



Greater Framingham Running Club

September 4, 2021 – Susin Carlson hosted the meeting via Zoom.

Attendees

Susin Carlson, Cindy Moore, Bob Moore, Tom Miller, Edw S. Ginsberg, Ted & Mary Tyler, Amy Carrier, Jeanne Bizzoco, Amy Bizzoco, Tom Abbott, Jeff Hattem, Tim Conlin.

MONTHLY MEETING:

President (Susin Carlson):

Susin thanked everyone for attending. On behalf of Wendy Akeson, Susin thanked all the volunteers who participated at Summer Track this year. Marie, Susin, and Chris did not miss one meet! It was a great Summer Track season, especially after missing last year!

September is the usual month that the club does elections. With everything going on we're not ready for elections today. Rather than rush the process Susin suggests sending out notification to all the members to make the elections instead, since none of the positions are being contested. No one objected. The uniform director, Wendy Reider, is stepping down. Tom Miller is also stepping down as the Newsletter Editor. So the Uniform Director, Activities Director, and Newsletter Editor positions are open. Amy Carrier expressed interest in the Activities Director position; everyone was enthusiastic for Amy. Arnie mentioned the bylaws call for a slate of proposed officers be published before the elections, so that when members vote they are voting from the slate. Arnie noted that the bylaws are on the website, and list the officer job descriptions, and gives you an idea of what might be involved with a particular officer role.

Grand Prix Races were discussed. The Grand Prix runs from May 31st to June 1st. The Larry Olson race is a combined road and trail race. Jeff said that although the trail running community is the fastest growing community in running right now, overall it's still a much smaller community than the road racing community. So the participation level in the trail running community will always be much smaller than the road racing community. Jeff would like to see more participation at the trail running events. To get more trail race participation, Susin suggested combining the road racing and trailing running Grand Prixes into one Grand Prix, so that either a road or trail race will count towards one Grand Prix rather than separate Grand Prixes. Jeff clarified that currently right now to get the Grand Prix gift members must run 11 Grand Prix races, which is the combined total of Grand Prix Trail Races and Grand Prix Road Races.

Vice President (Cindy Moore):

No report.

Secretary (Tim Conlin):

No report.

Membership Director (Mike Gannon):

We welcome:

Tereza Rodrigues and Tito Rodrigues-Hammond from Holliston
Amy Carrier from Framingham

Both families found us on the internet. On the day Tereza joined, she went to track that night. Shortly after joining Amy posted in our Facebook group. It's great when new members start so quickly!

Total Members = 255

Grand Prix (Tom Abbott, Jeff Hattem):

Trail Races (Jeff Hattem)

The Woodland Trail Series took place at night and started at 6:30 p.m. on a Thursday night in June, July, and August. This was the closest live trail running event nearby this Summer. Jeff said hardly anyone showed up, and that he gets it that they were at night and during a weeknight, but still hoped for a better turnout.

Jeff has three trailing races for September, October, and November. The Merrimack River Trail Race on October 2nd. This will count as the September race because the TARP Fall Classic is not happening this year. This is the 27th and final for the Merrimack River Trail Race. Jeff said it's a great event and part of the Grand Prix series. It's a very runnable 10 mile course in Andover that runs along the banks of the Merrimack River, and they serve great food after the race.

On October 24th is the Groton Town Forest Race. It's a great race that many GFRC members have run. There are two options, a 3.6 mile race, and the main race is 9.3 miles.

On November 14th is the Upton Forest Trail Half Marathon at Upton State Forest. It's either a 10K or a Half-Marathon. Jeff noted some GFRC members here have run it, and it's another great race that's not too technical.

The Busa Bushwhack is scheduled for October 31st. Jeff is concerned about getting a permit for the school and there is still a lot to do to pull things together. Jeff said TVFR has inquired with him if it's a go because they are making it a Grand Prix.

Road Races (Tom Abbott)

The following are upcoming Grand Prix Races:

- Flutie 5K for Autism is on September 12th at Lookout Farm in Natick.
- Purple Passion 5k/ Voices Against Violence on September 18th at 8 a.m. at Bishop St. in Framingham.
- Jacks Abby 5k is on October 16th in Framingham.

Ed recommended the Hastings Harvest Run on September 16th in Lexington.

The Boston Marathon is on October 11th!

Newsletter (Tom Miller):

After a long tenure as the Newsletter Editor, Tom has decided to resign. Susin thanked Tom for his efforts and contributions as the Newsletter Editor.

Web (Rachel Sortino):

Nothing new to report.

Social Media Director (Susin Carlson):

Susin continues to maintain GFRC presence on social media. Susin posted some of the pub run photos on social media.

Uniforms (Wendy Rieder):

No Report.

Activities (vacant):

GFRC still needs an activities director. Amy Carrier expressed interest and will be added to the slate of proposed GFRC Officers for the next election. Everyone expressed thanks to Amy for stepping up.

Tim Conlin - Secretary