

Board Meeting Minutes
Buffalo Orienteering Club
11/2/2023, 7:00pm via Zoom

Attendees: Phil Wolfling, Dave Cady, Rob Reeves, Henry Davis, Lynne DePasquale, Gregory Hyatt (Non-Voting), Rod Cameron, Steve Daly, Dave Reeves (Non-Voting)

Action items in bold

- The board approved the 9/10/2023 board meeting minutes and reviewed the action items. Outstanding action items include:
 - **Phil to provide itemized list of returned 2022 map hike kits**
 - **Phil to prepare a map hike kit cost analysis**
 - **Re: Chestnut Ridge permanent course map, Phil to contact Dave regarding incorporating recent edits into the new map scale before sending the map to Jennifer for posting to the website.**

- Past Events
 - US Masters Championships, 9/23 - Dave Cady
 - Rob reviewed the results of the post-survey responses received from the participants and the results were very favorable.
 - The Board discussed whether in the future, the Club might be able to host a two-day National Ranking Event on its own. A two-day event would require double the work and volunteers.
 - The Board also discussed when the Club might be willing to host another NRE, whether jointly with Rochester or on their own.
 - Dave Cady expressed an openness to leading the planning for another NRE but would want to share load and create more backup contingencies for support
 - The Board tentatively agreed to aim to host a NRE every few years
 - Erie County Forestry Score-O, 10/14 - Lynne DePasquale
 - Lynne reported that the event had around 40 registered with 3 registered on the day of the event.
 - Overall the event was a success.
 - Lynne had added a question to registration, asking registrants “how did you hear about the event (if you’re new)” and encourages future meet directors to do the same.

- Upcoming Events
 - Knox Farm State Park Night-O, 11/11 - Dave Cady
 - Dave reported that the event is on track
 - This event is not a novice event for newbies to orienteering
 - Winter-O, TBD
 - Dave Reeves to serve as meet director for Winter-O at Cazenovia Park
 - Tentatively targeting February 11, 2024 for the event
 - **Dave Cady to contact the city regarding park availability**

- Standing Committee Reports

- Mapping - Dave Cady

- Dave reported that he is planning to train other mappers for next spring
 - Rod has not yet had an opportunity to map Stonehaven
 - The Board discussed what should be the next major mapping project in 2024. The Board discussed Chestnut Ridge and Sardinia updates. **Dave to consider updating Chestnut Ridge with a trainee mapper.**

- Finance - Henry Davis

- Henry reported that the Club submitted an application with the NYS Charities Bureau who has since requested additional information, including a copy of the Club's conflict of interest policy.
 - **Steve to connect with Henry to discuss next steps**
 - Henry recommended to the Board that it invest CDs with Citizens Bank, now that they have new options available. The Board voted in favor of authorizing Henry to begin purchasing (3) CDs on a laddering schedule for \$10,000 in total.

- Map Hikes - Phil Wolfling

- No update to report

- Website - Jennifer Borowicz/Steve Daly

- Steve provided an update on the design of a new website
 - A discussion was held among the Board regarding path forward on the new website. Steve expressed that he did not desire to become webmaster.

- Membership - Rob Reeves

- No update to report

- Marketing - Lynne DePasquale

- No update to report (Lynne had to leave meeting early and her absence was excused)

- Equipment - Phil Wolfling

- It was agreed that it is the responsibility for meet directors to get equipment back to Phil or to the next meet director after events
 - **Phil to prepare inventory of the equipment that he has on hand**
 - Phil recommended that the Club buy new controls (specifically electronic control boxes, \$100 each). The board approved the purchase. **Phil to work with Henry to order the items.**
 - 7 new electronic control boxes
 - New control flags as needed (damaged/faded ones to be retired)

- Old Business

- Erie County Fall Fest - Dave Cady

- Dave reported that there was a lot of foot traffic at the event
 - Dave and Phil had map hikes available and sold 4

- Erie County Parks Department partnership - Dave Cady

- Dave reported on the meeting with Kate Hilliman from the Parks Department. Kate provided an example of a partnership agreement.
 - A discussion was held among the Board regarding the potential benefits and drawbacks of a formal partnership with Erie County.

- **Rob to reach out to Kate Hilliman to get more specifics concerning what a mutual cooperation partnership with Erie County might look like for us.**
 - Chestnut Ridge Park Girl Scout program - Dave Reeves
 - Dave reported that the event went very well
 - Burmaster Park permanent course - Dave Reeves
 - Dave reported that his contact in Niagara County for this project has been unavailable, which has stalled progress on this project.
 - The Board agreed to put this item on hold until spring 2024
 - Emery Park permanent course - Phil Wolfling
 - No updated to report
 - Camp Scouthaven map & permanent course - Phil Wolfling
 - No update to report
 - Spring Scout Orienteering Camporee - Rob Reeves
 - No update to report
 - OUSA Rules of Competition - Steve Daly
 - Steve circulated a draft summary via email to the Board
 - OUSA Annual Meeting - Rob Reeves
 - Rob provided an update to the Board following the OUSA Annual Meeting
 - Change to start fees/rechartering fees will be in effect this year
 - EventReg will now be permanently offered free to OUSA Clubs
- **New Business**
 - OUSA monthly online forums
 - Rob reported that OUSA is starting monthly online forums with other Clubs this month. **Dave Cady and Dave Reeves are planning to participate.**
 - SPORTident Air cards
 - A discussion was held among the Board members regarding the potential pros and cons of the Club purchasing air cards for members to use at local meets. Some expressed concern regarding the additional burden it may impose on meet directors, with turning on beacon mode on all controls and the need to visit each control on the morning of the event.
 - **Dave Cady agreed to ask ROC about their experience with Air Cards.**
 - Meet directors may consider whether they might be interested in running a pilot event for air cards.
 - 2025 National Ranking Event
 - Dave Cady reported that the Rochester Club is planning an ultra long NRE and inquired as to whether the BFLO Club was interested in hosting a middle length NRE that weekend. The events would be separate and planned separately.
 - Rochester has already applied and they have permission already for it (Sat April 26, 2025) (Mendon Ponds)
 - The Board agreed to table this item until the Board's January meeting. **Dave to investigate what Rochester's timeline for decision is.**
 - Allegany ROGAINE
 - Greg reported that he and Tom Rycroft are investigating a possible replacement for Ellicottville in 2024, including a possible Allegany ROGAINE event.

- A discussion was held among the Board regarding the possible pros and cons of such an event. The event would be more remote and challenging, which complicates placing and picking up controls, among other challenges. The event is also further from Buffalo.
- **Greg to consider whether he is willing to commit to a leadership role in connection with this possible event.**
- Nominating Committee
 - Lynne is willing to be the Board representative on the nominating committee
 - Greg is willing to serve a non-Board representative on the nominating committee and to serve as Chair.
 - **Greg to identify third representative for the nominating committee**
 - **The Board requested that the nominating committee provide a preliminary report by the Club's January board meeting.**
- 2024 Meet Schedule
 - Rob requested that the Board chime in via email on Greg's draft 2024 meet schedule. Rob wants to set up the meet schedule before the January Board meeting. **Rob will set up a call before then if needed.**
- Set January board meeting date
 - The Board set January 16, 2024 at 7pm (remote via zoom) for the next Board meeting