

Minutes of Tamalpa Board Meeting
January 9, 2012

Members Present: Mike Holland, Ken Grebenstein, Rob Spinosa, Jim Myers, Lillie O'Reilly, Mimi Willard, Joaquin Fritz, Rich Snipes, Tim Fitzpatrick, Bill Neer, Ana Braga-Levaggi, Frank Ruona, John Catts

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. The minutes of the previous meeting and the agenda for the current meeting were reviewed and approved.

Lillie gave a Membership Report, noting 635 active members, 36 renewals, and 9 new members. In response to an inquiry regarding renewals by Active.com, it was reported that less than half of renewals are made that way, with the rest by regular mail and check.

Frank presented a Racing Committee Report, expressing broad pleasure with the 2011 season overall. The emphasis continues to be on fielding full scoring teams whenever possible in all age divisions. Noting that the Open teams for both men and women had much success this past year, he had to underscore how challenging it is to keep these younger age groups effectively organized. Frank, Ken and Mimi have been regularly exchanging ideas on things that can be constructively done regarding the Open teams. Tim expressed the clear notion that having as many runners wearing Tamalpa singlets at races, fast or not as fast, is in many ways as meaningful for the club as our place standings. Mimi will be hosting a party at her home in late January to promote enthusiasm for the 2012 racing year. Frank noted we had 18 full teams participate in the annual Xmas Relays in San Francisco in December, a very strong showing that included quite a few division victories and high finishes. Tim hosted a breakfast and run from his home in early January for the club's Ultra members, and it was declared a success with about 45 attendees. Entries for this year's Headlands 50K will be open as of February 1.

Ana and Frank are collaborating on some Clothing issues, including keeping some clothing expenses separate from the Racing Budget. Women's inventory will see some new items this year, while the men's appears to be OK as is. The Ultra groups will disburse their clothing benefits in their own way, which allowed for some discussion of how some members who can afford their own purchases choose to do so to allow club money to assist those who may need it more. Mike emphasized the need for accurate accounting, and Rob needs clear reporting of purchases and disbursement. Frank will ultimately give the OK for any comped uniforms (or other benefits) for non-Ultra Racing Team members.

Rob gave a Treasurer's Report, including a 2012 Budget that was based primarily on last year's numbers, and it was approved by the Board. It included the new Racing Teams budget, and noted that 2011 ended up about \$2,000 better than what had been budgeted for. The Xmas Party took a modest loss, primarily from lighter than usual attendance. Rob says he is gradually developing familiarity with the various club activities as they relate to the budgeting process.

The Couples Relay is set for February, with announcements in the Gazette and Website and the benefits of a solid long-standing format. Dave Ripp continues to organize the Marin Memorial Day Races for May, though he will be out of town on the actual race day. He has made arrangements for his absence. The San Rafael Mile has moved its date to July, and Mike emphasized that Tamalpa is presenting the event, not merely a sponsor.

Rich offered a summary of new features and ideas for the Website, which hope to include membership renewal, numerous new home pages, calendars, and photo and video galleries. He is also working to update some sections and prune outdated features.

Joaquin reported on a successful Xmas Party, which Tammy Gonzalez coordinated and which followed a long-standing tradition. Though attendance was off from previous years, the food, drink, video, awards, music, dancing and general social atmosphere were all given high marks. Mimi expressed a desire for any 2012 event to not conflict with the dates for the National X-Country Championships, which caused many members to miss the party. Mike solicited ideas from all club members on ways to possibly try a new format this year, including a different month, location, theme, etc, and this will be regularly discussed at future Board meetings.

Mike went over the 2012 TCRS Schedule, noting a few new venues and many familiar ones (schedule posted in both Gazette and Website).

Discussion of whether or not to consider a new club logo. It was suggested that Nick Wilton might be willing to create one, with discussion of whether or not we should offer to pay him for it. Tim will talk with Nick about this, and the Board will further explore whether a new logo is a good idea.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Myers