

Colonial Road Runners Board Meeting Minutes

Monday March 17, 2014 – date was rescheduled due to snow

Meeting began at 7:05 PM at Williamsburg Regional Library, Room B

Present: Brenda Mitchell, Stan Rockwell, Jim Winthrop, Mike MacDonald, Bob Walker, Rick Platt, Greg Dawson, Steve Menzies, and Ron Henn

Absent: Randy Hawthorne, Jim Goggin, Will Murray, and Jennifer Quarles

1. Approved minutes for last meeting as written.

2. Old Business:

-Race date changes and updates - Rick reviewed the race schedule. Warhill changed date and distance to 6/14 due to a tournament there and is now an 8K. WISC also wants to put on a race - WISC Family Festival 5K Run for Down's syndrome. Date will be the first Saturday in August. Governor's Land 5K is now sponsored by Girl Scouts and is now on the final Saturday in October with Halloween theme. Lafayette High School is taking over the York River 5K race. No CRR races in November are currently scheduled. There is a team race at the Yorktown 10 miler (PTC) and a lot of other races in November in the region. July 12 Sweatin for Scholarships 5K has been dropped by WCF, and will now be directed by Greg Dawson to help fund the CRR teams' travel fund. The race will have a new name. Currently there is about \$922 in the fund. Steve Menzies and maybe Steve Chantry and Jim Goggin will help. This year may be the last Yorktown Victory Run after 25 years due to the retirement of the Park Service Superintendent. The Icelandic 5K won't be coming back as hoped due to past race directors moving out of the area.

-Queen's Lake race update - .PDF entry and raceit.com sign up live and on CRR website. The race benefits the CRR scholarship fund and is in memory of Michael Mann and Tom Ray. The scholarship application is on the CRR website and at least one individual has expressed an interest in applying. Decision will be made on scholarships at the June board meeting. Rick is looking for a new race director next year. Andrew D'Amico, Gerry Elder, Brenda Mitchell, Ellie Bustin, Bob Walker, Chris Robertson and others have been a great help. Race date is April 5. Bob is managing permits and coordinating with the police and York County manager. Rick will ask someone to put the notifications of the race to homes in the neighborhood. Looking for volunteers for the course and parking and someone to coordinate those tasks. Bob will contact Bruton HS for volunteers. We need six to twelve volunteers for this. We are getting port-a-johns from Spivey based on cost. Awards will be from Flemings like last year. We still need a race day co-coordinator and sponsorships and door prizes. Rick has forms for the sponsorship. Will cross reference with CRR membership discount requests of local businesses.

-Conflict of Interest form – Presented by Jim Winthrop. Discussed by the board. Members will review it, suggest changes, and send them to Jim. We will vote by email on the final version, and then post a copy on the website. Stan will keep signed copies. This will be completed before the next meeting.

-Runner Friendly City update – Jenn Quarles and Will Murray chair this. Need to have more folks working on this. Sponsored by RRCA. Details on how a community can get runner friendly status is at <http://www.rrca.org/programs/runner-friendly-community/>. CRR needs a coordinator(s) to further pursue this. We need to ask the general membership for volunteers.

-Update proposal for the annual meeting to change the bylaws for the date of the annual meeting. Motion made to change bylaws for the annual meeting and elections to be changed to between April 15 and June 1 each year. Motion was made by Greg Dawson to delay this year's meeting past April 15 in order to have a financial statement for the club. Unanimously passed. Jim moved to amend/change the bylaws to move the annual meeting to April 15 to June 1. This was seconded and passed unanimously. This will be presented to the Club at the annual meeting. The following change will be proposed so that 4.3 of the bylaws will read:

4.3. The annual meeting of members shall be held between April 15 and June 1 at a time and place determined by the Board of Directors.

Don Mann is the proposed speaker for the annual meeting. The date of the meeting in April is to be determined. Possible location will be the Windsor Forest Club House. Tommy Neeson is another possibility. Steve Chantry has offered to come on the board as Jen Quarles retires. Jim Goggin will be elections committee chair.

