

## USATF Ozark Association Executive Committee Meeting

February 13, 2024

### Minutes

The regularly scheduled USATF Ozark Executive Committee meeting was held on the ZOOM platform. Attendees were Eileen Morris, Secretary, John Morris, Ed Rowold, Karen Searcy-Chism, Bob Nichols, Jayne Jackson, Angie Miller, Earsene Andrews, Denise McField and Andrew Scott. President Carlos Ross had texted Eileen of his inability to attend and notification to Vice President Andrew Scott to chair the meeting. Andrew said he did not receive that word. The meeting was called to order, but because he was driving and using mobile, he found it best to defer to Eileen to chair going forward. The agenda was approved on a motion by Bob Nichols and seconded by Jayne Jackson. Before proceeding, Eileen welcomed Denise McField as a visitor, having been previously appointed Women's Track and Field Chair on the Adult Sports Committee.

**Minutes** had been provided in advance and approved to be accepted as presented on a motion by Bob and seconded by John Morris.

The **Treasurer's report** given by John included the bank balance of \$25,091.97 on January 31, which included deposits of \$1550 and expenditures totaling about \$6400 including Annual Meeting stipends, purchase of an "Owl" and indoor implements. He noted remaining funds included outstanding checks, funds previously allocated from Grow to Impact Funds yet to be finalized and \$600 in overpayments by National for clubs which would need to be reimbursed. Bob's motion, seconded by Jayne to accept the report, was approved.

Eileen then reported **membership** to be at 647, including 467 youth and 180 adults; 11 approved **sanctions** and 25 **clubs**. She explained that clubs had been charged errantly a total of \$75 rather than \$50 as published. National made deposits of a \$50 rather than \$25 per club to Ozark's account. Communications with Robin Beamon confirmed that clubs would be directly reimbursed \$25 each by National, as the refund needed to go through the system as did the initial payment. Ozark would be invoiced for the \$600 errant deposits. A motion by Bob, seconded by Jayne to accept the report was approved.

**Communications** Chair, Jayne Jackson, reminded all to forward information of events to her for posting to our website.

Ed Rowold, **Officials** Chair, reported that there were 29 officials, down from 2023 numbers, probably due to various expiration dates. He announced the planned New Officials' meeting at University City Library on March 30, and the Officials Committee Mid-Year Meeting to be held on April 7 at Grants View Branch Library. It is planned to complete the updating of Officials Committee Procedures and present them at the meeting for approval. He also noted that policies will be reviewed for association requirements allowed by National to be included for recertification purposes. Bob's motion seconded by John to accept the report was approved.

**Sports Committees** began with Karen Searcy-Chism, **Youth** chair, stating that the XC season ended with our Championship meet which went well and that the indoor season was nearing its end and will conclude with the Association Championship. Ed suggested that two certified officials be planned for each event and asked who was lining up officials. Andrew said that he was probably doing that. Ed pointed out that officiating certain championships meets had been considered requirements for recertification purposes and some may be willing to donate their time for this meet. Andrew advised Ed he would get with him regarding that outside of the meeting. Eileen expressed concern that a signed copy of the latest contract with adjustments for the Championship had still not been seen and implications of the use of 2023 Grow to Impact funds toward that meet. Andrew said he would follow through with Carlos to find out about the signed contract. She then explained the issues of having a sanction application submitted, noting that the required information she

requested if she was to do it had never been forwarded to her by any of the three people given notice. She asked about an entry on the application finally submitted by Andrew indicating Tallawah as the organizing group. Andrew claimed that he was told that nobody on the board will help do anything and that he was tired of going around trying to get people to do things. So, he did it himself. He did note that Angie had offered assistance. Ed then asked and received confirmation that this meet would qualify as an association championship. Bob made a motion seconded by John to accept Karen's report was approved.

Bob Nichols, **Race Walk** chair, reported that one of our officials, Mereth Zalba, was being sent to Dubuque, Iowa for a race walk event. The Race Walk Club will meet later this month or early March to determine the year's schedule and would be published. John's motion, seconded by Ed to accept his report was approved.

In the absence of Peggy Rowold, **Adult Sports Council** Chair, Ed reminded us that the championship on February 25<sup>th</sup> includes Open and Masters athletes as well as the Adult Sports council meeting to be held on March 26<sup>th</sup>. Discussion began of pending nominations for various Adult Sports chairs and whether previous chairs are to continue serving. There were claims that notices of meetings had not been received by certain chairs on the council. Denise McField, who was present, expressed her interest in continuing and it was agreed that Connie Hayes be written to learn of her intent. Eileen pointed out that Shane Briscuso was also interested in filling the vacant position of Men's LDR. A brief bio would be requested from him. It was agreed that any further discussion of the Adult Sports chair positions be tabled.

Ed Cockrell was unable to attend and report for **Para Athletics**.

In Old Business, Eileen confirmed that the 2023 **Grow to Impact** report had been submitted and reviewed what she submitted as initiatives for 2024. She reminded those present that she was given permission to submit some proposals previously presented as the deadline allowed no time to wait for the committee Carlos suggested he wanted to form. She assured us that initiatives could be adjusted and changed, as needed, to grow membership. There was a question and discussion of the "sanction" initiative and whether clubs hosting indoor meets would receive assistance.

It was agreed that action regarding Andrew Amsden being appointed Campaign Manager be tabled since it was Carlos' intention to meet with him first and nothing had been heard regarding that meeting.

Members were asked if there was anything else to discuss. John asked Andrew to repeat his earlier comment regarding being told that nobody on the Executive Committee would help him with the Championship and asked who told him that or to explain. Andrew was unwilling to do so, referencing some communication of which John may not have been aware, but continued by mentioning help he received from several present.

Bob Nichols moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Angie and approved. Adjournment was at 8:47 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Morris, Secretary