



Race Committee: 42nd Greater Gardner Turkey Trot
Regular Business Meeting Sunday, August 29th, 2021 @ 4:30 pm
Dunn State Park 28 Pearl Street, Gardner, MA 01440

Attendees:

Members Present: Candee Graves (Chair/Race Director), Justice Graves (Clerk), Hunter Graves (Gardner), Serena Bettez (Gardner), Matt Bettez (Gardner)

Minutes

I. Call to Order

Chair Graves calls the meeting to order at 4:42pm

II. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

No meeting minutes were presented or approved at this meeting. It is the first of two planning meetings for this event. Minutes will be presented for approval at the next meeting.

III. Greater Gardner Turkey Trot Organizational Introduction and Review

A. Race Format

Candee Graves explained registration for the race starts at \$25 and goes up to \$35 on November 15th, 2021. Registration opens on September 6th, 2021 at 12:00pm. She handed out the registration form for the current year to both Matt and Serena Bettez. She also handed out several forms to detail the positions various members will need to take on for the race. It was discussed how Justice Graves is the “Start Line Coordinator” for the Turkey Trot this year.

B. Sponsors

Candee Graves explained how she has a goal of attaining a large sponsor(s) to pay for all of RaceWire’s timing services for the race. Matt Bettez asked how much a race system would cost the Club. Candee Graves explained how she researched the issue earlier this summer, and explained from her knowledge as the immediate former treasurer of the Club that it would not be an attainable goal to purchase such a system for the Club at this time.

Candee Graves asked the members what they wanted for a shirt design for this year’s race. Matt Bettez asked if they necessarily needed to do a shirt this year; could something else be done? There was a discussion between Candee Graves, Hunter Graves, Matt Bettez, and Serena Bettez about additional giveaways beside doing a shirt.

It was decided through unanimous consent to get a long sleeve shirt as a giveaway for this year’s running of the event, and that the color and other design specifications could be determined solely by the Race Director.

C. Volunteers

Candee Graves explained how the race struggles to get volunteers to commit to specific positions on the day of the race. Justice Graves went into detail with the document titled “G.G.T.T. Leaders and Teams,” going over how many volunteers the Club and the Narragansett Community combined need to commit (about 12 or more total is a comfortable number). Candee Graves further explained the necessity of having RaceWire’s services because of this issue, and because the services that RaceWire provides make the event easier for her as the Race Director. She went into a conversation to strategize how to get local businesses, such as Garlock Paper and Printing, to donate.

D. Awards

Candee Graves showed to the group the awards and medals she procured for the race this year. She explained the purpose for the designs and selections of each award and medal purchased. Candee Graves explained that on the Race/Club website, all previous race winners and their times have been posted for registrants and the public to view, along with a summary of the history of the race.

After some discussion, Serena Bettez volunteered to do the water stop and her traditional activities for the Turkey Trot. Matt Bettez volunteered to pick up the Table Top Pies donation in Worcester and to pick up the pies donated from the Red Apple Farm in Phillipston. He also volunteered to do early morning set-up on the day of the race.

Matt Bettez asked if the special cross walk the City of Gardner usually paints at the start line would be re-painted. Candee Graves explained how the Gardner DPW is usually contacted a few weeks before the race and that is a common request made of them, and so she would be sure to ask again.

Candee Graves explained that, dependent on the situation with COVID-19 restrictions come November, same-day registration may be canceled. This is what happened last year.

There was a discussion about how much was awarded to the representative cross country and track organizations of both communities (Gardner and Narragansett). Candee Graves revealed it was a significant amount before the Club formally took over the entire race, so she has always been curious how previous hosts campaigned for sponsorships in the immediate past. Again, Candee Graves discussed strategy on how to entice larger sponsors (like Garlock) to donate again.

IV. Member’s Comments

~ None

V. **Adjournment**

Hunter Graves made a motion to adjourn. Matt Bettez seconds. So voted unanimously viva voce at 5:39pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Justice J.H. Graves

Clerk, 42nd Greater Gardner Turkey Trot Race Committee

GHS Cross Country Track Booster Club

Approved on: _____

DRAFT