



## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Austin, Texas, USA  
September 24, 2011

1. Alden Clark was elected to serve as chair of the meeting in the absence of a president.
2. Each person introduced themselves and what city they were representing. The attendance roster is attached.
3. The make-up of the current steering committee was announced, the open positions from several regions as well as the officers of IFR, the delegates that represent IFR at the Federation and GLISA and the additional elected positions of webmaster and communication officers.
  - a. Currently filled positions:
    - i. Region 1 (western states of the US) is Reggie Snowden from San Francisco
    - ii. Region 2 (central and southern state of the US) is Gary Fracassi from Orlando and is currently the Treasurer
    - iii. Region 4 (Canada) Tony Braithwaite from FR Newfoundland
    - iv. Region 7 (Mexico, Central and South America) is Jesus Gonzalez
  - b. Current vacancies are:
    - i. Region 3 (northeastern states of the US)
    - ii. Region 5 (Europe)
    - iii. Region 6 (Australia, Asia)

*Chairman Clark points out that some of the regions are up for election later in the day as indicated on the agenda.*

  - c. Also serving are representatives to the Federation of Gay Games and GLISA. There are two delegates to each, serving two-year terms, staggered for election purposes. Some of these positions are on the agenda for election.
    - i. Wayne Morgan from Sydney is representative I to the Federation.
    - ii. The alternate representative position is open.
    - iii. Greg Larocque from Canada is the representative to GLISA.
    - iv. Eileen Murphy is the alternate representative to GLISA.
  - d. There are two positions in IFR that are elected each year to support the club.
    - i. Webmaster (currently Brad Miyasato)
    - ii. Communications officer (currently Alden Clark)
4. Treasurer Fracassi presented the treasurer's report that covered the calendar year 2010 as well as the transactions from January 1 to September 20, 2011. Those reports are attached. Several questions were asked as to how the dues structure came to be as well as what expenses we

generally incur each year. A motion was made and passed to accept the treasurer's reports. Those reports are attached.

5. Representative Morgan of Sydney is the current representative of IFR to the Federation of Gay Games. His written report is attached. The next general meeting of the Federation will be held in Toronto in October 2010. At present he is unable to attend. This meeting is generally administrative with updates and reports from the various committees. He expects no contentious issues. There is no penalty to IFR for his absence; it is excused since he attended the last meeting. There are other delegates from IFR who may be able to cover the meeting and they will coordinate that with Wayne.

Wayne explains that there is currently discussion underway to consider holding one quadrennial event rather than the two now held - one presented by the Federation (Gay Games) and one presented by GLISA (Out Games). A brief explanation of why there are two events was given. Wayne asks for input from the group to guide his vote. In general are we in favor of having only one event or would the members prefer to keep two. The discussion centered on the idea that there are currently many running events for us to participate in and one "major" event every four years is probably better for most travel budgets. However, it was discussed that in many other sports organizations there is usually a championship type event held by the sport itself on a recurring basis.

A recap of the history of the events presented by IFR was given. The meetings of clubs (forums), the competitive running events held in between gay games (invitationals), and now the annual general meeting. It was felt that it is most advantageous to leverage off existing events in many cities rather than necessarily have a club create an event if they choose to host IFR.

6. Bids for subsequent Annual General Meetings. The process for selection was announced and that in the past we generally selected the host city a couple of years in advance. There were no bids presented at the AGM in Cologne last year.

a. Dublin has been in contact with us. Initially they wanted to host in 2012 but have changed their timeline and will submit next year to host the 2013 annual meeting. We will communicate with them and see if it's possible to coordinate the dates to coincide with the Out Games being held in Antwerp.

b. St. Louis is very interested in hosting the 2011 AGM, tentatively scheduling it in the fall with the Rock and Roll marathon. They had many questions and want a little more time to get full consensus with the officers and club members. We will hold an electronic vote once their formal bid is presented.

c. The Denver club indicates that they will present a bid to host the 2015 AGM since they have been selected to host the North American Out Games that year.

7. Delegate representative positions were discussed. At present there are two elections to be held for the Federation delegates. Wayne Morgan's two-year term is up. He indicates that he is willing to stand for reelection. The alternate delegate is vacant and we need to elect someone to fill the remaining year of that term. Wayne provides information to those considering the position.

a. Wayne Morgan is reelected to be our delegate.

b. John Jones of Chicago is elected to be our second delegate.

8. One delegate representative for GLISA is also up for reelection. Alden indicates that he asked Greg Larocque if he was planning to stand for reelection but did not have a confirmation. This election will be held electronically once we have a confirmation of the candidate(s).

9. Election of the webmaster was held. Brad Miyasato was reelected to a one-year term.

10. Election of the communications officer was held. Alden Clark was reelected to a one-year term.

11. The group took a break to split into break-out groups by region so that those with vacancies could hold elections.

- a. Region 2 - Gary Fracassi of Orlando was reelected to a two-year term.
- b. Region 3 - David Lin of New York was elected to a two-year term.
- c. Regions 5 and 7 will hold elections and report back those results.

12. New business

a. Carlos from Lone Star Front Runners announces that he is also on the board of GLISA North America and he would like feed back from anyone who attended the Out Games in Vancouver this past July as well as any input from runners going forward.

b. Jennifer from St. Louis asks if other clubs are successful in attracting young (18-25) members and if so, how are they doing it. Many ideas were discussed.

c. Other discussions included questions on pride runs (are clubs still presenting them?) and other club-sponsored events. Brad advises that there is a section on the website for clubs to post their upcoming events. He will also look at a method for sending notice to club contacts when an event is posted.

d. A question was raised as to the walking portion of many clubs, and particularly to those who race walk competitively. Is there currently any consideration or discussion at the Federation or GLISA level to include this as a required event? We will monitor this further and ask the delegates to open the discussion with the appropriate sport committees or sub-committees.

e. The issue of the current status of the action plan was discussed. Alden will move the document into an electronic format and circulate it amongst the attendees.

f. A question was raised as to how clubs are handling their websites, newsletters and other communications with members. Most clubs have a website they maintain. Some clubs still produce a newsletter, most electronically. Some clubs have migrated to a blog or list-serve or email blast method of getting information to the members. Suggestions included Google sites as a robust package of tools and templates. Other ideas included migrating to Facebook groups.

g. A discussion was held regarding membership and how clubs handle dues, renewals, membership drives, etc. Many had a breakfast/dinner/party event free for members, fee for non-members. Many handled renewals at that event. Also, a question was asked if there are any clubs having on-going advertising. No club was regularly advertising for membership only. Several clubs would take out ads for specific races/runs/events.