

LAKE ERIE ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 6, 2014

President Larry Seifert called the meeting to order at the Brecksville Library at 2:30PM. In attendance were twenty seven members of the Lake Erie Association.

All members were asked to sign in on the attendance sheet, and were given a copy of the agenda by Secretary Nancy Seifert.

Members were asked to approve the agenda and request any other topics for consideration under New Business. Tony Longino Thomas asked that we discuss bringing the USATF Annual meeting to Cleveland in 2017. Motion was carried to approve.

President Larry thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. We now have well over 150,000 members in USATF. 74% of them are Youth and Youth Coaches. Each Association is now mandated to hold 5&10 K races. Athletes must be USATF members, This will help to raise our membership. We must hold a total of 18 Championships. They can be doubled up. We will be complying with the mandate this year. Another mandate set down is that we must have 50% of our membership belonging to clubs. This is becoming a hot subject in the Associations. Does a member have to belong to a club? Our new CEO is working on bidding and qualifications for meets. He is also out there promoting USATF. Larry thanked Ken Prince and Nancy for helping out at the Adaptive Sports Meet in June.

The 2013 minutes which were posted on the Lake Erie web site was asked for approval by Secretary Nancy. Motion was carried to approve.

The Treasurer report also posted on the Lake Erie web site was asked for approval by Treasurer Jeff Gerson. He mentioned that we receive checks every month from National Office. Everything is done on line. Motion was carried to approve.

Membership chair JoAnn Kitchen reported that we have 869 members and 39 clubs. We also sanctioned 68 events so far this year. JoAnn attended the USATF Workshop in Calif. As a representative of our Lake Erie Assoc. There were many changes at National Office since February. She got to meet all of the new people. The Annual Meeting contract has been changed. All officials must now have background checks. A mandate by USOC is that a test be taken regarding safe sport and child abuse This is being offered Nov. 13-15. The Youth guide which was not published this year will be done for 2015. Next year the Workshop will be held the day before the Annual meeting. More cost and time effective.

Men's Track & Field Chair Ed Wilson passed out an article on training for athletes. He is still trying to reach out to our open athletes. He stated that the 2014 season was not productive for our men's program. Not many turned out for the Open & Master's Meet and the Over The Hill TM was canceled. The open only had a handful of athletes. Colleges are not encouraging their athletes to compete in the off season. Any suggestions please contact him. Chip suggested we might set up a committee to try and work out some ideas. Dave said marketing is different now then it used to be. Rick said one of the problems is Ohio High School Federation has a monopoly and the coaches are afraid to do anything. Cathy said we need to tap into resources outside of Cleveland.

Tony Longino-Thomas our Women's Track & Field Chair gave us a list of competitors that competed this past year. We will be putting their names in our newsletter.. Tony mentioned that it was a fair season for our Women athletes. We need to get information out to our Lady coaches in our area.

Jeff Gerson reported that the Master's T&F did well this year. He gave a list of those athletes which will also be put in our newsletter this fall. He mentioned about each Association giving money to the Masters to go to the Nationals. Larry said if we gave them money we would have to do it for our other sports divisions as well which would be really difficult. Larry Cahill suggested that we give out a trophy to the outstanding athlete in each of our divisions. We will take that into consideration.

Men's Long Distance chair Brian Jones reported on outstanding athletes which will be put in our newsletter. We congratulated Brian as he was appointed again as Men's ADP National Coordinator by the men's LDR Executive Board at our USATF Annual Meeting.

Cathy Jones reported on Women's LDR and said we had a productive year. She also gave a list of outstanding athletes that will be put in our newsletter.

Rick Marinelli reported that the Cross Country Meet information will be put on our website within the next month. We will not have a Regional this year. Athletes will advance from our Association meet right to the Nationals in Myrtle Beach SC December 12-13-2014.

Youth Chair Nancy Seifert reported that we had 162 athletes at our Association meet. The JO National meet in Hubbard TX was the largest meet to date.

Officials Chair Ed Woytek reported that we have in our Associations 88 Officials. Dave gave out a full printed report. This year's USATF National Officials Committee Awards are going to Courtney Kitchen and Joe Gilbert. Dave will be holding a Lake Erie Assoc.

Officials Clinic tentatively at the Spire Institute on Saturday October 25th. It will be regarding Electronic Recording, and Measuring. He will be sending out more information at a later date. The Officiating Resources web page has a new format. If you are interested in officiating at meets, email Dave and let him know.

Under new business, Tony asked if we can put in a bid for Cleveland for the Annual Meeting. Larry explained that there is a committee that does this. USATF sends out letters to all of the City Sports Commissions if they are interested in bidding.

Elections were held for the 2014-2016 Lake Erie Association Officers. Nancy Seifert conducted the elections along with JoAnn Kitchen. All in attendance were Lake Erie Assoc. USATF members and were allowed to vote

There were no nominations for President so a motion was made to vote Larry Seifert in as President by acclamation. Motion seconded and carried.

There were two nominees for Executive Vice president, Rick Marinelli and Larry Cahill. Ballots were passed out for voting. Rick Marinelli was elected Executive Vice President.

There were five nominees for Vice President, Brian Jones, Chip Johnson, Ed Wilson, Jerry Odom, Larry Cahill.

Ballots were passed out for voting. Brian Jones was elected Vice President.

JoAnn Kitchen asked for nominees for Secretary. There were none so a motion was made to vote Nancy Seifert in as Secretary by acclamation. Motion seconded and carried.

There were two nominees for Treasurer, Jeff Gerson and Terry Armstead. Ballots were passed out for voting. Jeff Gerson was elected Treasurer.

A motion was made by Dave Woytek to destroy the ballots. Motion was seconded and carried.

President Larry Seifert, thanked everyone for coming and taking part in the election.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05PM

Respectfully submitted by

Nancy Seifert, Lake Erie Association Secretary.

