

WVMTR 2019 Annual Meeting

July 27, 2019

1:00 p.m.

Spruce Mountain South

1. Call to order: at 1:15 p.m. 32 members attending. Thanks to Phil Light and Jennifer Lipscomb in taking minutes.
2. Review of Minutes from January 2018: Minutes were read from the 1/13/18 annual meeting in Helvetia. Motion to approve minutes approved.
3. Treasurer's Report: Matthew Young prepared a treasure's report. As of 6/30/19, account balances were \$56,276.65 in checking and \$50,297.01 in savings for a total of \$106,573.66. All of our races are open for registration and we are collecting registration fees with very little expense for upcoming races like Kanawha Trace, Trilogy, and Canary. 2018 WVMTR had revenue of \$104,954.72 and expenses of \$94,025.73 for a net gain of \$10,928.99. We can afford to support more club events and worthy running causes in WV. Motion to approve minutes approved.

Discussion Notes from Phil Light:

- * 56276 in savings
- * ~50k in checking
- * ~100k total
- * 104k revenue
- * 10928.99 net gain of revenue - costs
- * Comparison: +4600 gain in 2017
- * Treasurer's opinion: can afford to support more events and causes in WV
- * What percentage of members are lifetime members?
- * Lots of money in checking, can we move it to something interest-bearing?
 - + Income comes in waves, main revenue is registrations, which is before outlay for race costs
 - + In practice, account balance seems to be above 40k at all times
 - + Proposal: move the 50k from Savings -> investment account
 - + Board will investigate options

- * [Jennifer] Why the gain in net income?
 - + Matt or Dan may have the best feel for the root cause
 - + Adam's guess: each race is slowly getting more profitable
 - + Race registrations have generally grown
 - + [Adam] Decreased costs, increased membership do not seem to be much contributors
- * Move to accept the treasurer's report
 - + Seconded, passed

4. Membership Report:

- * Motion that Dennis may no longer speak, INSTANTLY seconded
- * Increased membership: \$200 growth year over year
- * Lifetime membership has an unknown effect
- * 147 Lifetime Family Members
- * 442 Total members (on RunSignup.com) - as of January
- * 291 Member accounts (counts a family as 1)
- * \$5000 donations in fiscal year '18

5. 2018 Board Member Elections

- * Lehman, Todd, Matt Young all re-elected
- * No new nominations; please nominate people to the board

6. Race Reports:

Sasquatch:

- * Relatively warm day: 50 degrees
- * No records set
- * 10th year, 2 runners got jackets for completing all 10

Haulin':

- * Good weather
- * Last year, just broke even with registration
- * Option with shirts changed this for \$2000 net
 - + Thought that people might not want to pay for the shirt
 - + Gave different pricing options - 50/50 split between who wanted shirts and not
 - + Lowered price of registration (with no shirts)
 - + Removed need to over-order shirts
 - + Went from 12-15 Patagonia shirts excess to 1-2
- * Getting started to plan for Year 9

Highlands:

- * Moved back a week to accommodate a wedding
- * Restored to Father's Day Weekend for the future
- * Changed Registration date from January - February
- * Race has been filling in not an hour, but 30 minutes
- * Wait list up to 65 people
- * Refund period: 90% refund through April
- * Trying to get to 200 on the start line, didn't happen again
 - + 189 started
 - + Drew a bunch of people of wait list
 - + Many people dropped at each cutoff
 - + Permit limit is 200 runners
- * Buses (board of education) have not sent bill because we're in the summer
 - + Also Digger Outdoor Adventures with 15-person
- * Meal Fees, \$500 fee for meeting room
 - + Going to decide on a \$5 registration increase to cope
- * Recognition of Bob Anderson, who passed away
- * Last year's winner had a heart issue and passed away at aid station 2
 - + We feel that our preparation and response was good
 - + EMS was on-site, responded immediately to 911 call

- * Communication issues at Highlands Sky, but worse at Trilogy
- * Parking is a problem - almost had accidents with buses and parked cars
 - + Race announcement will include directions
 - + Cones, ropes?
 - + Don't allow parkers until runners have left
 - + Have more buses for spectators?
 - + Volunteer dedicated to parking patrol
 - + Orange vest, flashlight, shotgun
- * Aid Station 6 was a chaotic place
 - + Crew, Family, Runners
 - + If you drive past aid station 4, your runner will be disqualified
 - + Saw people on bikes, or a stroller taking photos
 - + Problem: confusion at aid station for runners
 - + Designated area for crew: put up a line and make sure that crew do not cross it
 - + "Course Marshall" vests to lend a sense of authority

Helvetia

- * Always the Sunday of Helvetia Fair
- * A great event
- * 60 registered; 75 is the record

Trilogy

- * "Decent" weather: If you count the snow.
- * Lehman's Van died getting out after the race, RIP
- * Year 10 this year.

