

Richmond Road Runners Club February 8, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Particiipants

President – Bill Kelly

VP Marketing – Ed Kelleher

VP Operations – Jiim Oddono

Treasurer – Ralph Gibbs

Secretary – Rosie Schutte

Sarah Akin, Suzen Collins, Dawn Eberhard, Doug Fernandez, Jamie Ficor, Mara George, Marcy George, Michael George, Frank Gerloff, Tammy Harrison, Jeff Van Horn, Blake Lassiter, Sam Lowe, Mike Levins, Jeff Luke, Glenn Melton, Kirk Miliken, Jodi Miller, Craig Minyard, Skeeter Morris, Michael Muldowney, Steve Nolan, Crystal Pintac, Chris Piper, David Trump, Bill Webb, Jeff Wells, Nikkia Young

The January 2017 meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Ralph Gibbs

Newsletter - Crystal Pintac

Newsletter deadline is Friday, February 10 and it's a hard line so everything can get edited and returned within a timely manner. The goal is to have it ready to go to print the last week of February. We'll be ordering extra copies to be passed out at the 10k expo.

Membership - Mara George

The problems with memberships and moving from Racelt to RunSignUp have decreased this past month. Ralph and Mara have finally figured out how to disable memberships in Racelt so this should no longer be a problem.

Equipment – Bill Webb

There were no problems with equipment this month. Sam Lowe and Bill Webb are planning to design and build a locked cabinet for the chip timing and technology equipment in a room of the clubhouse. Bill Webb will move the items stored in the storage unit to the clubhouse as well.

A new speaker system that also has lights was purchased and was used at Shiver in the River.

Grand Prix – Rosie Schutte

Banquet invitations have been sent out, plaques have been sent to the engraver and some of the awards ordered. Nominations were solicited this past week via email for the Spirit Award and the Volunteer of the Year Award and Business Partner of the Year. A ballot will be sent to the board before the end of the day Thursday. Please vote. Nominations were only sent by 8 of 25 board members. Registrations close for the 2017 year right after Sweetheart 8k.

Club Champions – Mark Guzzi – (Could not attend but report sent).

My report: Championship races are posted. Trophies are being ordered for the 2015-2016 Champions, which are to be presented at the banquet. (During the meeting, the board had a discussion determining that in order to be a Champion, you must be an RRRC member.)

Volunteers – Tammy Harrison

The club is in need of volunteers for Sweetheart 8K and for Huguenot 3 Miler.

In order to begin the volunteer process for any given event, that parent event must first be created, though it doesn't have to be 'live', it can be in draft mode.

Moving forward, all course marshals are to wear an RRRC supplied reflective vest while participating in their volunteer duties. If the volunteer has their own vest, and would like to wear it instead, this is fine, so long as there is one worn at all times during the duty assignment. Tammy asked Bill Webb that the box containing the vests be removed from the truck and opened at each race.

In her report, Tammy requested that all race directors obtain an RRRC email address prior to the opening of their event. This has been discussed in previous meetings as we work diligently to create a consistency with our club-wide re-branding. It's helpful to have prior to opening the event (including volunteers) so that there is no question as to how one would contact the race director of each event.

Operations: - Jim Oddono

The race calendar was reviewed and is accurate as posted at this point. An additional staff position was added to the race schedules for the position of the person that will be responsible for the “football”, (the computer equipment associated with race registrations). The contract races in the near future are as follows: Dog Jog, Checkered Flag 5k, Eagle Challenge 5k, Holton Hustle, and Ashcreek.

Sweetheart 8K – Marcy George, as Race Director, reported that the number of racers had recently increased to approximately 400, with many more expected on race day as the weather is expected to be wonderful. Volunteers are still needed.

Huguenot 3 Miler – Michael Muldowney, as Race Director, reported that the course will be extended to be “at least” 3 miles. The race will not be chip timed due to the uneven surface at the finish line. A coffee truck will be at the end of the race. Almost 100 registered as of 2/4/17.). Insurance has been obtained. MAC is ready to go, and McDonald's food is lined up. Mike Levins will be timing and Bill Webb has the truck.

Carytown 10K race is open in RunSignUp. Anne Brown did not attend.

