

**MANITOBA RUNNERS' ASSOCIATION**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**Online**  
**Monday, April 12, 2021**  
**Minutes**

Present	Greg Athayde, Don Bevington, Derek Boutang, Reg Brown, Aldo Furlan, Brenda Krueger, Jugnu Lodha, Judy McMullen, Bryan Mintenko, Grant Mitchell, Colin Reed, Krista Waring
Quorum Met	Yes: 12 members
Chair	Krista Waring
Recorder	Derek Boutang
Staff	Kathy Wiens
Called to Order	19:35

**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

M: Reg Brown, S: Don Bevington: To approve the agenda as distributed. Carried.

**2. Approval of AGM Minutes of April 6, 2020**

M: Grant Mitchell, S: Reg Brown: To approve the minutes as distributed. Carried.

**3. Executive Director's Report**

See Kathy Wiens's written report attached to the agenda. Kathy made additional comments and answered questions about the following:

- Because of the COVID situation, 2020 was a difficult year for runners. Many events were cancelled early in the season, while others went virtual in the summer and fall. COVID and related restrictions affected the Youth Series, our course certifications, our Hall of Fame Banquet, plans to move the Hall of Fame to the University of Manitoba, and many other activities.
- The Bylaws review was a major project in 2020 and will be discussed in more detail later in the meeting.
- 2020 featured our first-ever virtual awards ceremony. It turned into a very successful event.
- We had a number of great sponsors in 2020, including many who continued from the previous year and some new ones.
- Government funding played an important part in MRA's 2020 financial situation, allowing us to continue operations in spite of reduced event revenues.
- MRA events were very successful. Pre-COVID, the Flapjack Fundraiser was well-attended and raised over \$1,000. As one of the first virtual events in the province, Run 4 Your Cause enjoyed good success and produced larger than expected donations for the causes. The April AGM was well-attended, as was the November Race Directors' meeting. The Ice Cream Runs had lower

than usual numbers, but still did well in a virtual setting. Run 150 was one of the only events that proceeded under the Manitoba 150 banner. Run 150 was so successful, we have continued it as a free Celebration series in 2021.

- Kathy thanked the Board for its involvement and for helping MRA pivot in a difficult year.
- Grant Mitchell raised a recent news article about a Highway Traffic Act provision prohibiting pedestrians on roads without sidewalks. Grant asked that MRA investigate the article and take a position. Kathy agreed to investigate.
- Greg Athayde asked if MRA would continue the virtual option for meetings. Kathy noted that MRA Board and Committee meetings have all moved virtual and that MRA would definitely continue with this in the future.
- Grant Mitchell raised a recent news article about reduced speeds on city streets. Grant asked that MRA investigate the article and take a position. Kathy agreed to investigate.

#### 4. Treasurer's Report

See Judy McMullen's written report attached to the agenda. Judy made additional comments and answered questions about the following:

- The MRA Board reviews the financial statements at each meeting (10x per year), and the bank account is reconciled monthly.
- In terms of operations, event revenues and expenses were both down sharply because of the COVID situation. Increased government grants helped MRA offset lower event revenues, resulting in a surplus for the organization.
- The federal government's CEBA loan allowed MRA to end the year with a healthy balance sheet for 2020, but with an outstanding liability for \$40,000 to be repaid in 2022.

M: Judy McMullen; S: Colin Reed: To accept the financial statements as presented, subject to a note on the financial statements highlighting the outstanding CEBA liability to be repaid in 2022. Carried.

#### 5. President's Report

See Krista Waring's written report attached to the agenda. Krista made additional comments and answered questions about the following:

- MRA and Athletics Manitoba are working to renew their affiliation agreement. A draft agreement is before both Boards for approval.
- The Bylaws review dates back to 2019. It represents a consistent effort by the Board to mature the governance of the MRA over the last two years. The Board will be asking the members for ratification of the new Bylaws later at the meeting.
- 2021 represents the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the MRA. To commemorate the occasion, MRA is planning many activities to celebrate. These include a non-competitive Celebration series, a series of historical vignettes, added information on our website, and a large Hall of Fame celebration planned for 2022. To recommend a member of the running community deserving of

recognition in the last 50 years, please reach out to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee at [mra50thcelebration@gmail.com](mailto:mra50thcelebration@gmail.com). For more details on the celebration plans, please visit the MRA website at [mraweb.ca/mra-50th-anniversary](http://mraweb.ca/mra-50th-anniversary).

- To support members and events in light of the difficulties brought about by COVID, MRA has reduced sanctioning fees, provided discounts for runners on events, stockpiled personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies, and held the line on membership fees.
- Krista thanked the Board and Kathy Wiens for their hard work in supporting the MRA in a difficult year. Krista extended special thanks to Colin Reed and Judy McMullen, both long-standing Board members who are taking their retirement this year.

## 6. Bylaws Amendments

M: Colin Reed, S: Reg Brown: To adopt the Bylaws as presented. Carried.

## 7. Election of Directors

Board members with terms ending in 2021, and not seeking re-election: Judy McMullen, Colin Reed.

Board members with terms continuing in 2021 (ending in 2022): Krista Waring, Andrew Swan, Reg Brown

Board members seeking re-election to a two-year term: Derek Boutang, Aldo Furlan

New members seeking election to the Board for a two-year term: Bryan Mintenko

There were no nominations from the floor.

The following Board members were acclaimed for 2021 (term expiry in parentheses):

Derek Boutang (2023)

Reg Brown (2022)

Aldo Furlan (2023)

Bryan Mintenko (2023)

Andrew Swan (2022)

Krista Waring (2022)

## 8. Adjournment

M: Brenda Krueger to adjourn. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 20:48.

Our Mission: *Promote and support the sport of running for health, fun, and fitness for life to runners of all ages and abilities.*