Moonlight, Darkness, KT, Canary, and Dirty Dog:

- * RDs absent

7. WVMTR Website: Andrew and Carissa

- * Updated a few years ago
- * Houses the reports and photos
 - + Don't always catch these that are on Facebook
- * Thank you to Andrew and Chris for a job well done
- * A whole page for regional races to help cross-promotions
- * Photos of Board of Directors, Race Directors
 - + Contact info and list of RD assignments
- * Photos go onto Google and linked from website
- * Sponsorship links on each race page
 - + Logos and clickable links
 - + We choose to sponsor Heart of the Highland, not the other way around
 - + Better example: Experience Learning and Trilogy
 - + [Dennis] Partners and friends should be linked to on the site
 - + [Adam] Complex - be careful about who you reference "helpful links" or "resources" instead of "friends"
 - + [Adam] There are no sponsors of the clubs, only of the races
 - + Discussion of value of linking out to
 - + Search bar
- * Is the volunteering button?
 - + Yes, it works
 - + Rachel Carson Trail Challenge has a volunteering spreadsheet publicly visible

8. MSTR Series 2019:

- * Pint glass for running 5 of them
- * If you volunteer for 5 races, can you also get a pint glass?
 - + Hell yes, motion passed rowdy-style

9. Fun Runs: Club sponsored fun runs

- * Pub runs, Splash & Dash, Fox Forest; others have come & gone
- * Want to see more of them
- * Propose to board, blanket \$200 to pay for events
- * Buy Pizza, mark a course, etc.
- * Would apply to trail maintenance gatherings as well
- * 5 and 10 Kegger: Watch for it in 2020 according to Pete: Teays Valley

Trail Maintenance Discussion

- * Forced work for Highlands Sky?
- * Volunteer, or maintain for a trail discount
- * This is a lot more work for the RD
- * Make it a scholarship - do the work, get a scholarship or discount

Request for feedback on annual meeting weekend

- * Email Adam, let him know what you think of the location
- * "If you want to grow it, you need to show it" - post pictures etc.

10. Purchases

- * Stihl hedge trimmer
- * Race clocks
- * Jacket & Sweater order
- * Low on club shirts
 - + Check 2 bins with club stuff for sale
- * Stuff for volunteers to designate them
 - + Race-specific needs
 - + This is already a board approved purchase
 - + The stuff will live in the second trailer
- * Third Trailer?
 - + There have been issues at the end of races with cleaning etc.
- * Discussed purchasing vests for volunteers and possibly radios for improved communication.

11. Experience Learning

- * Discussed partnership with Wilderness Running Camp and Adult Running Camp. Club sponsored the Wilderness Running Camp with \$500, which was matched by EL, to finance the adult coaches/counselors. The club is going to sponsor a 1-year WVMTR membership and a piece of WVMTR schwag for the Adult Running Camp.
- * WRC scrapped by last year with 7 kids, 8th had to leave early
- * 12 attendees at the camp this year
- * Kids carried their own stuff.
- * Half & half:
 - + kids who loved running but didn't know how to camp
 - + kids who camp but don't know running
- * High schoolers, lots of incoming freshmen
- * Rained every day, camped at Judy Springs
- * Ran 10 miles more than expected
- * Can we leave them with shirts of 1-year memberships?
- * Eric & Robin Grossman came and added wisdom as coaches
- * Adult camp: 7 signed up, starting in a week
 - + Adults will get some gear
- * Trail work on Friday, can advertise to membership
 - + Allegheny Ridge?
 - + Wherever Stacin was, help that spot

12. Other Business:

- * Katie Wolpert started a conversation about planning for the future and the idea of compensating race directors. She brought-up monetary means, but others brainstormed other non-monetary means.
- * We have great RDs now, but everyone gets tired
- * What about an apprenticeship program to get new RDs up to speed?
 - + Other clubs have assistant RD to assist & learn what needs

+ Both get either free membership or a jacket

* Incentive program for race directors

- Next steps: Adam will add to the next BOD meeting in October for further discussion and consideration.

Communication: Michelle Price brought-up the need for better communications at Highlands, the Trilogy, and presumably at the other events.

* Radios are present at Highland Sky

* Relays etc. can enhance communication

* Highlands Sky, Station 2 can't talk to 3.

* Tried Radio Club, didn't get any takers

* This has fallen to each race director, it's an ongoing issue

* Talk to a radio supplier - a repeater station could be unmanned and make the stations work

* New Sponsor - IRP system is too loaded

* Get a Volunteer SAR Group

+ Example: Allegheny Mountain Rescue (a club?)

+ Mountaineer Search and Rescue, out of Morgantown, all volunteers

- Next Steps: Recommendation to purchase radios. Dan Lehmann has a very reasonable offer from our rental supplier to purchase the radios we use for Highlands Sky. Will present to BOD for consideration.
- Mountaineer Search and Rescue: Casseday will research the group and see if a partnership can be formed for future events.

Motion to adjourn: Motioned, seconded, and passed at 3:15 PM