



Ride and Tie Board Meeting Minutes

June 25, 2015

Attending: Chris Amaral, Steve Shaw, Lani Newcomb, Gunilla Pratt, Greg Fellers, Steve Anderson, Mary Tiscornia, Liz Perkin, Lani Newcomb, Susan Smyth, Kirsten Seyferth, George Hall, Ben Volk

Absent: Janice Heltibridle

Chris Amaral called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM but then had to leave at 4:05 to rescue some damsels in distress. Steve Shaw left to help Chris. Ben Volk took over management of the meeting.

The meeting minutes from the May 7, 2015 Board Meeting were approved.

President's Report:

Chris briefly discussed the 2015 Championship set for June 27th. Discussion ensued on preparations for the 2015 Championship.

2016 Championship – Discussion ensued on where to hold the 2016 Championship. Gunilla Pratt mentioned Cuyamaca as a location. Steve Shaw mentioned San Luis Obsipo and Santa Yenz as possible locations. Having the Championship on the East Coast should be seriously considered after we see how the participation is this year for the Regional Championship. Ben Volk noted it was urgent that we announce the date and location ASAP, preferably at the 2015 Championship.

Advertising/Promotions Report:

Ben Volk discussed the planned advertising for 2015: Trail Runner, Ultra Runner, AERC News, NW Runner, PNER News, Trail Blazer Magazine. Steve Shaw mentioned advertising with Adventure Sports Journal in California. We are currently spending about \$6,000 per year on advertising.

Ben discussed the AERC/R&T Memorandum of Understanding status. We plan to take small steps to encourage collaboration and partnership with AERC. We feel that we can have a symbiotic relationship without any formal agreement in place.

Board Nominations:

Liz Perkin was nominated to replace George Hall on the Board. Steve Anderson and Lani Newcomb were nominated to serve another 3-year sentence on the Board. All 3 nominations were seconded and approved by the Board. Liz volunteered to be our Social Media Guru. She will make every attempt possible to shout the praises of R&T on Facebook, Wikipedia, Twitter, Instagram and all forms of Social Media. George Hall agreed to continue to assist in finding locations for the Ride & Tie World Championship.



Treasurer's Report:

Submitted as an attachment to agenda. R&T has \$125,000 in four funds (Dodge & Cox, Osterweiss, Wells Fargo, and Paypal) as of June 10, 2015.

Vet Report:

Greg Fellers updated the group on the preparations for the 2015 Championship.

Sanctioning Report:

Lani Newcomb said all was in order with Sanctioning.

Secretary report:

Sue Smyth noted that we were all lined up for sponsors for the 2015 Championship.

Membership report:

No Report from Kat Swigart

Website Report:

Kirsten Seyferth reported that the website is all up to date. We spend about \$1,200 per year with David Christy to administer the website. David does the programming and other work to keep the website active. Kirsten takes care of entering race information and keeping the information on the site current.

Awards/Year End Awards:

Rhonda Venable has ordered year-end awards. They will be presented at the 2015 East Coast Regional Championship.

Fundraising/Endowment

Ben Volk asked for names of former and present R&T legends who might be willing to make a donation to R&T. Suggested names included: Skip Lightfoot, Gunilla Pratt, Tom Laris, Kent McLaren, and the Wadsworth Family. Ben will coordinate with Steve Shaw to contact these folks. Ben noted that Godfrey Sullivan just donated \$5,000 as his 4th contribution of a 5 year commitment. He also donated an additional \$5,000 for 2015 to encourage new participants in the sport.

Scholarship

Gunilla Pratt forwarded a letter for approval by Chris Amaral. The letter will be send to Veterinary Colleges throughout the US. A \$1,000 scholarship for 2015 was approved by the Board.



Newsletters

Gunilla Pratt volunteered to be in charge of getting out a quarterly newsletter. We have budgeted to spend approximately \$5,000 per year on the newsletter.

Next board meeting was not scheduled. Likely date is 10-15-15 at 6:30 PM via phone.

Meeting was riotously adjourned without protest at 6:00 PM.