



Minutes from Annual General Meeting
SUNDAY – June, 23rd 2019 Conference/Call @12PM (*Pacific Daylight Time*)
Location: 38 Dolores St San Francisco, CA 94103
Transcribed by Zander Ross

In person:

Host: San Francisco Track & Field – James Boyd, Marcus Valera, Chris Goodwin, Phil Aguilar

Host: San Francisco FrontRunners – Bob Callori, Liem Nguyen

Seattle – Danny Luong

East Bay

Baylands (Palo Alto) – Rich Tretten, Viola Tides

Portland – Joseph Jenkins

New York – Zander Ross

Philadelphia – Richard Ervais

Federation of Gay Games – Reggie Snowden

Phoenix – Michael Mitsuda

Palm Springs – Michael Ambrose

Atlanta – Michael Tomas

Indianapolis

Colorado – Andrew Sturner

Virtual attendance:

Nairobi – Kelvin Washiko, Kevin Mwachiro

Sydney – Wayne Morgan, Chris Rauchle

Canada – Wally Mah

Long Beach – Brad Miyasato, Assaf Weinberg

Boston – Alden Clark

Kansas – Randy Hite

Washington DC – Rob Geremia

Jacksonville - Kent

1. Opening Remarks and Procedures
2. San Francisco Track & Field President's Welcome
3. Introductions from Steering Committee
4. Introductions from Club Members Present
5. Approve 2018 AGM Meeting Minutes
6. Report IFR Activity & Updates
 - a. Two new initiatives passed at Special General meeting:

Danny Luong
James Boyd
Danny Luong
All in Attendance
Danny Luong
Danny Luong

(1) 24 clubs approved changing regions; (a) splitting the South/Central region into two regions and (b) splitting Europe into two regions;

(2) 20 clubs approved that officer no longer has to be a regional representative.

b. **Alden** would like to add gender non-binary option to the bylaws.

7. Brooks Running Partnership

Danny Luong

a. Brooks: **Danny** worked with Brooks Running for the past 6 months to create a partnership in which Brooks will grant corporate dollars to our clubs this year within the US and next year International for various purposes including hiring a coach, marketing, etc. Thus far, Portland, Atlanta and Seattle were approved for these \$5,000 grants. The second set of applications will be completed by the summer. **Chris** asks about the timeline to apply. One of the recipients reports that the application was easy. **Danny** says club must be a 501(c)(3). **Wayne** asks if grant is only for US clubs? **Danny** says Brooks is not allowed to fund the New York FR Pride run because they are sponsored by competitor New Balance, but as a club they are allowed to apply for a grant for other things. **Wayne** wants to know when the US grants will finish? **Danny** reports that US will be during 2019 and then International during 2020. **Wayne** asks about the requirements. **Danny** answers they are aware of the issue with International tax issues. **Chris** suggests that they will have to arrange it through Brooks Australia because of tax deductions.

b. **Alden** reports that some clubs have not paid their memberships. **Wayne** reports that some clubs in this meeting have not paid.

c. Back to Brooks: Somebody asked if there is a time limit on the club use of the money if they win the grant. **Danny** says it is a one-time donation and clubs will say how much they need for their project. Once a club has applied and is approved they cannot do another application. Just one time and maximum is \$5000. The use of the grant must be part of the application of the applying club. The Brooks legal team has set up all the requirements. Portland cannot verify if they got the money from Brooks yet. Atlanta has not received the money yet either. **Danny** says IFR was featured in Runner's World about this first round of Brooks grants, making waves and being recognized.

8. New IFR Logo Redesign

Danny Luong

Danny recognizes the Melbourne Frontrunners member who designed our new logo.

9. International Rainbow Memorial Flag Run

Reggie Snowden

Reggie talks about the International Rainbow Memorial Flag Run which honored flag creator Gilbert Baker. **Reggie** reads all the items that the Rainbow Run honors and explains how the runs were done in any city that hosted the Gay Games and culminated in Paris. The event was reorganized and included many clubs not just runners. **Richard** and **Reggie** will discuss in the future to have all Front Runners clubs doing a similar race during Pride month. **Brent Nicholson-Earle** (the organizer of the Rainbow Run) was very excited about over 1,400 people showing up in Paris, but instead of a run ended up being a walk.

10. Federation of Gay Games Officer Report

Reggie Snowden

a. **Reggie** explains what Federation of Gay Games (FGG) is all about for those who did not know. He mentions the two co-presidents in London and Vancouver. Talked about how **Wayne** and **Zander** worked on the Blue Books (rules governing each sport) that contain anything running related. The economic impact of Paris GG10 exceeded \$100 Million Euro and that there were thousands of attendees.

b. **Kevin** and **Kelvin** from Kenya are on the line now and were the recipients of our scholarship.

c. **Reggie** spoke about the final three host cities.

d. Somebody asked if the Red Book (sports events) having anything about the hammer throw and why it was not at Paris Gay Games. **Reggie** explained that sometimes the books are

updated such as after Cleveland, but at that time the hammer throw was in the Red Book. However, it was up to each Gay Games host. Somebody added that the reason was because they didn't want to ruin the grounds of where the hammer throw would have occurred.

e. Somebody mentioned that they heard since in China they don't use the word "gay" it will be called "Friendship Games". **Reggie** pointed out that the word is used in China and that Gay Games is a branded name and we will call it Gay Games not Friendship Games. Gay Olympics issue was also discussed.

f. Discussion about two new events for Hong Kong, the Tower Run and a trail race. Tower Run did not get accepted as a sport, but a trail race did.

