USATF Ozark Executive Committee January 20, 2022 Minutes

The Ozark Executive Committee met on Thursday, January 20 at 6:30 P.M. at the home of Eileen Morris, Secretary, who was present for the meeting. Ginger Mulanax, Vice-President chaired in the absence of David Searcy. Others in attendance included Ed Rowold, Earsene Andrews, Bob Nichols, Karen Searcy-Chism and Peggy Rowold. Patricia Hanna was included by speaker-phone.

Progress regarding the Treasury and banking was explained. A new account was opened due to the previous one having an incorrect name which did not match that on the State annual reports. Checks for Annual Meeting registration reimbursement have been issued to delegates. Bob has not yet had access to all the reports necessary to allocate monies received from National during 2021 to the various funds. It was also pointed out that there was very little documentation of expenses forwarded from Gussie Crawford at this time. He reported balances from previous reports with some adjustments for the 2021 deposits from National: Total balance- $39,937.07; Youth-$3,665.78; Adult-$3,785.44; Special-$5,268.00; Bid-$500.00; General Fund-$26,714.85 . Current outstanding invoices of $839 includes $800 of Officials monies.

Bob’s Treasury report was approved as were the minutes from the December 29 Executive meeting.

Ginger pointed out that we have Chair positions which may need to be filled. Ginger agreed to serve for the time being as Chair for both Sanctions and Clubs and Eileen would cover Membership. Eileen confirmed the responses from previous committee chairs. In addition to Ed Rowold for Officials and Masters LDR, Karen Searcy-Chism for Youth and Bob Nichols for Race Walk, three of which are elected positions, Shalini Kovach, previous chair for MUT, has also agreed to continue in that position. Peggy Rowold would cover Men’s LDR in addition to continuing her position for Women’s LDR. Bob indicated that he would ask Mereth Zalba to represent Race Walk on the Executive Committee. It was agreed that a few more days would be allowed for others to respond or complete the 3-step requirements to hold positions and be listed on website and association directories. An Adult Sports council Chair would need to be elected once more of the Sports chair positions are filled.

We are waiting for word from Dave as to Charity Heacock’s intent to continue with Communication duties. Eileen stated that she had heard from Andy Martin regarding professional handling of our site and social media issues. He would be sending information. She also pointed out the need for her and Charity to have access to Campaign Manager for targeting and distributing “blast mails”.

Bob pointed out the duties of a Financial Committee and the need to identify one. Proposed were Karen Searcy-Chism and Earsene Andrews who were present and agreed to serve and Rich Skirball, whom Bob agreed to contact.

The need to review and revise our By-Laws was then discussed. Bob pointed out the clarification needed to be made regarding financial decisions and the specific duties of Treasurer and the Finance Committee. He also recommended an adjustment to the time a newly elected Treasurer would take office. The use of ZOOM meetings will need to be addressed, particularly elections and voting procedures. The Secretary’s duties will need to include setting those up. National is also requiring diversity to be addressed in our By-laws. A committee would be formed to review what work Bob had begun on the By-laws as well as make all necessary changes and additions not addressed. Proposals would be presented to Executive Committee for approval to present to the membership. It was decided that the association’s 2022 Annual Meeting would be the best time for seeking final approval from the membership.

Discussion was then focused on the Membership Growth Initiative and the Grow to Impact grant program. The plan most discussion covered was setting up a tent at track and field meets or various running events for recruiting. Some form of informational handouts would be needed and engaging Olympic or other accomplished athletes, especially those from our area for a “meet and greet” would be beneficial. Items which might be covered with monies from the grant were: a tent, if we needed a newer one, flyers, “giveaways”; cost of travel of guest athletes, discounts on memberships or a raffle to reimburse membership costs to those who purchased new memberships during a specific period. It was estimated that approximately $1000 would be spent on flyers, up to $750 for a new tent and $250 for banners. $5 per member for a discount was considered, but realizing the large amount that could require, Ginger asked about using additional funds from our treasury. Most were in favor of some kind of discount but agreed that details would need to be refined as time goes on.

Several present agreed to “attend” the ZOOM meeting being held on January 26 by National for more explanation and guidance regarding the grant and those members would get together to make a final determination of facts and costs. A decision of who would write the final proposal was not made.

March 8 was determined to be the best date for the Mid-Year Meeting, allowing time for officers and key chairs to attend the virtual Association Workshop on February 27. Several present were asked to assist finding a location for our meeting if it was to be held in-person or a hybrid. A brief discussion of returning to Sunday afternoon membership meetings included pointing out that it might allow more to attend in person and be more convenient.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00PM

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Morris, Secretary