



Richmond Road Runners Club - Meeting Minutes - February 9, 2022

DRAFT

Opening remarks, ground rules and welcome guests – Rainey Niklawski, President

Rainey called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Approval of January, 2022 meeting minutes - Victoria Hauser, Secretary

Anne made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Mara seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

New Business

1. Girls on the Run of Greater Richmond - Grant Recipient update

Anna Strahs Watts, Mission Advancement Director for GOTR, presented an update on the grant funds received last fall. Due to covid restrictions, each GOTR site held their own on-site end of the season 5k. Grant funds provided supplies for the 5k (bibs, noise makers, water bottles, snacks, poster board, streamers; 5k medals for girls and ribbons for their running buddies), as well as program shirts. An in-person 5k at City Stadium is anticipated for May, 2022.

2. 2022 Grand Prix Rules clarification/approval

Summary of changes:

Grand Prix points are awarded for volunteering the day of race if race is run virtually.

Grand Prix volunteer points are awarded for volunteering before race day (ie packet pickup) and running race day.

Change to current rules. Underlined (new) and strike through is the suggested change.

No GP volunteer credit will be given for events at which the volunteer is racing that day.

~~Pre-running~~ Running virtually for Grand Prix credit will ~~only~~ be allowed if volunteering the day of the race for Grand Prix credit. ~~and only with pre-approval directly from the Grand Prix Coordinators.~~
~~Pre-running must be done the day of the race.~~ Virtual/Pre-runners will only be awarded 1 race credit and no placing points regardless of their time, as their time is not official."

Grand Prix volunteer points are awarded for volunteering before race day (ie packet pickup) and running race day.

Iron Runners will be able to earn race and volunteer points for the same race.

Suzi noted that with these changes, an Iron Runner could skip an event completely, where the rules now require a runner to either volunteer or participate in each event. If a runner wanted to volunteer at a race and run the same race virtually, that would count towards Iron Runner participation.

Sarah Golightly made a motion to approve these changes. The motion was seconded by Mara and the motion carried.

3. Vote to approve bib order

\$2,600 for 20,000 bibs. Plus \$504 for 80,000 pins. Total is: \$3,104

Shawn noted that this order of bibs should last through 2023 and the bibs would include a QR code.

Mike Levins made a motion to approve the expense, Michael George seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Financial Reports – Leigh Anne Stacklin, Treasurer and Mark Cerny, Assistant Treasurer

See attached report.

Leigh Anne noted that she would be putting together a race budget template to include a method for budgeting for overhead costs.

Communications - Anne Magee, VP of Communications

Anne noted she was looking at new merchandise options. A new logo had been created for the Huguenot 3 Miler for social media. Sponsorship discussions were beginning for Carytown.

Membership updates

See attached slide.

Shawn noted that there was a slight dip in membership from December.

Miles & Minutes – Annie Tobey

All of the Miles & Minutes copies have been dropped off at the scheduled distribution locations, with some still available for the club to give out at races and expos (including Sports Backers expos we may be involved in).

For all first quarter races and training teams, please send me race wrap-up information and images and/or links to images by March 1. For the Huguenot 3 Miler, just let me know the information will be coming soon after the race and we'll hold space for you.

All other race reports - before or after - and any other content ideas, copy, and images are always welcome!

Annie noted that she and Anne Magee, new assistant editor, had met to discuss the next issues. There was discussion about Keira D'Amato being featured as the new American Marathon record holder and as our spring event speaker. Any article suggestions, including recipes, are welcome for future issues.

Social Media – Chris Mason

Grants Committee - Kirk Millikan

The next round of grant funding is Spring 2022 with an application deadline of March 31, 2022. If you are interested in being on the Grants Committee to review applications, please send an email to grants@rrrc.org.

Kirk noted that if you are interested in serving on the grants committee to review the next round of grants in March, please let him know. The James River Park System maps have been published and include the RRRC logo following the grant funding provided. Maps can be picked up and stored at the club house.

Operations – Shawn Lafland, VP of Operations

Review of recent races

Frostbite 15k- January 16 (Mara George & Chris Mason)

Shawn noted there were good sponsors and a good turn out for the race.

Preview of upcoming races

Sweetheart 8k - February 13 (Marcy George)

Sweetheart has 309 participants including 276 in person, 24 virtual and 9 kids race. Would like to have 350. We still need volunteers especially course marshals. If not running the race please sign up and tell your friends to sign up to volunteer. Lucky Road is providing gift certificates for prizes. Everything else is set. Keeping fingers crossed for good weather.

Marcy noted there are 350 registered. There is a chance for snowy weather. An email went out today to all registered. It had instructions, including how to switch to the virtual race if needed. Spencer will help coordinate the kids' run.

