



## Greater Framingham Running Club

**August 1st, 2020 – Bob Cargill** hosted the meeting via Zoom.

### *Attendees*

*Bob Cargill, Judy Levine, Carol Leiter, Susan Richardson, Susin Taylor Carlson, Mike Carlson, Jackie Judd, Ted Tyler, Mary Tyler, Edw S Ginsberg, Arnie Pollinger, Mark Goldschmidt, Kevin Greene, Tom Abbott, Michelle Schatz, Leslie White Harvey, Jeff Hattem, Tom Miller, Michelle Diamond, Marie Leigh, Anita Yip, Jay Powell*

### **MONTHLY MEETING:**

#### **President (Bob Cargill):**

Our new officer elections will be in September. The president, vice president, and secretary roles will be open for the September election. Bob will be stepping down as president and is looking for a replacement. Arnie and Jay will also be stepping down. Bob encourages everyone to get involved and help create change.

Leslie White Harvey asked if we could record the meeting. As a best practice, Leslie thinks all Zoom meetings should be recorded. She said it is a practice that has been followed by other organizations she's in. There was a discussion on whether we needed a vote because of potential privacy issues and there was some confusion on the voting process. Arnie clarified that votes to change bylaws must be announced at least one meeting in advance. Motions that do not change the bylaws can be voted on in the meeting in which they are proposed, and advance notice about the vote does not need to be given per Robert's Rules of Order. Arnie said we do not need to record the meeting because the minutes are the official meeting records. Mary Tyler preferred the minutes as the official record because they tend to be calmer than live discussions, which have gotten contentious on rare occasions. Edw. S. Ginsberg asked what format we would save the recording in, and where it would be stored.

Leslie motioned for a vote on recording the meeting. Arnie seconded the motion. There were five votes for recording the meeting, fourteen against, and three abstentions. The motion was rejected, and the meeting was not recorded.

Bob is proud of the participation rates in all of the virtual races and is proud of how everyone has handled the pandemic.

The annual banquet awards may be virtual this year. We will discuss this more when we get to the activities report.

#### **VP Report (Arnie Pollinger):**

Arnie will be stepping down as vice president. He has been vice president for 11 years and an officer for 18 years. He has served as secretary, (co) grand prix director, president, and vice president. He thinks it is time for

some new blood in the vice president position. Arnie encourages everyone to read the bylaws<sup>1</sup> and read the duties of each officer.

The club voted in May to change the lottery to participation only. At the July meeting the club discussed whether those who received a number in the lottery for the 2020 marathon that was canceled should get an extra entry into the 2021 marathon. Arnie proposed a motion declaring that everyone who is eligible for the 2021 marathon lottery will have just one entry. Edw. S Ginsberg seconded the motion. Twenty members voted for the motion, with two abstentions. The motion was passed.

There was one more marathon lottery issue to discuss. In May, it was agreed that a person needed a minimum of ten participation points to enter the lottery. There have been fewer participation opportunities because of the pandemic. Opportunities that were lost include, pre-meeting fun runs, lifetime fitness runs, and summer track volunteering, though this is not an exhaustive list. Arnie would like to come up with a new number for the 2021 marathon lottery only. Arnie proposed the minimum participation points be seven. Susan Richardson wanted to know if the participation range is from December 2019-November 2020, which Arnie confirmed. She suggested making the minimum five but is fine with seven. Edw. S Ginsberg and Susin Taylor Carlson both liked a minimum of seven. Arnie will recommend a minimum of seven activities at the next meeting for a vote.

**Secretary (Jay Powell):**

I will be stepping down as secretary. Please contact me, Bob, or Arnie if you would like the position.

**Membership Director (Mike Gannon):**

No new members.

Total members = 274

**Treasurer (Marie Leigh):**

Marie also said that Jackie and Michelle are looking at using Square to improve the user experience on the club web page and to reduce club fees. It will be good to see how that works. Marie told the club how impressed she is with the work Michelle, Jackie, and Michael have done for this; the club's in good hands with them.

