

Iditarod Trail Committee
Board of Directors Meeting – **Summary**
Millennium Hotel
Anchorage, Alaska
June 1, 2007

A quorum of the Board of Directors was present for the meeting, which began at 9:12AM. The President stated Joe Redington, Sr absence was excused, as he was on the trail. Several staff members were present, as well as Jeff King, Jim Gallea, Mitch Seavey, Paul Gebhardt, Craig Medred, Eric Rogers, Helen Hagen and Will Peterson, Chairman of the Rules Committee.

Public Comments

Jeff King thanked the volunteers on the Rules committee and urged the Board to continue to take actions to protect the dogs. He encouraged the Board to adopt the proposed changes of the rules committee.

Jim Gallea said dog care is a very high priority. For a variety of reasons, he was opposed to the 15 minute stop on the coast, to holding musher's up to 8 hours if they come into a checkpoint with a sick dog and the 24 hour stop in the case of a dead dog.

Mitch Seavey agreed with what Gallea had said about the rules. He said the 24 hour stop would transfer guilt and blame to the musher, especially if (for example) a dog his killed by a snowmobile or moose.

Paul Gebhardt said the 15 minute stop isn't fair to the musher's or vets. He said the 24 hour stop implies that the musher may have been at fault, but in reality he is not. He said he thinks the proposed rule changes are detrimental to the dogs.

Other Business

A presentation was made to the Board by a University of Oregon student group on the key sports marketing assets of the Iditarod. The group also provided the Board with a written final report. This report will be used as a roadmap for future marketing efforts.

The Board received a report from Jim Gallea, President of the IOFC. In regard to dog care, in a number of discussions he has had with musher's it is generally believed the musher is completely responsible for the care of his or her dogs. Gallea noted the IOFC will be reorganizing and establishing a website.

President Burmeister appointed Jim Gallea to replace Ramy Brooks on the Veterinarian Committee.

A lengthy discussion was held on the proposed Race Rules for the 2008 Race. Will Peterson, Committee Chairman, reviewed the proposed changes with the Board. One change was that mandatory gear will be checked at the race re-start and on the 24 hour

layover. Another change was that vet books shall be signed by a vet and the musher. The proposed 2008 Race Rules were approved as amended.

The proposed FY08 Budget was reviewed in detail. It was noted that the budget will require an increase in sponsorship, the Insider needs to continue to grow, the purse is anticipated to increase by \$80,000 to \$874,800, website advertising is projected to increase, race expenses continue to increase, and ITC is projecting to pay its obligation to Wells Fargo Bank. It should be noted the purse will be finalized by December 15, 2007.

A discussion was held concerning the entry fee for 2008 Race. The costs for the race continue to increase every year. For the 2008 Race the entry fee will be \$3,000. There was also discussion about increasing the entry fee \$1,000 in 2009 and 2010. Formal action was not taken by the Board.

The FY08 budget was approved as a guideline for ITC operations.

Board members offered their individual comments about the meeting and ITC activities in general.

Stan Hooley noted that the DVD of the 2007 Race is now available and is very good.

Being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50PM

James F. Palin
Secretary – Board of Directors

Itc060107sum