

Annual General Meeting 2009

Minutes

I. Saturday, July 18, 2009 – Electronic meeting

1. Call to Order at 9:00AM EDT
2. Roll Call
 - a. Alden Clark, President
 - b. Gary Fracassi, Treasurer
 - c. David Short, FGG delegate
 - d. Craig Lewington, Canadian representative
 - e. Wayne Morgan, FGG delegate
3. President Clark reviewed the current steering committee and vacancies
4. President Clark gave a report on the past year's activities
 - a. Business/action plan status
 - b. Member survey
 - i. Wayne suggests that we get a written report for perusal and discussion at the next teleconference
 - c. New clubs
5. Treasurer Fracassi presented the treasurer's report for 2008.
 - a. He explained the missing number for the count of clubs in the 1-25 category due to a change in the reporting of small clubs who pay zero. He will manually determine the number for last year and will update the treasurer's report to reflect this once compiled. Wayne suggests something like a nominal \$1 charge to cause the system to generate a record. Gary will work with Brad to see if it's possible to get the system to generate something once the information has been updated for the current year.

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- b. Motion and second to accept the treasurer's report.
- c. Year-to-date for 2009 will be presented in Copenhagen
- 6. Federation delegates report
 - a. David Short discussed the Federation's activities this past year. The primary task this past year was to review the bids to host the games for 2014. Next step in the process is for teams to visit the cities and report back at the annual meeting in September to be held in Cologne.
 - b. Wayne will be attending that meeting. He has reviewed the documents that are available on the federation's website and requests that we poll our clubs to give him some direction as to how to register his votes (2 since David will not be attending).
 - c. Rainbow Memorial Run. The task of management of this race is being "pushed" to IFR and Wayne will prepare a history and report to the group as to what is involved with the event. Also Wayne and Alden will contact Brent Nicholson Earle to facilitate this. Alden raised a question as to whether the event is impeded since it's part of the cultural program rather than the sports area. David explains that the run is not timed and is intended to be inspirational. Craig will contact Vancouver to remind them of the event.
 - d. Wayne reported that he serves on the Sports Committee and the Site Selection Committee. David reported that he serves on the Legal Committee as well as the Site Selection Committee.
 - e. Wayne Morgan's position is up for re-election this year.
- 7. GLISA delegates report
 - a. President Clark will request a written report and will disseminate this electronically.
 - b. Gael Macleod's position is up for re-election this year.
- 8. David Short will re-contact the Cologne club as to hosting the 2010 AGM meeting. We are awaiting more details from the club and will provide those to the steering committee as we get them. Also, Wayne and Alden will contact the officers while they are in Cologne.
- 9. President Clark asks for new business and topics to be discussed during part two of this meeting to be held in Copenhagen.
 - a. David Short raised the request for a \$250 contribution to the women's running group in South Africa to attend a sponsored race. Motion and second to sponsor the group was approved.
 - i. Since we have not done this in the past, we agree that policy needs to be made in this area. We agree that future requests will be on a case-by-case basis. In order to be considered, information must be submitted in writing with as many details regarding the event and will be voted on by the appropriate IFR group (steering/membership).
 - b. Hosts for the 2011 AGM. Craig reported that Ottawa requested information on the bids and bidding process.

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- i. Wayne suggests that in years when there is not a major sport gathering (such as the Gay Games, Out Games, continental games) that the AGM be held electronically.
 - ii. David reminds us that Honolulu previously bid and he will ask them if they're interested in submitting again.
 - iii. Concerns were raised about travel and the tendency of people to not travel outside their geographic areas.
 - iv. Consider the possibility of holding the electronic portion of the meeting in tandem with the in-person meeting.
 - v. We should also explore using the internet and other technologies
 1. All members agree to investigate the different formats, etc. that their companies use and will report to the steering committee. Alden and Gary will take up in Copenhagen.
- c. Election of GLISA and FGG delegates
- i. Wayne's position is open for the Federation
 - ii. Gael's position is open for GLISA
 - iii. Alden reminds everyone that the delegate position is for a two-year term.
 - iv. Wayne is nominated to serve another term and is re-elected unanimously.
 - v. Alden asks for GLISA delegate. We agree to postpone the election pending further candidates. The position will be published and taken up in Copenhagen.
- d. Regional Representatives elections
- i. Regions may conduct the elections as they see fit, either in person or electronically.
 - ii. Current regions for vote are Eastern US, South-Central US, Europe and Mexico-Central and South America.
 - iii. Absent election results, this will be deferred until part two in Copenhagen.
 - iv. Alden will follow up with the regions as well as Brad to discuss his continued roll as webmaster and communications officer.