Frostbite 15K – Bill Kelly

Many difficulties were encountered prior to and during the race. There was a lack of adequate communication, the VCU volunteer coordinator did not know what to do, the VCU volunteers left early, conflicting information was given to the volunteers, the RRRRC logo did not appear on the shirts or race material, and the race fee was too high, to name a few of the difficulties. Bill Kelly led a discussion as to continuing our relationship with VCU for this race in the future. Jamie Ficor added that difficulties had arisen in the past when Bob Davis was the Race Director, but were ameliorated when Lee Franco took over. The board questioned the benefit of hosting the race with VCU since we no longer get use of their gym to stage it and the current staging school is not affiliated with VCU. There was a question as to exactly where the \$4,000 donation that is made to VCU goes. Does it directly benefit runners? Steve Nolan asked whether we would continue to have the race if we disassociated ourselves from VCU. Yes, we would continue to have the race, but it would be put on solely by the club. A motion was made to sever ties with VCU for Frostbite in the future. The vote to sever ties was unanimous.

Training Teams

WMT – Frank Gerloff

WMT is entering the third month of Winter Marathon Training and the athletes are doing awesome. Bon Secours clinician team held an open forum panel discussion on January 26th. Lucky Road has been so gracious to WMT, and all the athletes value Jeff's generosity. Coach Janice conducted our first Yoga for Runners session at Lucky Road on the 29th and it was a huge success. Both Shamrock (7 weeks) and Boston (11 weeks) marathons are just around the corner. Hydration volunteers are always needed:

MOST 10K – Bill Kelly – We have an all-time record at 173 and possibly end at 175 participants. The program is well received and creates a positive image for the club.

New Runners Group – Mike Muldowney - Volunteers have been discussing the option of making this a weekly group run instead of an 8-week program 2x a year. If we keep the program, it'll start the week after Monument 10K at a yet undetermined location.

Project Updates

RunSignUp – Tammy Harrison

Bill Kelly discussed a possible addition to the bylaws requiring Race Directors to open races in our registration platform at least 90 days in advance. Marcy George spoke about the difficulty for Race Directors learning to use RunSignUp and said she relied heavily on Mara for many of those tasks. Tammy Harrison suggested that we have quarterly tutorials by Matt and Bryan on the use of

RunSignUp. Bill Kelly will look into setting that up. The race set-up team for RSU currently includes: Chris Mason, Tammy Harrison, Mara George, and Anne Brown. Anne has recently not shown an interest in doing this.

It is anticipated that there will be a glut of new registrants for Sweetheart 8k, which will possibly be a strain on our new system.

Chip Timing – Mara George

Sweetheart 8k will be our first solo chip timed race. The timing will be done by Mara George.

Website/Webmaster – Ralph Gibbs

Earlier in January, www.rrrc.org was down. The issue turned out to be an issue of contested payment, from a year and a half ago. Once that was resolved Ning didn't restore our site correctly and we went another two days without. Sean was heavily involved in resolving the issue. However, the payment issue and the restoration issue both speak to how far the customer service on Ning has fallen. No emails were received about the disputed payment; our site was just taken down without notice. Once that was resolved, they weren't capable of bringing the site back up until Sean pointed out the errors they had made in restoring it.

Ralph is investigating moving our site to RunSignUp. If we moved to RSU, we would most likely lose the personal accounts that come with our present site, but that was not deemed a problem, considering the advancement of other social media platforms. The possibility of paying a webmaster was brought up and the need for people with technical skills was announced.

New Business

Jim Oddono will be organizing the volunteer time slots and setting up for the Expo in the spring.

Bill Kelly brought up that the banquet this year conflicts with the RRRC National Convention but said he would still like to see two members attend the convention. He suggested a motion that we approve \$1,500 - \$1,800 to send an individual to go, or twice that amount for two individuals. Club member Craig Minyard will be attending as the national treasurer, but it was requested by Michael George that we still send someone. The motion was made to spend that amount for two people to attend the convention. Crystal Pintac said she would like to go. Anyone additional should contact one of the officers.

Bill Kelly suggested that we have an Open House at the clubhouse, perhaps in conjunction with the spring Expo.

Goody Tyler, our state representative to RRC, has been nominated for a board position. It was discussed with Craig Minyard that if his (Goody's) current position

becomes vacant, we still have time to nominate a person to take his seat as a state representative.

A package, to be sent to the Silent Auction at the National Convention, with entries into the Patrick Henry Half and lodging at the Henry Clay Inn, was well received last year. Rosie Schutte will put together the same package for the convention this year.

Introductions of new meeting attendees were made.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

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