

USATF-LI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING



Minutes for Board Meeting Held on Monday, August 28, 2023

Meeting was brought to order at 7:36 pm via zoom.

Attendees: 12

Officers:

President: Alex Cuzzo
Vice President: Robert Lemke
Vice President: Jason Ramirez - *Absent*
Treasurer: Gary Westerfield
Secretary: Pamela Lee

Standing Sport Committees:

Track & Field: Richard Degnan
Track & Field: Leigh Pollet - *Excused*
MUT: Ronald Nardo
Masters Athletics: Trent Hampton
Youth Athletics: Debra Milano-Granito - *Absent*
Para-Athletics: Steven Cuomo
Para-Athletics: Francis Anzaldi - *Absent*

Standing Administrative Committees:

Officials: George Erker
Sports Medicine: John DeGorter
Records: Joe Meyer - *Absent*
Outreach: Ronald Nardo
Public Relations: Lori Mangual
Nominating: Liz Henry - *Excused*
Membership: Larry Campbell - *Absent*
Coaching Education: Michael Frazer - *Excused*
Communications: Erin Cassano
Bd Member At-Large: *Open*

Club Representatives:

Invited Guests:

Minutes: Minutes from the Board Meeting of June 5, 2023 were approved as amended. Gary Westerfield added that the Bank Balance as of May 31, 2023 is \$57,624.35.

Budget & Finance: Gary Westerfield reported that the Bank Balance at Citibank as of June 30, 2023 is \$56,830.24 and \$51,968.20 as of July 31, 2023; QuickBooks balance as of August 28, 2023 is \$55,658.05. Bank balance in July included expenses for officials and Empire State Games while current balance included income from USATF sanctions. There are two outstanding checks that were issued at the Awards Brunch in February. At this date last year, the bank balance was \$36,041.

Membership: 1,356 individuals are USATF members and there are 56 clubs compared to 1,470 individuals and 43 clubs at this time in 2022. This is an increase from a membership of 998 in June 2023 and 1,100 in June 2022.

Discussion/Business Items:

President's Introductory Remarks:

Remembering Terry Bisogno September 24, 1954 – August 5, 2023

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Old Business:

Terry Bisogno: Passed away on August 5, 2023. Terry was known as the “Voice of Long Island.” He was honored at the Duck’s Mile Race on August 9, 2023 and hopes to be added to the Memorial Wall at the National Convention in December, although he was never a USATF member. USATF-LI will honor him, as well as Harry Penny and Bob Hersch, at the Awards Brunch in February 2024.

USATF-LI Convention: Annual Meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 29, 2023 at 7:00 pm at Hofstra University. There will be an election for Committee Chairs and Delegates to the National USATF Meeting in Orlando, FL that is scheduled for November 30, 2023 to December 5, 2023. Nominations and seconds can be forwarded to Liz Henry, Nominating Chair. Members can cast their vote by attending the meeting on September 29, 2023. Also, there will be amendments to be voted upon regarding increasing assistance for expenses for National Convention delegates and increasing fees for officiating at USATF-LI meets and providing additional uniforms for officials.

USATF Grow to Impact Grant 2023: Alex Cuozzo attended the second zoom meeting and a third meeting is scheduled with the final report due in November (membership year ends on November 1). 36 of the 56 Associations have applied for the \$5,000 grant.

USATF National 10k Race (Cow Harbor): Event will take place on Saturday, September 23, 2023 and will be capped at 5,000 participants. USATF-LI will provide 6 officials. Gary Westerfield will be the head referee and George Erker will be the starter. There will be a technical meeting on Friday, September 22, 2023 from 4:30 pm to 5:00 pm at the American Legion Hall, Northport. This year, ID badges will be issued for officials. Time limit for protests for open athletes is 30 minutes after printed publication of the results. Vin Lananna, USATF President, cannot attend this year due to a scheduling conflict.

Race Walk Marathon Mixed Relay: The Olympic Committee has dropped the Men’s 50k event and the Women’s 35k will no longer be held. The Committee has added a Mixed Relay (42k) consisting of a team of one male (12k plus 10k) and one female (10k plus 10k). Athletes need to qualify for the worlds in Turkey in the spring. Long Island will host a mixed relay in Hauppauge on October 1, 2023. 5k, 10k, and 20k races will also be contested at this event. Race Walk officials have been retained, but assistants are needed. As this date, there is a team from two different countries/federations.

