

**Richmond Road Runners Club  
January 2017 Membership Meeting**

**January 11, 2017**

**Participants:**

President – Bill Kelly

VP –

VP – Ed Kelleher

Treasurer – Ralph Gibbs

Secretary – Rosie Schutte

Sara Akin, Bill Anderson, Jennifer Culhane, Jamie Ficor, Don Garber, Mara George, Marcy George, Michael George, Diane Glaze, Sandra Gray, Mark Guzzi, Tammy Harrison, Faith Hecht, Kiersten Helgerson, Chris Mason, Glenn Melton, Dean Miller, Michael Muldowney, Mike Levins, Steve Nolan, Crystal Pintac, Jackie Quilin, Jason Walters

December 2016 meeting minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report** – Ralph Gibbs

The transition from Quicken to Quick Books is ongoing. The import of data has not always gone smoothly. Chris Mason volunteered to help with the transition. It was suggested to have a Finance Committee meeting in the future with Chris attending to review transition plan and give Ralph some additional help and support, was recommended by Bill Kelly.

**Marketing** – VP of Marketing, Ed Kelleher

Ed is investigating ordering RRRC logo magnets and other logo products for sale. A stumbling block seems to be that we need a person to be responsible for the items and sales as well as the correct platform for marketing and coordinating internet sales. An inventory of existing decals should be taken prior to placing orders. Ed also asked for vendor info to be sent to him to build a database for future inquiries.

As we move from Raceit to RunSignUp, the transition to a new/different technology platform, came with its share of glitches. The biggest glitch came as members renewed their membership in RaceIT and then went to sign up for a race in RunSignUp, only to find that their renewed membership was not recognized. These had to be fixed on a one-by-one basis, but as far as I know they all got resolved. Club officers and Mara have chipped in to respond to a handful of other issues from members perplexed by one thing or another. Mara George commented that not all members have "claimed" their memberships.

Matt Sinclair and Bryan Jenkins at RunSignUp have been very responsive to our needs. One thing we discovered at First Day 5K registration was that the RunSignUp platform does not include a system for taking in cash, so that has to

be done manually. A post-First Day 5K meeting is scheduled to follow the Jan. 11th RRRC membership meeting.

**Newsletter** – Crystal Pintac

January/February issue is up on the website front and center. It's been posted in RVA Runners and sent out in an E-blast to all active members. Share the link on your Facebook page, Instagram, and in a massive email to your friends!

The March/April issue will focus on the 10k as a "Gateway Race", or life changer for many. I asked a few people to submit articles, namely Chris Piper who I first heard use this phrase to describe what happens at this 10k for so many people. There will be a small piece on the GRTC and one other business. The deadline for article submissions will be February 10th.

**Webmaster/IT Report** – Ralph Gibbs

[www.RRRC.org](http://www.RRRC.org) was spammed in late August/early September. We wound with 30K or so bogus accounts. These had to be manually deleted, because our web host Ning took a long time to answer multiple requests for support and when they did, there help was inconsequential. These accounts generated 4 million blog entries, fortunately deleting the accounts deleted the blogs as well. We received several Cease and Desist emails for having proprietary information in the blog entries and those have been taken care of. The site has been locked down and security measures activated. Thanks to Ralph for the extra effort to clean this up.

**Membership** – Mara George

Everyone needs to claim their membership. If you don't, you won't get the member price when you sign up for races. Will send out another set of claim emails. The wording needs to be tweaked to clarify the need to transition memberships to RSU, if member pricing is expected at RRRC races.

**Social Media** – Chris Mason

The social media platform continues to grow and we seem to have more involvement recently. The use of Richmond runners' pictures and stories on our page has helped drive activity up. All social media accounts are becoming more active, with the objective of making more people in the running community feel involved with the club.

**Equipment** – Bill Webb sent a report

**Grand Prix** – Rosie Schutte and Ralph Gibbs

1st Day 5K was the first race of the 2017 Grand Prix season. We are over the Dead Zone and Amazon Gift cards were passed out to randomly selected volunteers at 3 races.

