USATF Ozark Executive Meeting March 22, 2022 Minutes

A meeting of the Ozark Executive Committee was held virtually on the ZOOM platform. In addition to the President, David Searcy and Secretary, Eileen Morris others joining the meeting were Ginger Mulanax, Bob Nichols, Ed Rowold, Patricia Hanna, Karen Searcy-Chism, Regina King, Carlos Ross, Mereth Zalba and Peggy Rowold

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:12 P.M. Minutes of the previous Executive meeting were provided in advance to be read. It was noted that in paragraph 4, 5th line, the word “all” should be replaced with “three” to be more accurate. A motion was made, seconded and approved that the minutes be accepted as amended.

Bob Nichols, Treasurer, reported a Bank balance of $41,013.92 including: Youth Fund - $3807.78; Adult Fund- $3988.44; Special Fund - $5958; Bid fund $500 and General Fund $27,791.70. The memorial gift in honor of Gussie Crawford was included in expenses and a “thank You” had been received. A motion to accept the report was made, seconded and approved.

Eileen gave the Membership report indicating a total of 232 members, 178 Adult and 54 Youth. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the report.

Ginger gave a **Sanctions** Report of 10-12 approved sanctions and that they were mostly MUT, RW, and the “Throwing and Growing” event. She pointed out that she could not see the amount each paid on applications she reviewed. Bob explained that totals from sanctions were on reports from National but not an amount for each sanction. Ginger then suggested that we consider increasing our sanction fees, as she had recommended once before. She stated that non-member sanction fees particularly needed to be increased noting that they “ride on our back for insurance” and that ours are lower than many other associations. A motion was made seconded and approved to accept the report.

**Youth** Chair, Karen Searcy-Chism announced that information will go out regarding an opportunity to build team and membership. She explained that “Every Kids Sports Pass” is a program which provides $500 for membership fees, uniforms and travel to each child who qualifies. Those who might qualify are those on government assistance programs. The report was accepted upon motion being made, seconded and approved.

Bob Nichols provided the **Race Walk** Club schedule through October which includes two Association Championships. He also noted several collegiate meets needing officials for RW. Mereth was introduced as the RW representative to the Executive Committee since Bob now serves as Treasurer.

Ginger then stated that A**dults Sports** Council needs to have a meeting immediately to elect three representatives to the Executive Committee as the committee needed to get to work planning an Open/Masters Championship meet. Ginger requested permission which was granted to call a meeting for that purpose.

Ed Rowold, **Officials** Chair explained that we are trying to find a location to hold an in-person meeting. Noting that work continues to increase recertification numbers, Eileen reported that while there are 28 fully certified officials, there are still 10-15 who have incomplete recertifications. She noted that among those who have not begun to recertify there seem to be many who are club coaches or admins. Ed then reminded us of the Young Officials Program and the Jr. Officials Programs aimed at increasing numbers, stating that these could be discussed at an Officials’ meeting. He shared that there are several colleges still needing officials for upcoming events. A motion made to accept the report was seconded and approved.

Turning to “New Business”, a discussion took place to determine how our $500 marketing grant from National would be spent. A decision was made to include in the order two tablecloths, a standing banner, a banner with grommets and “giveaways” including earbuds and tattoos, totaling $990. A motion was made to make purchases on the list we created with the exception that additional funds be taken from the General Fund if it was determined by Youth or Adult Committees something additional was needed, was less than $200, and the request made by March 26 to Bob, who must complete the ordering process by April 1. The motion was seconded and approved.

Dave reported that our “Grow to Impact” grant proposal which he submitted was still in review.

Clarification was then made regarding items needing attention to meet Accreditation requirements. Ozark’s website continues to lack a number of items expected to be found including certain financial documents and event schedules and results. Our Bylaws also need to be updated, particularly adding required language stipulated by National regarding diversity as well as addressing virtual meeting and elections. A committee to work on the Bylaws was needed and Ginger suggested that it should include certain committee members. Eileen pointed out some work had been started by Bob with some input from her. Karen would be looking into the Illinois NFP requirements and Brian Sheble asked to do the same for Missouri.

It was decided that the Association 2022 Annual meeting will be held on August 28 at 2 P.M. Eileen will pursue Missouri Baptist Medical Facility or other location for the in-person portion. Additionally, a motion was made that the Executive Committee meetings would take place on the second Tuesday of each month unless it was decided by the Chair that one was not needed. The motion was seconded and approved to accept the meeting schedule.

Dave expressed concern that some Youth track teams who seem dissatisfied with the remaining available dates and that they are considering holding AAU sanctioned meets on different days of weekends of other set meets already scheduled. There was discussion of how they could be dissuaded including the possibility of filing a grievance. Eileen suggested that we should get our JO Association Championship meet on the calendar, as well as the Region 9 meet as July 9 was one of the dates being considered by one of the clubs. Dave stated he would work with Karen on that. Additional discussion was what could be put in Bylaws regarding the cooperation between AAU and USATF. It was recommended that Jacki (National Youth Chair) might be contacted for guidance. Dave will continue discussion with Vince Bingham and Wanda McNeil of AAU regarding the issue.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen D. Morris. Secretary