Huguenot 3 Miler - March 6 (Mike Muldowney)

Huguenot 3 Miler is all set. We can look at volunteers the week before. I still need to do something about post-race food - thinking on this now. Fingers crossed for good weather.

RRRC 4x4 Trail Series - Crystal Koch

Sunrise 4 Miles - Texas Beach Trail, start/finish on Pump House Drive; 07:30, March 27

Larus Four - Larus Park, start/finish at Stony Point Mall; 08:00, May 22

Predict Your Time - Dutch Gap Conservation Area; 08:00, August 7

Poop Loop 4ish Miler - Ancarrow's Landing aka Poop Loop and Slave Trail; 7:00/7:15 PM

Still no sponsors but that is being worked on, slowly. Donna Bausch and Vickie Bryant are the co-RDs as well as learning how to be RDs through this process. The point is to hand the series over to them in a couple of years. I am going to reach out to Lisa Z about talking to Sheehy to see how they might feel about sponsoring the series, Vicki is going to work on a sponsor to cover a donut truck that will be at each race. We have clearance from the Richmond Parks and Recreation crew and are working on getting the ducks in a row for the Larus Four. Since the start/finish will be at Stony Point, the route briefly crosses the private property of the condominiums before reaching park property. That process has been started, we don't foresee any issues. The next race will be Dutch Gap and if they have an idea to help with parking, the PYT will be there. If the construction and what not will be continuing into August, we will need to choose a new location for this race. We think a figure eight around Belle Isle might be a good substitute. But we're holding out for Dutch Gap. We think we have ideas for giveaways for each race finally, stay tuned! We wanted to do something different for each one that wasn't a shirt, with a sweatshirt/fancy shirt being given to those who complete all four races.

All the races should be live by the time you read this. We hope they look appealing and y'all will help us get folks interested and informed! This trail series is a great way to get folks into our local parks and to see what we have to offer! Please get signed up and tell your friends!

Shawn noted that additional marketing may be needed. Anne to help with graphics.

Training teams

RRRC Winter Marathon & Half Marathon Training (WMTT) - Crystal Koch

Training is going well! We switched to Sundays for the holiday weekends and had a solid turnout for the two Saturdays that had snow on them. We are on week eleven which means only 5 weeks left till race day! The runners are enjoying Uptapped, the waffles have been a hit so we will need to order more of them next time. I ordered a large supply of the gels and hydration mix before the season started and it seems like it will make it to the end. We have about 100-120 runners who show up every weekend. Hopefully by the time you are reading this report we will have picked up the sweatshirts and lots of runners have picked them up. Anna Ryan joined me in the head coach position this year and it's been very helpful. She handles emails and a lot of talking to the people and I am taking care of the technical side of things. Those are the roles we like most so it's a great partnership.

Advanced 10k

Shawn noted that the team is now up to 90 runners.

Equipment – Glenn Melton

Two time machines are back in hand after a trip to Washington state for repairs. Ordered parts to fix a clock and replaced batteries in another.

Grand Prix - Trisha Kolesar

The 2021 Grand Prix spreadsheet has been posted and is finalized. Results for 2022 will be posted after registration closes.

The 2021 banquet planned for March 12th has been canceled due to COVID. Plans are underway for an outdoor spring event to present the 2021 awards.

Volunteer Needs - Shawn Lafland

Operations Manager/Administrator/RunSignup Coordinator– Allison May, Shawn Lafland

See attached slides.

Additional Operations updates -

The remainder of the 2022 race schedule has been published to RunSignUp, though not all races are open for registration. Das Bier Run is a new run that will be held in September.

The summer track series is set to return. Matthew Novak noted that he had been in touch with the University of Richmond on reserving the track.

Drivers are still needed, especially for contact races.

Ben Wachter volunteered to be the race director for the Turkey Trot! Sarah Golightly and Donnie Lane volunteered to be the race directors for the TRex!

Shawn noted that a donation of swag and race entries were given to ACAC for their charity silent auction. The store was slightly slower in sales for January. There are 161 registrants for the Grand Prix and 3 Iron Runners. The website has been updated to remove the championship race series.

Rainey raised a discussion on the weekly club email newsletters and could the frequency be reduced. It was agreed that emails could go out directed towards specific races and a monthly newsletter could be sent prior to the meeting. It was agreed to try this approach for a few months.

Mike Gholson noted that planning was underway for the Cul de Sac series on July 4, 11 and 18. Suggestions were discussed for the 4th of July race including moving the start time up, providing a list of local fireworks, and a live singing of the National Anthem.

Anne Brown noted that sponsorship recruitment was underway for the Carytown race. She, Anne Magee, and Rainey will work on developing sponsorships.

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria A. Hauser, Secretary