



Richmond Road Runners Club - Minutes – August 12, 2020

Opening remarks, ground rules and welcome guests – Nikkia Young

Approval of June, 2020 meeting minutes - Victoria Hauser

See attached minutes.

Marcy made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mara. The vote was unanimous.

Financial Report – Treasurer’s report, Ralph Gibbs

See attached reports.

There were no additions to the reports presented.

Marketing and Sponsorship – VP Marketing, Jennifer Perrin

There were no updates to report.

Operations – VP Operations, Crystal Koch

- Review & Preview of upcoming club and contract races

- Coro-na-sac 5k series (Mike Gholson)

There were 141 runners registered to complete the 3 race series. I was happy with this number due to the race being virtual due to Covid-19. The race took in \$3,284.00 and cleared after expenses approximately \$2,300.00. \$750.00 was donated to Feed More in Richmond. I was really pleased with that donation especially at this time in our community and world. I received good feedback on the t-shirts! I also want to thank Lucky Road for their sponsorship and allowing us to use their storefront for t-shirt pickup. Thank you to the club for your support. Hopefully next year we will be able to return to running the roads of Richmond for the Cul-de-sac 5k!

- Pony Pasture 5k (Mara George)

Mara noted that she is working on hosting this as a virtual event. She has worked with Eric Nachman on securing a neck gaiter or other giveaway. Registration to be opened soon.

- Patrick Henry Half Marathon (Michael George)

Scheduled for in-person race on August 29 in collaboration with Sportsbackers.
Michael George will provide the most current updates at the meeting.

Michael noted that 300 runners were registered (capacity is 500). Spectators are discouraged. Volunteers are still needed as course marshalls; please email Sportsbackers directly for volunteer registration. Water stations will be self-serve. Runners will go off in waves between 6:20 and 7:40. It is possible the first runners will be finishing as the last wave of runners start, but the finish area can accommodate for that. Jesse Peters will be taking photographs.

Mara noted that the app RaceJoy will be used to track runners. Everyone can download the app and please let her know if you would like to test it out.

- Poop Loop (Crystal Koch)

Poop Loop is happening with a road and trail option, 50 people in each. Shirts will be purchased separately, as an add-on to registration. Budget is attached. It will be chip timed to allow for wave starts.

Crystal noted the registration will increase to 75 runners per race.

- Bear Creek 10 Mile Trail Run (Dave Trump)

- The park approved our permit for the race on December 6. We plan to open registration after October 1, limit the race to 200 participants, use a wait list, and offer an easy dropout/refund option. We plan for phased check-in on-site outdoors and phased start times to avoid large numbers in the start/finish area at any one time. We'd like to have the race chip timed. The lower participant number will decrease the income but the race should still yield a profit. The current budget is attached.

Dave indicated that a chip timing team is still needed.

- Contract Race: The Jingle Bell 5k will be happening in December, the day before the Bear Creek 10 Miler.

Crystal noted that this 5k is in New Kent, and is separate from the traditional Jingle Bell race that has been held in Richmond.

Crystal also noted that the Capital Trail 10 miler and 5k will be virtual and registration opened today.

- Youth Running Camp (Bill Kelly)

See attached report.

Bill thanked everyone that helped bring the camp together - it was a great success!

- Equipment – Glenn Melton

Truck inspected and repaired at the end of July.

Glenn noted that the parking lot at the clubhouse has been paved, and the truck was temporarily relocated!

Operations Manager/Administrator/RunSignup Coordinator– Dave Trump

RRRC Store

- 34 orders (62 items) and \$895.00 in merchandise sales during June and July.
- Most popular items sold were: 20 tank and tee shirts; 11 car seat covers; 9 trucker caps; and 6 visors.

RunSignup

Effective September 1, the **RunSignup processing fee structure will change**. For each transaction, it will be \$1.00 + 5.8% of the total transaction cost. For the RRRRC membership fees and for most RRRRC race registrations, this will result in a **slightly lower processing fee**.

Examples:

Donations stay at a flat 4%. The Partner Revenue Share stays the same. RSU is permanently eliminating the refund processing fee and removing the extra processing fee for TXT notifications for virtual races.

Grand Prix – Ralph Gibbs & Suzi Silverstein

Grand Prix has been shut down completely due to Covid and the lack of in person races for spirited competition. It will (Covid-19 willing) return next year. Thanks to all who participated this year.

