

MTF Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 21, 2020, 9:00 pm EDT

Attendees

Jerry Bookin Weiner- Interim Chair
Robert Thomas - Vice Chair
Amanda Scotti- Secretary
Mike Travers- Treasurer
Bob Weiner- Chair appointee
Jim Weed- MidAmerica Region Coord.
Elizabeth Teague- MTF Active Athlete Rep
Mark Cleary- West Region Coord.
Sandy Pashkin- Chair appointee

Bill Murray- SE Region Chair
Damon Blakemore- SW Region Chair
George Mathews- NW Region Chair
Sandy Triolo- Communications Sub Comm. Chair
Steve Cohen- Chair Appointee
Colleen Barney- Transgender Issues TF Chair (guest)

Not in Attendance

Jim Flanik- Games Comm. Chair

Agenda

Call to Order: 6:11 PST

Approval of Appointments

Currently there are three MTF vacancies, approval from the Exec. Committee is needed for each

- Damon Blakemore as SW Region MTF Coordinator

Committee Rep positions needing filling:

- Law & Legislation Committee - Colleen Barney as the MTF rep
- Organizational Service Committee - Carroll DeWeese as the MTF representative

Motion made to approve the three appointees

Seconded, passed unanimously

Annual Meeting Update

Active Athlete Process

The number of eligible active athlete voters was increased from 20 to 34 at the 2019 Annual Meeting.

If over 34+ Active athletes sign submit the Active Athlete Registration Form, which must be returned to the secretary by 9pm PST Wed. eve (Dec. 2, 2020) for verification, the selection process that has been done in the first MTF Committee meeting must be done – proposal is for this to be done in a Zoom meeting 1:30 pm ET on Thursday. At that meeting, the voting process will be explained and those eligible will be given a link to cast an electronic ballot with each one able to vote for up to 34 people.

Annual meeting registration is \$110 (deadline November 15), late registrations are \$150

Active Athlete Representative Selection

This will also take place on the Zoom call. Nominations will be taken from the floor. Candidates have 1-minute each to speak. Voting to take place on a Zoom poll.

Elections

Regional Coordinator elections (for those regions having elections), will be run by one of the Officers

Schedule

We have preset times for our scheduled USATF meetings. Breakout (subcommittee) meetings will be via Zoom.

During the Opening/closing sessions there may be controversy raised regarding bylaw amendments that board adopted this summer at insistence of the USOPC under threat of decertification

#1 removes L&L from reporting to the President and membership and states they report to the Board of Directors

There will be Term limits for L&L personnel

#2 The Board will elect their own chair. The President becomes vice chair if not elected as chair

#3 Addition of two additional outside member to the

#4 Site selection/contracting will now be done by the National Office staff.

The site selection will ask for meaningful input from the sports committee, who have a veto right.

These are very controversial and are opposed by many of the larger associations

Budget

Mike Travers reported the remaining 2020 budget is around \$33,000. That money is not guaranteed for use by MTF.

The budget numbers for 2020 and 2021 are not hard numbers. New: All expenses must now be approved *prior* to being spent. Approval requests must be sent to Mike/Jerry.

Jerry cited as an example, the recent MTF Virtual Awards Ceremony. The Awards subcommittee chair had to compile a budget for submission before going ahead with any plans. The request was approved.

Re the 2021- Mike explained that the officers went over the proposed budget line by line based on the projected amount of \$176,000 (down from an initial budget of \$251,000 for 2020). This amount is subject to change due to many unforeseeable factors.

Mike also noted that future funding for Exec. Committee travel will be slashed. It might be that only a portion of the airfare/ hotel nights and per diem will be available for travel to Exec Comm meetings at indoor and outdoor nationals.

Colleen Barney asked why MTF is not a foundation and whether it could be something we set up.

Bill Murray asked where the \$10,000 for poles went. Mike replied that it was on the ledger.

After discussion it was decided to defer action on exploration of setting up a foundation for MTF until at least February 2021

WMA Update

A WMA announcement came out a couple of weeks ago re the championships scheduled for Finland. Whether the meet will/will not go forward will be decided on January 15, 2021. Entries will not open before the end of January if the meet is a go.

US Championships Updates

Robert Thomas said the 2021 Outdoor Championships are still scheduled for Sacramento. The LOC hasn't given dates yet due to needing the scheduling of Sac State football and World Championships meet. If the WMA (Tampere) meet is held during the first two weeks in July, it would be best to hold the US Championships two weeks AFTER the world championships. Sandy Pashkin stated that June 29-July 12 are the tentative dates for Tampere.

The 2021 Indoor meet site is not yet confirmed but Albuquerque, Winston-Salem, Virginia Beach and Louisville all expressed interest.

Robert currently needs dates from each. He will send out a survey in the next newsletter email to MTF members asking which city of those offered that they prefer. The survey will also have other options such as: 1) "I won't go to an Indoor meet until a Covid-19 vaccine is widely available, 2) "I won't go to an Indoor meet until the pandemic is declared over", 3) "I don't typically attend indoor meets." This information will be used to guide decision making; it is not a referendum.

Re the previous mentions of Houston as a potential indoor meet site for 2021 – Will Blackburn confirmed that the facility can accommodate two circles. Robert sent him a copy of a previous

schedule, and is still waiting for photos of the facility but has not received any replies to messages in more than two weeks, so, Houston may/may not included in the survey.

Sandy Pashkin asked that as two of the mentioned facilities would be new to MTF, would those need to be vetted. Both sites have confirmed that they have double pits and double circles,

Report of Task Force on Transgender Issues in MTF – Colleen Barney, Chair

The report is included with these minutes.

It was suggested that Colleen give the report again at Annual meeting.

It was also suggested that the rules re this topic be included in the meet registration process

It was also suggested that during the Annual meeting a task force be created to accept the paperwork that WMA states should be submitted for transgender athletes to compete in women's events.

An ad hoc medical committee would have to be formed to deal with this also.

No decisions were made and this will be an item for further discussion during the Annual Meeting.

Updates on Projects

Virtual Awards Ceremony

Held Oct 17, 2020, the Zoom-held ceremony saw 70+ attend. HoF inductees were announced too. Sandy Triolo is currently is working on a video to post on the MTF website.

USATF Masters Virtual Challenge

The Fall Challenge will be announced soon, and will run through November 16. The first event saw over 500 athletes enter, which is about 50% of the numbers normally attending a National Championship.

Discussions with Black MTF Athletes

These were popular, and have now been posted to the MTF website.

Other Business

To be able to make amendments to the MTF Operating Procedures, the proposal must be submitted by a deadline prior to the meeting. For example, the allotted time for candidates to speak. A hand vote was taken to limit Chair candidates speeches to 5 minutes. It passed.

Bill asked to see possible 2021 budget. The current budget submission to the NO is in a very different format from the one MTF is accustomed to seeing. It will need to be translated into the usual MTF format before it can be distributed – it will be ready prior to the Annual Meeting.

Adjourn- 8:31 PST.