

Running Blind Inaugural Board Meeting

Date: 11:30 AM, Friday, January 27, 2012

Location: Sweetwater Café, downtown Ann Arbor

Attendance: Tom Gardner, Yuval Roth (advisor), Amy Shepherd, Hal Wolfe (chair)

Minutes by H. Wolfe:

1) Articles of incorporation

I read them. The mission generated some discussion regarding the mention of possible support of a for profit business. Hal clarified that this support would only be done if resources were available, and there was an expectation of a return on the investment. Yuval felt that this might get some scrutiny from the Feds when filing for 501c3 status. I stated that if this was part of the process, then so be it. Everyone seemed satisfied.

2) My initial operational plans including possible service fees

We discussed guide running match services, and the difficulties with school aged kids, and other issues. We discussed possible fees. We agreed that visually impaired runners should be expected to pay a fee if they are able. We did not reach agreement on the amount, but some annual amount such as \$50 seemed reasonable. Usage level will likely dictate some rate structure – marathon runners and HS athletes would likely have to pay a greater amount than an occasional runner.

3) My conduct agreement statements for athletes and guides

I read them both. They were felt to be good statements. I also read the R.B. service commitment. It was felt that I should not dwell on possible negative outcomes of service offerings, and simply stress that we will use care, and hope for positive outcomes.

4) Tom Gardner's website work and the on-line registration forms

We reviewed Tom's website. It looks good so far. Amy was very impressed with Tom's forms. Goal is to have the website more or less completed in about a month.

5) Future plans for fund raising and additional services

Fund raising is a bit of an unknown. Amy mentioned that her group might have funding available if I organized a camp. Grants from various foundations will need to be considered. Donations from supporters and user fees will also be part of the equation.

Future plans include:

- a) Adding "Seeing Eye People" (or friends, or helpers, or some such name)
- b) Possibly adding a sports camp for advanced HS aged athletes from around the region, likely to happen in mid June coinciding with the Michigan State Games.

6) Picture and open discussion

We got our picture taken - Andrea Cornfield of the AATC was there and she helped us. We talked about various other aspects of the non-profit, filing the forms, and promoting the resources we will offer. Promotion will need to occur via various channels. How to get users and guides paired up in other areas is a bit of an unknown aspect that will have to work itself out as we move forward. Runners Clubs will need to be involved.