New Business:

2023 USATF JO Youth Cross-Country Championship: Event will take place on December 9, 2023 in Louisville, KY.

2023 USATF Club Cross-Country Championship: Event will take place on December 9, 2023 in Tallahassee, FL.

USATF Non-Disclosure Agreement and Other requirements: Added sanctions and credentials. Can not disclose personal information.

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Committee Reports:

Standing Sport Committees:

Track & Field: Richard Degnan reported that the summer meets went well, but he proposed to increase the fee to host the event from \$300 to \$400 for next year. Long Island won gold at the Empire State Classic in July at SUNY Cortland. A throws meet is scheduled for October 8, 2023 at Commack High School. Fall clinics are scheduled for Sundays in October. There was a discussion regarding suspension of two meets for a Section VIII athlete who participates for a non—affiliated club. Associations need to confirm credentials for Section VIII coaches.

LDR: Alex Cuozzo reported that the 2023 Grand Prix series continues with the following events: September 3 - Pedone 5k; September 4 - Long Beach 5 Miler; October 1 – Massapequa Park Mile; October 18 - AutisMile; October 22 – NHP-Mineola 8k. The Cross-Country Association Championships will take place at Bethpage State Park on November 12, 2023. The next LDR meeting will be September 11, 2023 during which the remainder of the season will be discussed.

Race Walking: Gary Westerfield reported that Maria Michta-Coffey won her 47th National title at the 20k Race Walk in Eugene, OR. She placed 24th in 35k at the World competition.

Mountain Ultra & Trail: Ron Nardo reported that the 2023 World Masters Mountain Running Championships will take place in Madeira, Portugal on September 15-17 while the USATF Half Marathon Trail Championships will take place in Moab, UT on November 4, 2023. Gary Westerfield reported that the 27th Annual Sri Chinmoy Self-Transcendence 3100 Mile Race will take place in Jamaica, Queens from August 20, 2023 – October 20, 2023. The world's largest certified road race (4989k) runs from 6 am to midnight for 52 days. After completing the race, runners may opt to continue running to complete 5000k.

Master Athletics: Rob Lemke reported that the 2023 USATF Masters 12k Championships is scheduled for September 17, 2023 in Highlands, NJ; the 2023 USATF Masters 5k Cross Country Championships is scheduled for October 7, 2023 in Boca Raton, FL; and the 2023 USATF Club Cross-Country Championship will take place on December 9, 2023 in Tallahassee, FL. The LDR Newsletter stated that if an athlete moves to another association, that athlete can apply to remain a member of their current club if that individual had previously competed in one national association championship for that club..

Youth: No report.

Para-Athletics: Steve Cuomo reported that 9 athletes participated in the Empire State Classic and 28 athletes signed up for the para-category at the USATF National 10k Championships (Cow Harbor). The Thunder Run had the largest turnout in the last five years. A new para-group is starting up in the Five Towns area.

Standing Administrative Committees:

Officials: George Erker reported that the spring and summer seasons were busy for officials. Officials are needed for the following fall events: September 23 - Cow Harbor; October 8 – Throws Meet; November 12 – Cross-Country Championships. Check out the National Newsletter which is a good reference source.

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Sports Medicine: No report.

Records: No report.

Outreach: Ron Nardo reported that he, Lori Mangual, Alex Cuzzo, and Pamela Lee assisted with three stations (agility ladder, broad jump, and turbojav) and relays at the RJT program for BOCES at Forest City Community Park, Wantagh on June 15, 2023. Ron Nardo will assist at the cross-country event on the Hofstra University campus on September 15, 2023. One other individual is needed.

Communications/Marketing: Lori Mangual reported that the BOCES RJT event was successful and the staff loved the program. Erin Cassano inquired whether QR codes should be added to Annual Convention flyers and cross-country meets. Alex Cuzzo will check with Brendan Dagan.

Nominating: All nominations for the Annual Meeting committee chair elections, as well as electronic votes, should be sent to Liz Henry

Law and Legislation: No report.

Membership: No report.

Coaching Education: No report.

Other Activities:

USATF-LI Annual Convention: Scheduled for Friday, September 29, 2023 at Hofstra University. Voting will take place for delegates to the National Convention in Orlando, FL.

Next meeting: Monday, October 2, 2023 at 7:30 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Pamela Lee, Secretary, USATF-Long Island