

FTC Special Meeting Agenda
Name Change of Club
Zoom Meeting
February 16, 2021

Called to Order at 7:00pm

Attendees: Jack, Kathy, Ken, Mary, Leslie, Matt, Cliff, William, Stephen, Jill, Bob, Jessica, Jennifer, Hannah, Chris, Julianna, Brian, The Stones, Wendy, Courtney, Anne, Kris Tolke, Steve, Lindsay, Russ, Rich, Stephen, James, Peter, Glenn P., Gary P., Joe S., Tom

Explanation of the procedural rules for this meeting

President to explain meeting outline - meeting will run from 7pm to 8pm

Courtney will have 10 minutes to explain his side

Jack will have 10 minutes to explain his side

Board will be allowed to make comments (if desired)

Members will have ability to ask questions

Everyone will be muted until they are asked to speak

BOD Member Comments, if any (2 minute limit each)

Ken - VP - FB conversations got too intense. I'm a traditionalist and want to keep name as is.

Chris - Treasurer - Good time to change the name, with the new space, logo, etc. it will help to attract new members.

Kathy - Secretary - New name could attract new members. The Club needs new blood.

Steve R - Member at Large - The Club has a great historic passion. Prefers changing the name of the Club. The new name is a fresh start and would be less intimidating for recreational runners.

Steve M - Member at Large - Changing the name along with the logo was proposed a few years ago. Would 'track' be considered for fast runners? A lot of runners are "casual". Hoping the name change would attract more people.

Mary - Member at Large - Appreciates the rich history of the Club and believes renaming would draw more runners/athletes. Knows the Club is deep in the Community & will continue that way despite the name change.

Julianna - Membership - A younger board member that votes for the name change.

"NO position" Presentation (10 minutes)

Member since 1979 and history means a lot. The Club's 50 year history has intertwinement with the Falmouth Road Race. The Seagull emblem for the Club logo was derived from the Seagull 6 race series. The benefits are for the youth, the community, and the Cape Cod Marathon, despite the name. The Club is for social and economical reasons and is for ordinary runners. FTC is one of the oldest clubs in New England. FTC is known for its consistent involvement in the community over a long period of time. Success of the CCM is intertwined with the FTC. Marketing & public relations would not benefit from a name change. The Club would lose equity because it would be too costly to change the name and history and traditions are important. There would be unnecessary costs with gear, legal processes, and marketing. The Club should spend that money into investing in the program we already have. The FTC needs to be invigorated. In 2015 we had 350 members. As of now (2021) we only have 150

members. Clubs do go through periods of decline & rise. The FTC can bounce back. Changing the name won't resolve a decline in membership.

Letter from Jack Carroll: He applauds efforts to improve the Club. The Club needs to be revitalized. The Club has a solid core of dedicated individuals. We should build on the solid name of the FTC. Fresh ideas are needed. Always proud to wear an FTC singlet at racing events. JC will respect the wishes of the members decision.

“YES position” Presentation (10 minutes)

The name change idea was brought about in many board meetings. An email went out to all members regarding the name change. Some members disagreed with the name change. If a name change occurs, then changes need to occur according to the by-laws. It will need to be voted by the Club members (voting ends tonight (2/16/21) at midnight) and all votes are done by email. A strong supporter of the name change. We can't compare the FTC to the BAA. The Greater Framingham Track Club had weekly track meets but they decided to change their name to The Greater Framingham Running Club, so clubs do change names for different reasons. The FTC has declined over the last 5 years, there has been less activity, less enthusiasm, and loss of interest. We need to attract younger, more energetic people. The name change shows we want to improve the club, but, we will not forget our history - history will not be lost. There will be costs but the investment is for the future of the Club. There is no better time to change. The members are making the choice. No matter the vote, the Club will start to make improvements to the Club

Q&A

Raise hand in zoom is not working

Raise hand on screen to ask question

#1 - What is the Pillsbury Milling Company?

Answer: Now Aunt Jemima?

#2 - (*comment*) This meeting is more about the Club contacting members.

#3 - Would we have to save the rights to the FTC so that no one else claims it?

Answer: Legal procedures, forms, all property, 501 3©, etc of the Club will be retained, as all connections to other races, will legally be transferred

#4 - Was Matt going to speak?

Answer: He chose not to speak

#5 - Question for Courtney - Does he know what John Carroll's opinion is?

Answer: (*opinion*) He doesn't know - suspects he would not support the change

Matt (*opinion*) knows JC and believes he knows JC would understand that changes happen

Richard (*opinion*) - True, track club has changed to run club

#6 - People join clubs for service & camaraderie. What new types of members will be attracted because of the name change?

Answer: The name change is just a small piece of the big picture to attract new members. New activities, new gear, partnership with Aquatic Brewery, the Women's Initiative are all things that a name change, as well as everything behind scenes, can help to attract new members & young ideas.

(*side notes*)

- Emails come into Club Membership asking about 'paces' and are track events the only thing that are part of this Club?
- Disagreement is not about new initiatives but about the name change. Maybe other issues need to be addressed other than the name.
- This is the perfect time to change the name along with all other changes to improve the Club.
- We are not just runners, we are walkers and they should be included.

#7 – What are the plans, ideas, and intentions to honor the history of the Club?

Answer: The History of the Club will be added to the website.

#8 – Can a vote be changed after this meeting?

Answer: No

#9 – Is there a tally re: the number of votes?

Answer: Tomorrow morning (2/17/21) results will be sent to all Club members.

Total votes: 129 (thus far)

(side notes)

- This meeting is a living example of engaging membership.
- Agree or not – regular communication is needed.
- The Club would like to hear ideas for improvements from members, we need people to help out and want to aid in improving club.

#10 – Would the Club sell retro merchandise – old shirts, etc.?

Answer: Haven't discussed as yet.

Explanation of Process to Vote

To cast a vote, send an email to info@falmouthtrackclub.org by midnight tonight (2/16/21).

Tally will not have names associated and 2nd votes don't count.

Thank You to Participants

Time, effort, and interest are truly appreciated.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:57pm