As of January 10, we have 266 GP registrants, as compared with 216 last year. Registration stays open until right after Sweetheart 8K, so I am hopeful we will hit 300. Several runners have spoken with me about participation in the Iron Runner category.

**Operations** – Jim Oddono sent report, Bill Kelly discussed Drivers and Timers were found for the following races:

- 1/22- Frostbite 15k
- 1/28- Shiver In the River (still needs a driver)
- 2/12 - Sweetheart 8k
- 3/05 - Huguenot 3 Miler

Race review & preview:

- 1st Day 5k – Kiersten Helgerson and Bill Anderson report that all went well. The only glitches were with race day sign up and RunSignUp. There was one incident of unfortunate communication between a driver and a runner on the course. **The same race directors have agreed to do it again next year.**
- Sweetheart 8k – Marcy George has all permits and Urban Farmhouse and Lucky Road are sponsors. Volunteers and runners are still needed.
- Huguenot 3 Miler – Michael Muldowney has submitted a budget and it has been approved. This is a no-frills race and registration should be opened by 1/13/17. The course last year was short by .3 miles, efforts this year will be made to correct that.
- Carytown 10k – Anne Brown has submitted her budget and planning is underway.

**Volunteers** – Tammy Harrison

Volunteers continue to be a need for the winter races. Race directors need to improve their communication with the volunteer coordinator to get volunteers in a timely manner.

**Training Teams** –

- WMT – Frank Gerloff sent a report but was unable to attend. Participation in the training has increased over previous years.
- MOST (Adv 10k) – The training team has moved its location to Westminster Presbyterian Church. All pertinent information can be found on our website.

**Club Championships** – Mark Guzzi

The race slate has been decided for 2017 with Frostbite 15k being the first of the championships.

- 05/28/17 Stratford Hills 10K
- 07/29/17 Pony Pasture 5K
- 08/26/17 Patrick Henry Half Marathon
- 12/03/17 Bear Creek 10 Mile Race

## **Banquet** – Diane Glaze Kelley

Diane is working on the design for the Grand Prix gift and all plans are underway.

## **Project Updates:**

### *RunSignUp* – Ralph Gibbs

We had our first test using the kiosks at 1st Day 5k. After some initial difficulties, problems were resolved and things went smoothly. Proprietary race day sign up went flawlessly. After the membership meeting, those involved with the first trial will meet to discuss use and improvements.

### *Chip Timing* – Ralph Gibbs

At this time, it appears that we have everything we need for the new system, except chips for testing. Testing will occur at Frostbite 15k as we will simultaneously time along with Mettle. Sweetheart may be our first trial of the system. There was discussion of the Checkered Flag 5k also being chip timed. A review of contract races needs to happen to clarify the type of timing that will be used and if Mettle or RRRC will be doing it.

## **New Business:**

- Anyone interested in applying for the Leadership Development Scholarship should talk to an officer. **Applications are due by 1/15.**
- Contribution to Roxshire HOA was discussed. A vote was taken and approved unanimously to contribute \$300, Payment to be made when contract is let or the actual work begins. for pathway improvements along the course in light of our past and continued use of the location.
- Youth Programs – Faith Hecht made a presentation but had difficulties with the projector. She commended the dedication of the coaches involved is looking for volunteers for this year. She expressed reluctance to ask RRRC for manpower as we have a high need for volunteers as well, but if anyone feels they have the time to contribute to the program, they should contact Faith. Information will be posted on the Community Calendar of RRRC.
- Summer Track series will once again be at U of R, which is an ideal location. Bill Kelly will meet with Steve Taylor to confirm dates in June & July, and advise at next meeting.
- Car magnets – Ed Kelleher has been investigating the purchase and sale of RRRC car magnets. An information central is needed to compile a list of reliable vendors for our products. Please send Ed the names of vendors that you use.
- Contribution to RRRC – Mark Guzzi's work place rewards community service of its employees. Mark has applied and hopes to receive the maximum contribution by his company to be given to RRRC. He recommended the board consider using the contribution for improvements to the trails of James River Park System, or the best use to support running in Richmond that.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 pm