Miles & Minutes – Mark O'Brien

Unfortunately there was an unexpected dearth of stories to publish for Issue No. 2, which was supposed to come out in June. Even though we're in a purely digital mode due to the pandemic, I thought it'd be better to have a "full" issue rather than a small or thin one, so I made the executive decision to combine

Issues Nos. 2 and 3 into one (we did something similar last year, too). My hope is to have the combined issue ready to distribute by our September meeting. Then, we'll close out the year with the final issue around the time of the Marathon/Half Marathon/8K. Anyone is welcome to submit a story about anything going on in the Club. If you find it interesting, I'm confident other runners will, too. And don't forget you can earn Grand Prix points, too :)

Social Media – Chris Mason

Our social media has been slowed to grow this past month, for obvious reasons; however we did utilize this for a few reasons throughout the month. We used our social platforms to discuss the Coro-na-sac series and feel that the series was well received by our club numbers.

We also used our platforms to discuss some tips on how to safely run in our lovely VA heat As it's important that our members know that we want them to participate in our races, but we're also thinking about their best interests as well.

Finally, we were able to communicate the winners of the scholarship fund through our media, the reception to this was quite positive as I know that our club members appreciate us giving back to our local community.

Don't hesitate to reach out if you'd like for us to share anything on our social media platforms as we'll be happy to help!

College Scholarships - Kirk Millikan

Everything with the scholarships has wrapped up since the last club meeting in June. Winners were announced through the email newsletter and on social media. All of the scholarship money has been paid.

Kirk thanked Ralph for his help with distributing the scholarship funds.

Action Items

1. Election of Treasurer - Nominee: Dawn Walker
 - Background check has been completed and passed.

Dawn shared that she is a long time club member, volunteer, and member of the finance committee. She is also the Treasurer for the Richmond Synchro Club and has been the business manager of SkateNation for fifteen years.

Ralph Gibbs made a motion to elect Dawn Walker as Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Mara George. The vote was unanimous.

2. Review and Approval of Assistant Treasurer position - Candidate: Mark Cerney, CPA

Nikkia noted that this is a new position to manage the week to week bookkeeping. This position will not be an officer or voting board member. The position will be a volunteer.

Mark is a CPA and club member. He has passed a background check.

Mara George made a motion to appoint Mark Cerney as Assistant Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Katherine Zampolin. The vote was unanimous.

3. Club Cross Country program for middle and high schools - proposal by Bill Kelly

Bill noted that this program would be similar to the club cross country program held in Fredericksburg. There would be an additional fee to the club under the insurance coverage, but that cost should be low.

Dave inquired if coaches would need to pass background checks. Bill indicated that they would need to do so, but would need to bring their coach credentials with them to the program; the club will not be conducting background checks. Chris Calfee, who will be assisting with the program, indicated that most coaches would have Safe Sports credentials to be able to coach with high school athletes and participate in invitational meets. He also noted that if participants wanted to obtain uniforms, he would be coordinating that through Brooks, but that participants would be responsible for the costs. Chris Calfee also noted that with most fall sports canceled or in limbo, this program would be a great benefit for athletes being recruited by colleges.

Chris Mason inquired about the insurance costs. Bill noted it could be around \$1000. Ralph indicated it was likely covered as a club "event" and would not change our insurance.

It was noted that participants would be encouraged to join the club, but that was not required.

Chris Mason made a motion to create the club cross country program. The motion was seconded by Mike Bender. The vote was unanimous.

New Business

1. Open position for Vice President of Marketing

Jennifer noted that she needs to step down. She and her family look forward to racing and volunteering in the future! If anyone is interested in the position, please contact Nikkia.

Open discussion:

Mara noted that Sportsbackers has released their plans for holding the Monument Avenue 10k, marathon, half marathon, and 8k. Modifications have been necessary due to the coronavirus. She asked club members to continue supporting the events, promote a positive message, and to reach out if there are concerns about the events. Nikkia indicated the same for RRRC events, and please reach out if there are concerns.

Chris Mason inquired about moving forward with the Winter Marathon Training Team. Crystal indicated it is unclear if we will move forward and what spring races might look like. Joe noted that the trend in training teams seems to be that people feel comfortable getting together with smaller groups. Nikkia suggested that we make decisions on the program at the September meeting.

Cheers!

Thank you Ralph and Jennifer for your service as club officers!

Adjourn

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Hauser, Secretary
August 22, 2020