



Ironman Task Force
October 5, 2021 8am

Present:

Ann O'Leary
Bryan Mangus
Dorine Peregrim
Julie Woody
Sue Young
David Nye
Jay Ward

Charlie Terry
Dick Cummings
Michelle Preston
Roy Holzer
Cheri Cross
David Lally
Tara Wright

Andy Flynn
Lauren Yates
James McKenna
Mary Jane Lawrence
Kristin Strack
Jay Bennett

Key Points Discussed:

Discussion with Cpt. Ryan and Sgt. Brown of NY State Police Troop B

- Ironman is one of the biggest events statewide. Sgt. Brown has been the scheduler of the event since 2014. Scheduling does not require full time attention, but is becoming more encompassing and is worked on over the course of the year.
- State Police are in the “mission accomplished” business and therefore do not have an opinion, pro or con.
- Troop B does not have the number of troopers to staff the event (140 troopers in 2021). Ironman is a big draw on resources; prompts overtime - not just day of, but also days surrounding event.
- Troopers seem to like working the event. There have not been any significant issues. Ironman is an in and out event. More issues are seen with other groups.
- State has become more interested in cost and compensation over the years.
- Training periods are almost a year round thing. Troopers have had occasional calls of complaints, but no specific issue. Tickets are not typically given, usually it's an issue of ignorance (on athlete's part) and having an informative conversation to address the problem is enough. Biggest complaint is 2 abreast in areas such as the Notch area between Lake Placid and Wilmington.
- Task Force members Sue Young and Charlie Terry mentioned issues with training groups blocking entrances. Cpt. Ryan is not aware of this issue. Just because they do not know about the issues, does not mean they do not exist. Stated many issues are likely resolved before they escalate to the level of State Police involvement.
- When asked about any course areas with greater congestion/safety issues, Keene traffic post was noted as having the biggest delay and highest risk - the most senior troopers are stationed here. David Nye, task force member, works this area with the ambulance and

stated the Cascades to Keene sees the most injuries (average 4-5), mostly due to speed. Four ambulances are at this area. Prior to race day, 7-10 accidents are seen in this area with 95% being Ironman athletes in training and 5% their companions. Ironman does compensate each ambulance department \$800, up from \$300 when event first started.

- A change in the course would likely not impact the State Police in regards to man power, but from logistics standpoint could be difficult. There is a lot of legwork involved.

Survey Discussion:

- Survey objective is to get an idea of pain points and things liked about Ironman, gather information.
- Would like to ask for elaboration on business to better understand answers.
- Some questions are only pertinent to business, some to community members.
- Review possible early/late options. If not feasible, shouldn't ask.
- How will survey be sent? Email, targeted ads - Facebook, press releases, ask villages & towns to promote, task force members.

General Discussion:

- Gather information regarding public services compensation. Charlie Terry spoke to having 2 paid ambulance crews day of race, need those numbers for budget.
- Dick would like to invite Graham Frazier to a meeting to talk about how Ironman was to compare to how Ironman is now.
- Dorine spoke with an old coach who would be willing to be a guest speaker regarding training camps.
- Ironman rep will be invited to next meetings.
- Asked about time change for meetings. Consensus that current time was best most.

Next meeting: Tuesday, October 19, 2021 8:00am