**Grand Prix (Tom Abbott, Jeff Hattem, Mary Tyler, Bob Moore, Mark Akeson):**

We have a virtual trail run scheduled for the weekend of August 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> which will be a 4 miler. Jeff wants to emphasize that people need to run on a trail system. Rail trails do not count. Jeff asks that people take a photo of your watch showing distance and time. If possible, post a photo of where you ran as well. Jeff can use the photo to confirm that the run was on a trail system. Jeff will need to approve all entries for the virtual Grand Prix trail series. He wants to keep the integrity of the trail and road races intact. There are currently no plans for September virtual trail races. Jeff does not think there will be any in-person trail races until Massachusetts enters phase 4. Judy Levine asked if Jeff could suggest places to run for those not familiar with trail races. Jeff will coordinate with Susin Taylor Carlson when she posts about the next trail race. Jeff suggested running at local state parks. Mary Tyler said that the Tri-Valley Running club recommended using Ashland State park as a running route.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://gfrun.org/constitution/constitution.htm>

Jeff does not think we will be able to host the Bushwhack in person this year. Bob Cargill would like to have a virtual event because the intent of the Bushwhack is to honor Rich Busa. Jeff said there are a lot of questions to be answered about a virtual event. Bob suggested discussing a tentative plan at the September meeting.

Tom said we have one virtual road series event scheduled this month. It can be completed on a road or a track. It will be 800m-400m-200m-100m challenge. You need to complete each distance and will have the entire weekend to complete the event. The distances do not all need to be finished on the same day.

We may include the Flutie 5k virtual race and Voices Against Violence virtual races in the September Grand Prix series. Mark Goldschmidt has already created a GFRC team for the Doug Flutie race. Judy has a discount code she can share with people. Judy thinks a GFRC team has already been created for the Voices Against Violence race. Judy asked if a second virtual GP race would be created for August. Judy also thanked the work Susin Taylor Carlson has done to bring the club together during the pandemic.

### **Newsletter (Tom Miller):**

Tom sent out the newsletter last night. Tom said it would be fine if someone wanted to run against him to be newsletter editor. Tom asked if we could find a way to encourage people to wear masks while active outside. He may hand out masks one of these days and wanted to know if anyone would like to help.

### **Web (Michael Peloso and Abby McCabe):**

All continues to be well with the website. The most significant news is the updates relative to the uniforms section which Jackie and Michelle will speak to in greater detail.

I will be catching up with Susin in the next day or so to get a copy of the running bingo card to post to the website.

### **Social Media Director (Leslie White-Harvey and Susin Taylor Carlson):**

Susin has spoken to a framinghamsource.com intern about our activities and will post the article when it is available.

### **Uniforms (Michelle Schatz and Jackie Judd):**

We worked with Michael Peloso and Marie Leigh to update the webpage. We have images of each item on the webpage. They have a system in place to make invoicing easier. They have extra logos that can be used to create more apparel.

### **Activities (Susin Taylor-Carlson and Drew Giovannini):**

We have two virtual races this month. Susin thanked everyone for posting pictures. Susin and Jeff Hattem clarified some bingo rules.

- You can finish more than one square in a single run.
- The first person to complete a column is the winner for the week.

Judy Levine suggested finding a way to have multiple winners to help encourage people.

Susin and Drew are thinking about giving out the annual banquet awards over Zoom at the end of one of the club meetings.

### **Other business**

*Leslie White Harvey*

Leslie spoke about the racism epidemic and asked people to speak out about it. She encouraged people to be cognizant of the feelings of others and be aware of other people's perspectives. She encouraged the club to find ways to increase diversity and elaborated on some ways for the club to improve inclusiveness and be more supportive of its members. Bob reiterated the need for the club to support all its members and be respectful of everyone's perspective and efforts.

*Jay Powell*