11. Federation of Gay Games Delegate Report **Wayne Morgan and Zander Ross**

a. **Wayne** told us that the Rainbow Run was the biggest event in Paris with around 2000 participants. **Wayne** discussed all the work that **Zander** and his family did including the many trips to France he flew to deliver the quilt. **Zander** said it was hundreds of pounds of suitcases, poles and bags that went back and forth. **Wayne** said that the Rainbow Run should have been run by nine clubs (the host cities of the nine previous Games), but because we don't have a club in Amsterdam we believe they didn't do the run. **Alden** tells **Wayne** that Amsterdam has a Front Runners Club.

b. **Wayne** says that Paris Frontrunners put on a number of parties and they were very well attended. Lots of beer drinking.

c. **Wayne** discussed our scholarship program saying we are the very first FGG member club apart from FGG who has offered a scholarship. We sponsored two Kenyans. Other organizations, such as the swimmers, want to use our ideas to have a scholarship.

d. **Richard** says that **Kelvin** says hello. **Wayne** came up with the idea of the scholarship and **Mike Myers** from FGG helped out with the 501(c)(3) issues and many IFR member clubs donated money and that we did an excellent job.

e. **Wayne** says that Hong Kong won't have stairs running. But the trail running might be very hilly. We will finally have age-group relay races after 15 years trying to get this done. So hopefully it will work in Hong Kong. About 30% of the population of Australia is Asian and they know about Hong Kong Gay Games and they are very excited to participate. And **Wayne** says that even straight people want to come to Hong Kong for Gay Games. **Wayne** also reports that we have 833 members on the IFR Facebook page.

f. **Danny** asks **Zander** if he is interested in renewing his FGG delegate position as this is **Zander's** year to be renewed and **Zander** says yes.

g. **Wayne** says that the next FGG Annual General Meeting will be in Guadalajara, Mexico and **Wayne** and **Zander** are both planning on attending.

h. **Andrew Sturner** asks if there will be a cross-country team or individual races. **Reggie** said it is not known yet.

12. Review Treasurer's Report & Budget **Alden Clark**

a. **Alden** discussing the 2018 Budget says that one outstanding item, the website fee, was not paid. But he and **Brad** will handle paying 2 years - 2018/2019 - during the 2019 year. Highlights that in 2018 we had a starting balance of \$15,521.25 and received membership fees of \$2,375. Our expenses in 2018 were \$2,021.82. We have a balance to start 2019 of \$15,874.43. To date in 2019, our membership fees collected are \$2,125. We had bank fees of \$87.07 and our logo design fees of \$1,140. We still have expenses yet to come in. The balance currently is \$16,472.36. Items that we still have are the FGG membership payment, our website and delegate reimbursements.

b. **Wayne** asked if the budget for FGG delegates reimbursement was \$1,500. **Alden** replied that at the last meeting we set it at \$1,000.

c. **Alden** reports expenses - \$500 for the AGM, \$384 for the website, \$50 for postage and printing. The 2019 budget is proposed as \$4,634. Income is expected to be \$2000 for 2020. **Alden** carried the same in the 2019 budget. **Alden** informs that at the beginning of the year we sent information to those clubs that have not yet renewed and also to their regional reps. **Danny** thinks this is a good budget to continue for 2020. **Wayne** moves to approve it and somebody seconded it.

Lunch

13. Steering Committee Election

All in Attendance

Richard asks if the clubs that have not paid can pay right now so they can vote? **Alden** goes over the information and how to pay. **Alden** says **Brad** can help people with the website if they need help. **Richard** mentions that some clubs are small and are free.

- a. Eastern US Representative, 2-year term (**Richard**)
- b. Southern US Rep, 1-year term (**Michael Tomas** – Atlanta)
- c. Central US Rep, 2-year term (**Randy**)
- d. Northern European Rep, 2-year term (**Nick**)
- e. Southern European Rep, 1-year term (**Kelvin**)
- f. Mexico, Central & South America Rep, 2-year term (vacant)
- g. FGG Delegate (**Zander**)
- h. Webmaster (**Brad**)
- i. Communications (**Joseph**)

14. Officers

All in Attendance

President – **Danny**
Secretary – **Michael**
Treasurer – **Alden**
Webmaster – **Brad**
Communications – **Joe**

15. New Business

Danny Luong

a. **Rich Tretten** needs ideas on how to recruit new members particularly in non-gay areas (like Palo Alto). Other members give ideas like passing cards, and brochures. **Danny** says that Google and Amazon have LGBTQ+ employee groups that can be tapped to enlist members. Another member says that he can talk to other sports clubs like baseball and swimmers that could become members during their off seasons.

b. **Brad** discusses why we have just male and female in the membership application and is there interest in creating gender parity, but since then things have changed, so do we really need this question at all in the application. **Danny** says that it is important to have numbers just from a demographic perspective. **Wayne** replies that the FGG has many categories as to what each individual identifies with. **Chris** says that for many businesses this is not needed info, but for us it is because we want to increase certain groups. **Danny** asks **Brad** about increasing the different categories, and **Brad** replies that we need to define what those categories are: If the FGG is asking us for this information then we should align with them. So **Danny** will try to emulate the FGG structure to report to the Federation with the help of **Brad** and **Alden**.

c. **Wayne** mentions that Sydney is bidding for 2023 to host World Pride and would also like to host the AGM. **Richard** says to put up a bid for the rest of the world to bid for the next AGM. **Alden** says that in 2020 IFR would have had the invitational if anybody wants to host this event as we usually do this in the Gay Games off-years.

Wayne moves to close the meeting. **Danny** seconds.