul Kirsch (White Mountain Milers) was nominated as Mountain Ultra and Trail chair.

Peter Stasz moved to elect all sports chairs and Gary Snyder seconded. All sports chairs were elected on a unanimous voice vote.

Athlete Representatives: The following persons were nominated for the three athlete representative positions:

Joshua Seeherman (GBTC), Joan Bohlke (New Balance), Laura Golitko (Airtime) , Sarah Lawson (GBTC), Justin Lutz (New Balance) and Harry Brooks (SMAC).

Larry Libow moved to close nominations, Mary Harada seconded his motion.

Members voted by secret ballot. Seeherman, Bolke and Golitko were elected.

By-Laws:

President Ken Robichaud opened the floor to the matter of the proposed amendments to the association by-laws, notification of which had been duly provided pursuant to the by-laws prior to the meeting. The proposed changes had been posted to the association website and copies were available at the meeting.

Ken Robichaud went through each amendment item by item. The proposed changes to Articles 1, 5, 10, 15, 17 and 18 were discussed. Ken Robichaud explained that the Operating Regulation concerning Redress of Grievances was required by the national office and was incorporated by reference into the amendments. This regulation was also posted on the website prior to the meeting and was available at the meeting. After each proposed amended the amendment was moved and seconded and each amendment was accepted by a unanimous voice vote.

President's Awards: Ken Robichaud recognized several people for outstanding service to the sport.

Ron Boemker was recognized with the *Volunteer Service Award* for his many contributions in just about every aspect of our sport over many years.

Kevin Jackson and Tom Spann of the Providence Cobras were recognized with the *Marja Bakker Youth Service Award* for their many years of service to the youth track program.

Bob Gidari was recognized with the *Gerry Cantor Official Award*.

USATF Annual Meeting Delegate Election:

A ballot with nominees for delegate to the USATF Annual Meeting was passed out. Laura Golitko was nominated and seconded from the floor. The following persons were elected: Steve Vaitones, Ken Robichaud, Laurie Boemker, Harry Brooks, David Dunham, Jim Garcia, Justin Kuo, Pat Lavelle, Kathy Nary, Bill Newsham, Stephen Peckiconis, John Oleski, Gary Snyder, Mike Travers and Steve Viegas. Mary Harada, Larry Libow and Laura Golitko were elected Alternates.

The results of this election may have to be changed in order to provide the required representation of athletes, coaches etc. Paul Souza, a coach from Wheaton College will be attending in any event and is available if needed as an alternate.

Peter Stasz moved to reimburse up to \$1,000 per delegate for hotel, airfare and registration expenses which are deemed reasonable and necessary by the Board of Governors. Harry Brooks seconded and moved to amend the motion to permit reimbursement of \$800 rather than \$1,000. The amendment passed on a vote of 22 yeas, 9 nays and 1 abstention. The amended motion passed on a voice vote approving, which was unanimous with the exception of one.

Grand Prix Meeting: Will be November 10, 2008 at a place and time to be announced later.

Restructuring: The goal of USATF's restructuring program is to have all changes in place for 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen G. Viegas, Secretary