10. Part one of the meeting was adjourned at 10:30AM EDT.

II. Friday, July 31, 2009 – Copenhagen, Denmark

1. President Clark opened the meeting. The following people and the clubs they represented were in attendance:

- a. Alden Clark, Boston
- b. Gary Fracassi, Orlando
- c. Jon Borset, San Francisco
- d. Greg LaRocque, Running Moose
- e. Len Tritsch, Seattle

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- f. Per Horn Rasmussen, Copenhagen
2. President Clark gave an overview of Part 1 of the Annual General Meeting that took place via conference call on Saturday, July 18, 2009.
 - a. There was further discussion of the Rainbow Run and what IFR's involvement would be. There was a brief history of how the run came to be and what is anticipated going forward. The primary questions involved the size and scope of the run (is it limited to previous Gay Games cities?), and it was clear that we would need a more detailed proposal from the Federation before we could act.
 - b. Follow up on bids for the 2011 AGM location
 - i. David Short would contact Honolulu Front Runners to see if there is still interest on their part to host
 - ii. Greg LaRocque reported that Vancouver will very likely consider hosting 2011 in conjunction with the North America Out Games
 - iii. We also discussed the likelihood of continuing physical meetings in the future, opting instead for electronic methods
 - c. We discussed the status of regional representative elections. Greg reported that he had received preliminary information that Said Pulido was planning to continue as the regional rep from Central and South America. He also reported the fantastic send-off that Said and the other members of the team from Mexico City received from the Mayor and President of Mexico.
3. Report of the GLISA delegate
 - a. The current World Out Games had 2,280 participants in various running events.
 - b. There are two upcoming continental Out Games
 - i. Asia/Pacific to be held in Wellington March 12 through 19, 2011
 - ii. North America to be held in Vancouver July 26 through 31, 2011
 - c. There will be a pride house in Whistler and in Vancouver during the winter Olympics. The goal is to link sports with human rights. GLISA also plans to have a pride house in London and Russia.
4. Election of Officers
 - a. The election of Brad Miyasato as communication officer was ratified
 - b. Gael Macleod was reelected to a two year term to represent IFR at GLISA
5. Treasurer Fracassi presented the treasurer's reports.

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- a. The number of clubs in the first level (less than 25 members) had be corrected for 2008 and YTD 2009
 - b. The financial statement for the first six months of 2009 was also presented.
 - c. There was some discussion on the number of clubs that are members as well as those that are not current. Further contact by the Regional Reps was necessary to try to confirm existence of non-member clubs and get updated contact information; otherwise inactive clubs will be deleted from the website.
 - d. The 2008 report as corrected was accepted as was the 6 month report for 2009.
6. Positions are open for a few regional representatives and they will have an online election.
7. New Business
- a. Review survey – there were some surprising numbers and some general trends that appeared. These seem to indicate communication issue between IFR and ultimately the individual members of the clubs. The survey also pointed out that there is a question as to the role of IFR and how IFR interacts with the various FR clubs. It was felt that some of this could be addressed by increasing the visibility of IFR.
 - i. Greg brought forth the idea of sister cities and suggested that we use an event to focus the attention of IFR and IFR clubs. He will write up a proposal for a suggested event and how IFR would be involved, how IFR would involve some of its clubs and, how IFR would benefit. When fully developed we will have a section of the website for clubs to sign-up for participation.
 - ii. Greg also suggested that IFR develop a leadership group with expertise in various areas that and make that available to clubs
 1. This might include assistance with events the clubs would host both in terms of expertise and volunteers
 2. Initially we would put out a call for volunteers willing to help
 3. Ultimately we would follow up with targets in specific areas
 4. We could start by identifying events – track, road races, distance runs, off-road events and triathlons
 5. Greg and Alden volunteer to work in this area
 - iii. Gary suggested that IFR could host a specific event at the upcoming Gay Games. Rather than just a social event

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(although there could be a social or party-type element with it), he suggests that we might sponsor/host one day's award ceremony, perhaps at the end of the 5k/10k or marathon/half. For example, it would be noticed/announced that "...today's medals are being presented by and this afternoon's social is hosted by International Front Runners..." Our banner would be prominent, as would our logo on flyers/materials/promotions, etc. Alden will discuss the idea with the Cologne 2009 committee when he meets them later this year.

- iv. Alden will continue to work on the language issues on the website including translation of some of the information into several languages.