-Board discussed possibility of requesting more frequent financial reports, at least quarterly for board meetings. We would like to have more transparency, such as PTC's financial updates that appear in every newsletter. Having this information readily available, plus having the treasurer attend board meetings, would help with planning in areas such as the scholarship fund, the teams' fund, and the general CRR fund. It would also help with increasing revenue in areas such as setting up online membership and donations and online stores. Board members discussed how this could be remedied such as a more active treasurer or having assistance for the current treasurer. Steve Chantry was mentioned as a person who could assist. Past meetings have also asked about having transactions online to help get the treasurer data in a timely fashion. Transparency and active follow up are crucial to the maintenance and growth of the organization. The discussion will continue at subsequent meetings.

-Newsletter status – Rick says has had trouble finding the time to get information to Terry McManus, the editor. He also felt that much of the information is already online. Stan suggested that the current email format has newsletter templates and the newsletter could be delivered to members that way. It was also suggested that since Terry is a good writer, just let him go ahead and start publishing. This will be further addressed.

-List of stores where CRR members get discounts to be posted on website and member emails. Rick has sent out a form to running stores and bike stores and fitness and health centers for proposed membership discounts, and got further ideas for possibilities this evening. This list will be compiled and hopefully will be ready by the annual meeting. The list will be on the CRR website and will be included in the welcoming letter that Brenda sends to new members. Rick now has an agreement with WISC for distribution of race flyers with a dedicated location at WISC. Greg will also check with Dog Street Pub for possible discounts since they started a running club this evening.

-Website now has CRR clothing pictures. Rick would like to have inventory on the site and ways to order. Logistically this is not feasible due to real time inventory change not being possible. Stan will put on the website to "email Rick with your choice and size of clothing," which is doable. Steve Menzies will take more pictures of the inventory for the website. As inventory is depleted, he will need to let Stan know which items need to be deleted from the site. A list of the type of items with the price, for example "singlets: \$cost" is doable for the website.

3. Committee and Club updates

-Membership – Brenda wants to include welcome letter to new members, and presented a sample letter. She also does follow up with scholarship fund. Currently there are 196 members with 48 additions since the last meeting. She does send reminder letters for renewal. She will let Stan know who does not renew so he can delete them from the email list. \$360 has been donated to the scholarship fund since last meeting.

-Equipment needs – no update at this time.

-Web update as of this morning:

687 followers on Facebook

134 followers on Twitter (John Harvey of the VA Gazette often retweets our posts)

42,429 page views on CRROnline newsletter with 1,621 during the past month

167 subscribers to Yahoo discussion group

196 subscribers to member announcement list

In addition, and this was not mentioned due to time constraints, some race directors and others who have contacted us via the website have done articles about their races or events which were published on our web based newsletter, and these were linked to via Twitter (which also put the link on the home page of CRR) and via Facebook. Some examples are:

*Ali's Run - <http://crronline.blogspot.com/2014/02/alis-run.html>

*United Athletics Williamsburg - <http://crronline.blogspot.com/2014/02/a-message-from-united-athletics.html>

*Kettle Krush 5K - <http://crronline.blogspot.com/2014/03/two-races-night-at-ballpark-and-one.html>

*Yoga to Benefit Wounded Warriors Fund - <http://crronline.blogspot.com/2014/03/yoga-for-runners-to-benefit-wounded.html>

It would be helpful if CRR race directors did similar articles which would help with publicity and hopefully increase race participation.

-Team competitions – Yorktown 10 miler may be the state championship this year. Governors Land 5K will not be the state championship this year. The Elizabeth River Run on May 24 will be the next team competition age graded CRR/PTC versus Tidewater Striders event. Greg reported upcoming competitions as – Syracuse 5K on 10/5 for masters. USATF USA club nationals in Bethlehem PA, same day as Sleighbell. He has talked with Steve Chantry and wants to revitalize our participation in the club nationals. He would like to populate as many of the teams as possible and is working with Enterprisers.

-Update from Mike on when he can bike lead races, and he has removed some hazards from Matoaka Trails. Scott Bartram will bike lead the Yorktown race. There was some more discussion of the possibility of a duathlon. Also looking to certify more CRR courses.

4. New Business

-There was a proposal via email from Ken Mitchell to add age groups to the Grand Prix. Age groups for 60-69 and for 70 and above were proposed. Motion made, seconded and passed unanimously to add these age groups effective this year.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM. Next board meeting will be June 3 at 7 PM in Room B of the Williamsburg Regional Library.