

USATF – NJ Annual Meeting,

Rutgers University

March 12, 2014

I. In attendance were: David Friedman, William Pollinger, Ron Hush, J.J. Field, Stacy Fick, Don Bellamy, Jane Parks, Roger Price, Madeline Bost, Baxter Brooks, Claire Tafelski, Douglas Brown, John Chachi Sabatino, Kevin Turner, Charles Castiglioni, Jacqueline Evans, John Boykin, Phyllis Smith-Livingston, Tia Livingston, Bruce Fabrikant, Pam Fales, Ed Neighbour, Everett Smith, Wayne Smith, Charlene Cumberbatch

II. President's Message:

Ed Neighbour made note of the recent passing of Toshiko d'Elia. She was pioneer in masters running and a strong presence in Long Distance Running in the State of New Jersey starting in the mid-1970s. Toshiko was the foundation that has made New Jersey into one of the most competitive master's long distance racing communities in the nation.

Ed pointed out that the association has experienced a lot of challenges and changes over the course of the year;

The association has a new Managing Director, Terry Mullane.

Despite the challenges, the association has continued to grow in membership ending 2013 with 6,376 members.

New Jersey signed an agreement with the New York Association which benefits the Youth athletes in border counties and allows these athletes to compete in NY or NJ.

There is still work to be done and in 2014 we should set goals for things we would like to accomplish as an Association;

An updated website should be brought online this year. It is my hope that this can be done so that we can do a better job at highlighting the accomplishments of our athletes at all levels in the Youth, Open and Masters Divisions.

Our ability to provide assistance and opportunity to our athletes has been a primary goal of mine and I hope we can build upon and expand what we are doing as an Association. I would like to see that all USATF-NJ Sports Committees develop a stipend program.

Our Stipend programs in 2013 provided support to over 25 Individual athletes and 10 club teams to participate at USATF National Championships

We should review our Sports committee structure and institute changes in structure if needed to help grow and promote our sport.

We can do a better job at marketing and promoting USATF-NJ. There are opportunities out there and while this is not an easy task, if we can enter into partnerships with sponsors to promote our sport we can use the funds to help improve the events we host.

As an Association we have one of the highest numbers of members in the country consistently ranking in the top three. The Association has one of the highest membership rates based upon population. It is my belief that this can still be improved upon.

III. Minutes of the September 18, 2013 meeting were approved

- Presidents Cup 5k Open Men June 16th
- Lager Run Masters Men June 22nd
- Sunset Classic 5 Mile Open and Masters Women June 26th
- The LDR Committee set the Travel Stipend standards for 2014. They are posted on the LDR Page of our website.
- The May 15th LDR Meeting will hold elections for all positions.

T&F Committee Report - Dave Friedman reported that the open and masters meet indoor championship had a good turnout.

- There was a world record set by the SAC M60 team in the 4X800 relay.
- A committee meeting will be held on March 24, 2014 at the Multi-Purpose Activity Center (MAC), 3rd Floor (above the indoor track) at Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ.
- The date and time for the outdoor championship meet will be decided at the meeting.
- The committee would like to host some developmental meets along with the championship this summer.
- The committee will select a division chair at elections at the meeting.

Youth Committee Report: Charlene Cumberbatch

- The Youth committee had their meeting on February 19th.
- Thanks to the efforts of the Unity Express Track Club the Franklin High School sports facility will be the location of the JO meet at a reduced fee.
- The association will be hosting the Region II meet in Stockton. Three indoor development meets were held at the Bennett facility in Toms River.
- The Zonal meet attracted 1,200 athletes and despite making it a two day meet it was too large to handle without problems. Those problems contribute to the New Jersey association being held responsible when in fact the Zonal meet management was to blame.
- As part of the rotation of locations for the youth events, Gloucester will be the site of the JO Cross Country meet.
- New Jersey athletes represented New Jersey well at the national meet.
- It was suggested that the youth committee track the athletes who have come through the USATF programs who are now performing well at the high school and collegiate level so that their accomplishments can be highlighted on the association website.

VIII. Officials Committee Report: Bruce Fabrikant reported that there is an Officials Training Clinic being held at Richard Stockton College of New Jersey on Saturday, March 22, 2014

IX. New Business

Doug Brown reported that the Raritan Valley Road Runners have held a highly successful Towpath run on National Trails Day for the past 16 years. The scheduling of the College Avenue Mile on the same day will have an impact on the club and the teams. He asked that in the future the RVRN event be given consideration when scheduling the mile race.

Mr. Brown also asked about the lack of information on the Masters Indoor Track and Field Age division records. Madeline Bost explained that they exist up to the final year of the North Jersey

Masters hosting the event and they are in a typed version and thus not easily updated. She and David Friedman are working on a solution to that issue so that they can be updated.

Bill Pollinger reported that New Jersey is hosting the US Racewalk trials on March 30th in Whiting. The World Cup of Race Walking is held only every four years and the Trials will be the largest national event ever held in New Jersey with the exception of the US Olympic Trials. He urged people to come to watch or to volunteer.

Youth clubs were reminded that a background check is necessary for anyone, coaches and volunteers, who will be working with youth.

X. Meeting Adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Madeline Bost, Secretary