

**INDIANHEAD TRACK CLUB MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2012
V.F.W. HALL, 1300 STARR AVE., EAU CLAIRE**

Members Present: President Wade Zwiener, Tara Burr, Fred Hable, Dave Carothers, Don Gilbertson, Nancy Gilbertson, Karen Schoenrock, Mike Salm, Cindy Korbol, Wayne Linderman, Tom Stephens, Mark Wise and Heidi Zielke.

The meeting was called to order at 1830.

Guest Speaker: Wade introduced our guest speaker, Brian Amundson, Interim City Manager/Runner/Eau Claire Public Works Director/ ITC Member to discuss the Chippewa Trail and Old Abe Trail Project.

- 1.) Brian began by discussing what a journey it had been over the past 20+ years to acquire the land for the trail.
- 2.) He indicated that there was nothing to designate where the Chippewa Trail begins/ends and that there are over 30 miles of trail in Eau Claire. He did state they would like to post mile markers every ½ mile from Phoenix Park South to the city limits.
- 3.) Brian offered a sample sign for the Old Abe Trail that runs from Phoenix Park North to Chippewa/Jim Falls/Cornell. These markers would cost approximately \$35.00 for the sign only.
- 4.) A sample sign was also offered for the Chippewa Trail that was double-sided with a different insignia at a cost of approximately \$50.00-\$70.00.
- 5.) There would also be a “zero-point” mile-marker “0” in Phoenix Park that would also be a monument to the trail and acquisition process.
- 6.) There would be a “Golden Spoke” monument to commemorate the completion of the trail located between Wagner and Starr Ave. where Moore Road was located.
- 7.) We would have donation plaques “donated by” like those present on Park pavilions.
- 8.) Concerns were raised regarding vandalism and defacement which were answered by Brian. Brian states that the Eau Claire Parks Department and the City of Eau Claire Police Department currently deal with these sorts of issues immediately and aggressively which in turn helps decrease further graffiti. Parks also uses quality materials, the park and trail have heavy usage which discourages vandalism and they also have an aggressive graffiti removal program.

Wade suggested that ITC support of this project would be a great way to celebrate such an awesome trail. He further indicated that we are lucky to have such a great trail like this to use in our community. It is a wonderful way to support a resource that so many people use and was also a great way to get the ITC name out there. It is a great way to associate the trail project with our name to help display community support and involvement.

The group asked Brian to return in 30 days with a proposed map of the project and a budget so that we could begin planning/goal setting for the project.

The group also wondered if there was any way to tie in a “Thank You” to our sponsors on a yearly basis.

The club then thanked Brian for his time on the project and for bringing the great handouts and sample signs for us to see.

Club History: Don stated that he has boxes full of great pictures and news articles from over the many years he has been involved in the track club. He wanted to know if the club was interested in these items for club historical purposes. Karen will get in touch with Don and Nancy to collect these items.

Club Officers: Wade discussed club officer and board openings. The group discussed and voted to accept the slate offered for current openings.

Board Position: Wayne Linderman

Treasurer: Cindy Korbol

Secretary: Heidi Zielke

We also currently have one additional Board position open at this time. We will look for interested parties to fill this position.

Banquet: Tara stated that reservations for the ITC Banquet were ahead of those from last year at this time. She encouraged people to get in their reservations ASAP if they have not already done so.

Trophies have been purchased and just need to be engraved.

It was agreed upon that high school athletes receiving awards will be allowed to bring 2 guests with them to the banquet in addition to their coach. Karen will speak to the coach of both high school athletes.

Suzy Favor-Hamilton will be available for photographs @ the banquet.

Many different prizes were discussed for the 22 runners who will receive an award for our running series at the banquet. T-shirt, gloves and hats were ruled out for various reasons. We decided to give free race entries for the prize winners in the ITC series.

Incentives: The group discussed different incentives for new member sign-ups and/or donations to the club. Some ideas that were discussed included: jackets, free entries into races, t-shirts, etc... Karen suggested that if you sign up for membership by a set date, you will get your name in a drawing for a large prize. It was also discussed putting people's names in a drawing when they volunteer for projects to help encourage more participation.

Newsletter: A lengthy discussion was held regarding the newsletter and whether to continue with the current printed format, or to go to an e-mailed format. Currently only 17 members do not have internet access. Newsletter printing and postage costs currently are one of our biggest expenses. A motion for a vote by Dave and seconded by Tom was taken with those present and it was unanimous that we go to an e-mail format. This will allow us to cut costs, print more information and more pictures resulting in a higher quality and more engaging newsletter. It was also suggested that if you have a fellow member friend that does not have internet access, perhaps you could print one copy to share with them. It was also discussed that we would send out a postcard letting members know of the changes and asking for updated e-mail addresses. It will be the responsibility of each individual member to keep their membership info current, so we will provide Dave's e-mail address for members

needing to update this information. Members also thought it would be great to advertise the Spring Fever 6 and @ on the other side of the postcard.

Spring Fever 6 and 2: Mark Wise updated the group regarding race status.

2 port-a-potties will be ordered as most folks used the inside rest rooms, but many still like the option of having the outside facilities available.

Discussion was held regarding the entry form and Mark currently has that ready.

Hobbs has been booked like last year.

Will invite the Youth Hockey Group to have concessions, but will allow them to make decisions because that will be their project and a way of fund raising for their group, but nice benefit for our runners.

Mark is unable to continue as Race Director next year. We need to find someone who is willing to take on this project. Thanks to Mark for his dedication to the race!

Equipment Needs: Tom Stephens discussed current equipment needs. We currently need: extension "I" beam @ the finish line. This would be a 5 foot section @ the cost of approximately \$70.00. We would like to have this at the Spring Fever 6 and 2.

We also need 4 more mats @ the cost of approximately \$6,000.00. The road is 30 ft. wide and our mats are currently 16 ft. wide—cause funneling of runners.

It would also be great to have a clock with a double face. This would cost approximately \$2,500.00

Also needed is a remote start.

A rear finish banner is needed as well. It was decided to get a race banner that says: "Indianhead Track Club" and opposed to a "finish" banner.

We currently have a broken measuring wheel. Tom Langley will be an official race "certifier" and it will cost approximately \$125.00 to have a counter on a bike. Tom has offered to purchase this counter as a donation to the ITC and also has volunteered his services as an official course certifier. Thanks Tom! It was also decided that we want to have an accurate wheel to have on hand in the trailer should the need arise for measuring courses when Tom is not available. It is very important to have accuracy of measuring devices.

A motion for a vote was made by Dave and seconded by Wayne for the following equipment to be purchased: "I" beam, measurement wheel/counter, ITC banner, and remote start. Those items were unanimously approved for purchase.

The double face clock and mats were tabled for further discussion and evaluation of budget/costs.

Brochures for membership: Those present discussed membership brochures and updating these to include information on our Web address and Face Book page. We also discussed highlighting our 4 major races and the months in which they are held. Benefits of membership would also be highlighted. We could have membership tables available at races or other community events.

Eau Claire Marathon: Tom volunteered to be the point person for our club. The marathon is on May 6th. We will man a water station and will possibly get some high school athletes to volunteer with us. More on the Eau Claire Marathon at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2025.