

USATF Ozark Association
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The Executive Committee of the USATF Ozark Association held a meeting on Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at the home of John and Eileen Morris. Vice President, Carlos Ross, chaired the meeting. Also present were Ed Rowold, Peggy Rowold, Bob Nichols, Brian Sheble, John Morris, Secretary, Eileen Morris and invited guest, Jayne Jackson.

The Minutes from the November 8, 2022 meeting were approved to be accepted as presented.

The group agreed to adjust the agenda to allow for an introduction by John Morris of Jayne Jackson to be considered as an appointee for position of Vice Chair of Communications which was approved at the November meeting. Jane shared some information of her background and experience and then involved the group in a discussion of strengths to build on as well as more specific concerns of improvements for the association's website and media presence which could ultimately assist the growth of the association. Jayne was then excused.

Treasurer, John Morris, reported a bank balance of \$36,000+ as of December 31, which includes deposits from National of \$66.00 in November and \$273.00 in December but does not reflect \$2000 still owed to the Morris. Fund balances remain about the same as reported in November. A detailed report for the year of 2022 is being prepared to be presented at the Mid-Year General Membership meeting. A motion that the report be accepted as presented was seconded and approved.

Eileen then presented the following reports: Membership is currently 171. Five clubs have renewed for 2023. Actual status of several clubs listed as current and/or pending need clarification from National. There have been approximately 32 sanctions for 2022. A motion to accept the reports as presented was seconded and approved.

Ed Rowold, Officials Committee chair, announced that the committee sent 1 representative, Eileen Morris, for the NOC meeting at the USATF Annual Meeting. He commented that it was important that he receive more detailed information regarding the Association JO T&F Championship and the Region 9 JO T&F Championship which Ozark will be hosting to disseminate to Ozark's certified officials before they commit to other meets or personal activities.

Bob Nichols, RW chair, stated that he had nothing new to report except that the Race Walk Club would be holding its annual meeting next month at which a schedule for 2023 meets will be developed.

Peggy Rowold, Adult Sports Council T&F representative, announced that an Open & Masters T&F Championship is being planned for June 24 at Parkway Central HS. She said that a meeting of the full Adult Sports Council will be scheduled for further meet planning.

Brian Sheble, Adult Sports Council XC representative stated that he may be cooperating with the Youth Committee for 2023 XC Championships. Eileen shared information from Andrew Scott about this past year's cancelled Ozark JO XC championships and how he may be able to assist, particularly securing Priory again for the site of the meet. Brian continued by sharing his idea about a cross country series.

Carlos presented information from the Youth Committee chair, Karen Searcy-Chism. The 2023 Association JO T&F Championship is scheduled for June 17&18 and the 2023 Region 9 JO Championships which we are hosting will be July 6-9. A discussion took place noting the need to hear what the plans will be for lodging of officials and confirming the facility and the costs. There was discussion of whether the host of the Regional meet was required to host their Association level meet. It was agreed that Karen would need to reach out to the Regional Director to have some of those issues answered. Carlos agreed to inform Karen of the information being requested and informed us that she would try to have information by next week.

At the beginning of new and old business, a motion was made to approve Jayne Jackson for the position of Vice Chair of Communications of Ozark Association pending her completion of the 3-step requirement. The motion was seconded and approved. Once she is fully compliant, she will need access as a web manager which Dave needs to facilitate.

Eileen announced that reports from Annual Meeting delegates should be submitted so that they might be available for members to peruse as well as a simple presentation to be made by each delegate at the Mid-Year meeting.

John Morris then announced the need to complete a budget proposal as it is expected to be on our website by end of January. Eileen then brought attention to the fact that our income this past year did not cover all our expenses. Noting that the budgets have included remuneration to the Communications Chair, Charity Heacock, since February 2017 for time spent posting submissions on our website, she stated that the Association was unlikely to significantly increase income this year to cover all necessary expenses and pointed out that other officers and chairs contribute their time as volunteers. She suggested that we consider discontinuing payment for the Communications Chair. After discussion of our contractual obligations and how to end the position as a paid position, a motion was then made to make effective as of January 31, 2023, a change of the position of Communications Chair to an unpaid, voluntary position. The motion was seconded and approved. It was then agreed that a letter would be sent to Charity Heacock, explaining the action and allowing her to determine if she wished to continue as Communications Chair on a voluntary basis.

There was no new news from Dave Searcy regarding our progress with implementation of our Grow to Impact proposal. We were informed by Ed that the deadline for applications for another \$5000 had passed and that we must resubmit our proposal and use our current funds. It was suggested that the discussion of using the funds be made an agenda item for our next meeting. Ed shared that at the President's Breakfast attendees were reminded of the Grow to Impact grants, the Board of Directors' Association grants and the Marketing Kits meant to assist associations. Eileen described what the Marketing kits consisted of and but advised that having Campaign Manager access was needed to publish the material more efficiently.

John then discussed steps he took to fulfill his "action list" assignment of pursuing the reimbursement of \$1700 errantly deposited into the AAU Ozark with their new treasurer. He reported his communications which produced an agreement from the AAU treasurer that the documentation he was provided should be adequate and that he would take the matter up with his board. It was suggested that John follow up with him soon. He then spoke of communicating with Laura Borman through Dave Searcy for explanation of the \$700 check written to her in May 2021 and the expected reimbursement. Asking for an explanation of why a copy of a check for \$1840 she wrote to Martise Scott was sent, Dave's response seemed to disavow knowing anything about this, even though it was, as John pointed out, it had been discussed at several meetings through the year and assigned as a task on the "action list" of November for Dave to complete. It was agreed that John should send by Certified mail, a letter to Ms. Borman, once again requesting return of the \$700.

Eileen reviewed the "action list" published following the November 8 meeting noting that items had been completed except those assigned to Dave which included actions needed which would allow other officers and chairs to function more efficiently for the benefit of the association. She emphasized that only the association president can make the requests to the national office and that previous requests of him have not had any results.

Eileen then reviewed the required elements for submission for accreditation. She reminded those present that "Covid allowances" for minimums of membership, clubs, sanctions, officials and championships were in effect for 2022 but that 2023 minimums would again be enforced. She pointed out that our bylaws were noted in a preliminary review by Accreditation to be in need of updating. She was not aware of Dave appointing anyone to work on them since Bob resigned from the task in early Spring. She continued that the website also was unacceptable and that having no "meets and results" was an obvious deficiency.

A motion to adjourn was seconded and approved. The meeting adjourned approximately 9:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen Morris, Secretary