

SMAC BOD Meeting, January 23, 2008 - Held at The Bement School

Members present: Adams, Auskern, Beard, Bensen, Hebert, Utakis, Martula, Hansen, Henthorn, Farrick, Scott, Coutu, Stone.

Prior to meeting discussion centered around the opinion that the Dunkin' Donuts Cape Cod Marathon should provide donuts as well as coffee to participants. Consensus determined that the T-Shirts were cool.

Had she a gavel, Donna might have bashed the meeting to order with it. Instead, we started at 7:06, with mallets towards none but no new members present (they drifted in). **Minutes** from the annual meeting were considered and accepted, "unless we want to change them later," which seems fair.

During the **Treasurer's Report** (with its usual quota of scintillating detail and prescient explanation) Derek Beard arrived, quietly, and so not heralding any sort of new era of the BOD's leadership. Sydney Henthorn arrived soon afterwards. Meanwhile, Mr. Martula manifested that we are financially afloat.

Planning for the Jones 10-Miler: Seems well in hand.

- Barry Auskern has ten excellent gym bags from Mizuno for the team competition winners (the race application has been modified to require five members for a complete team). *CoolRunning.com* and *New England Runner* were also to be notified.
- Ron agreed to ask members of the Turners Falls Cross-Country team to man certain turn markers.
- Rich Clark will "do" the mile markers
- Carrie discussed food expectations and needs; donations from Breugger's Bagels will augment the ever-popular Sibie's pizza; questions of numbers assumed 400 runners.
- Cafeteria staff should be "made happy" insofar as we can. Fruit? Answer: "we're advertising this as a race, not a smorgasboard." Questions of budget and quantity needed to be ironed out, tangents were veered off onto, but the general consensus was that we felt OK about the food. Note: with one active and two former race directors actively serving as members of the BOD, we should.
- T-Shirts, similar to last year's on a different base, look good. Mizuno will be added to sponsorship list and Hillside Pizza deleted.
- Logistics of awards (and what they were to be) were discussed.
- Traffic control: there will be two policemen and paramedics on hand. There will be a warning about the train which comes through around 1:00p.m. For the start, Donna will aim the starter's gun at Barry.
- Dick Arsenault will do the timing. Team finishes will be computed on the basis of TOTAL TIME for the five runners. Race entries will be comped for the fastest runner on each complete team. Course record holder, Bob Hodge has agreed to run and has also been comped.
- Volunteers and Registration will be in the cafeteria this year; Carrie will have signs ready. Volunteers should be on hand by 9:00a.m.
- The lead car will be driven by Donna's husband, to carry John Stifler (Gazette) and Bill Wells (Republican).

It was noted that there will be a further meeting (February 20), and that there is a link to the race on SMAC's website.

Membership: @125 have paid dues; this is normal-ish and second notices will be sent in February. It was moved, seconded and agreed by acclaim that any member who wants access to the membership records must get permission from the President. Also, Donna should be notified if any problems are found.

Calendar: Mailings for the Ron Hebert race and Highland Park challenge will be forwarded to Chuck and Cathy for the calendar.

Website: "When will the message board be up and running?" Mike Yargeau will let us know when a secure posting method is ready. Can/should/will there be a link for Youth Track? Other submissions to the website should go through Dave Martula.

Youth Track: Sydney spoke at length about the intricacies of getting full cooperation from Smith College for the use of its track. Included was the "YSpeed" program out of Springfield, a terrific shoestring operation with an enthusiastic crowd of young runners. Several agreed to contact Carla Coffey of Smith about the college's decision to not make practice time available for the youth team. After all, we pay expenses requested and have been asked to help Smith promote and put on a 5k there. Committee decision-making seems to be slowing down the process.

For the Summer Youth Track series there may also be difficulties, as Smith will be resurfacing certain facilities. Possible alternatives were considered, with Williston-Northampton School emerging as the most likely possibility should we need to find a new venue. Amherst and its Leisure Services System has great organization, but difficulties in meshing SMAC's programs with theirs have developed (to put it euphemistically). All sorts of questions, possibilities, alternatives, considerations and other airballs were floated.

The SUN expects to rear its head again sometime before the end of March.

Upcoming SMAC or local Races:

- The Sleighbell 4-Miler in Greenfield (February 9)
- Jones-Town & Country Ten Miler in Amherst (February 24)
- 15th Annual WAMDA Fitness 5KRun/Walk and Health Fair in Florence (March 1)
- Bill's Challenge III 5K Road Race in Northampton (March 15)
- Ron Hebert 8-mile Road race in Florence (April 6)
- Highland Park Challenge in Greenfield (April 27)
- 19th Annual 7 Sisters Trail Race in Amherst (May 4)

a **Big Standing Clock** to be priced by Ron Hebert. SMAC's "honkin' big banner" shouldn't have to be large all by itself.

Tuesday Night 5k's might be discussed at a future meeting.

The next BOD meeting will be at Bement School, as usual, on February 20, at 7:00p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Bensen, Scribe