

Tidewater Striders Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

Date: October 7th, 2019

Call to Order: President Steve Shapiro called the Striders Board of Directors meeting to order at 6:45 pm

Location: Running Etc.- Regency Hilltop Shopping Center, Virginia Beach

Running Etc.- 1707 Colley Ave, Norfolk

The following Board members were in attendance:

Steve Shapiro

Marie Price

Randy Cook

Stacin Martin

Jim Martin

Drew Midland

Tim Robinson

Dan Edwards

Scott Ward

Thomas Hicks

Tim Westfall

William Tallent.

Guests: Bunny May (Walkers Committee)

President's Report: (Steve Shapiro): Steve promptly called the meeting to order at 6:45pm. He was sorry to report the passing of longtime Strider member Anthony (Cokey) M. Daman, 100 and mentioned he dedicated a majority of his President's Column to him in The RunDown. Cokey was instrumental in promoting race walking to the community. * The quarterly Three Club meeting was held last week and Steve and Thomas Hicks attended. It was decided that the Neptune 8k will no longer be a Super Grand Prix race and will most likely be replaced with the Striders' Cross Country Classic next year. * Steve also introduced a letter he received from Adam Zocks the race director of the Rock-N-Roll races. In it he mentioned there is great concern about the decreasing number of participants each year and is looking to remedy this by inviting Strider board members to the "Running Panel" held Wednesday, October 16th at 8am at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. Topics will include: What are they doing well; What can they do better; What changes should be made; How important is the American Music Festival (AMF) to the event, etc. Steve and Thomas Hicks mentioned they plan to attend. * Lastly Steve stated that he finally obtained a copy of the Strider's Strategic Plan and would like the board to review and discuss it at the next board meeting in November.

Vice President's Report (Randy Cook): Dan Edwards and Steve Scudder sent Randy lists of members who were 75+ years old and with the club 10+ years and it was determined that five members could be immediately added as FREE membership for life. Randy did notice that there are quite a few lifetime members already which explained why so few appeared on the list. Since our membership database does not go back more than ten years, Stacin Martin mentioned Angelo could add a member level question where when the user enters a birth date that

equals an age of 75+ years old, a check box appears asking if they have been a Strider member for at least 10 years. Upon answering “yes” and checking out, their membership fee would result in \$0.00.

Treasurer’s Report: (Tim Robinson) – Tim supplied the latest financials and mentioned there was nothing out of the ordinary to report. There were some repairs on the Van and RV.

Committee Reports:

Advisory: (Sam Wittenberg)

Audit: (Scott Ward)

Awards: (Marie Price) - * Marie is trying to decide what to award all the volunteers at the Striders General Membership Meeting and Volunteer Appreciation Party this November and asked the board what they thought. She is thinking either a really nice lunch bag, a striped beanie cap or a long sleeve hoodie. The beanie cap seemed to be the popular choice. * All the invitations were already sent out.

Banquet: (Randy Cook) – The Striders General Membership and Volunteer Appreciation Party at the Ocean View Pier November 3rd is all set. It is the same deal as last year as far as the food and drinks are concerned. We have 40+ people signed up so far. Wrist bands will be handed out to indicate who is above the legal age to drink adult beverages.

We are locked in on the date for the Awards Banquet party and await to see if there is any price increase from last year.

Budget: (Tim Robinson) – Budget is due in December.

Constitution & Bylaws: (Randy Cook)

Elections: (Lori Sherwood) – Deadline for submitting Board Election Nomination will be mid-November.

Grand Prix: (Stacin Martin) – Stacin plans to update the Grand Prix results soon. He reached out to the board to determine if committee chairs are allowed to receive volunteer points in the grand prix and the answer was “no”.

Grand Prix Multi-Sport/Triathlon: (Lisa Armistead) -It was announced that Lisa will be stepping down as chair of the Grand Prix Multi-Sport/Triathlon committee.

Grand Prix Walking /Walking: (Bunny May) – There was only one walker signed up for the Crawling Crab this year, so no judges were asked to attend. There is more and more chatter of people becoming interested in signing up as walkers and Bunny is looking for more methods to help promote the program and create more walking groups that meet regularly. A suggestion was introduced to perhaps produce posters and dispatch them at area city parks billboards (Mt Trashmore, First Landing, etc.)

Grand Prix Youth / Youth Program: (Steve Sheppard/Angelo Celesia) –

From Steve Sheppard...

Our first full month of fall training went well at all 5 training sites, plus with our POWER group. After our first practice on Thursday 9/5 was pre-empted out of an abundance of caution, due to Dorian, all other practices have been held.

1. We're currently at **347** New Energy team members for the Calendar Year. We finished 2018 with 320, so we've eclipsed that, with a few weeks to go!
2. 6 and 26. We maintained the same **6** Lead Coaches, which is great for continuity. They are: Tom Walsh (Mt Trashmore), Frank Scaringello (Chesapeake), David McDonald (Norfolk), Thomas Tate (Peninsula) and Steve Sheppard in Suffolk. Our Site Leads are helped greatly by my 20 other Assistant Coaches (**26** total Coaches).
3. **74** - Number of New Energy racers attending the Tidewater Strider 1 Mile Race, (despite the 95 degree temperatures)

We're pushing the Strider XC Classic and look forward to solid youth turnout there too!

All in all things are going well and we appreciate the support of the Strider Board!

Hall of Fame: (Bee McLeod) – Need all Hall of Fame nominations in by December 1st.

History: (Randy Cook) – History is up to date through September. The person who is scanning our archives, Lori Sherwood, is busy very with work and has limited time to complete this task. So, it's a slow process and there are about three to four boxes of binders to go. The boxes of binders are in limbo at the moment, but will be received by Randy Cook soon.

Marketplace: (William Tallent) – Tim talked to Angelo to see if it is possible to have a “Striders Store” created and posted on every race RunSignUp page so participants can order additional apparel at check out and can be delivered at packet pick up/race day. The tough part of this is the logistics of maintaining/organizing the inventory and transporting it to each event. Thomas Hicks said he would do it along with the help from William.

It was also suggested that from now on, the Marketplace committee chair be responsible for ordering future apparel requests that are not part of any racing events (Example: apparel that identifies certain committees: race committee, walkers, board members, etc.)

Media: (Jean Phelan- RunDown & Face Book / Jim Martin- Twitter & Instagram): - The usual steady pace of social media announcements have been posted each week promoting all Striders events.

Membership: (Bob Brunner) - Tidewater Strider membership stands at 1779 members as of today and we 1665 members a year ago. We have 1,115 memberships compared to 1092 one-year ago. There were 60 transactions involving 80-members in September 2019.

Nominations: (Rich Hildreth / Jean Phelan) – Please let Rich and Jean know if you plan to run or know of anyone who would like to run for a board member position. Deadline is most likely mid-November.

Policies and Procedures: (Randy Cook)

Programs: (Drew Midland)

Race: (Dan Edwards/Thomas Hicks/Rick Brown) –

- This year's Turkey Trot Door Hanger event will be held Sunday October 20th. If you have a couple of hours in your schedule come on out to the Mt Trashmore YMCA at 1pm. Dan Edwards is looking for someone to lead this effort as he will not be able to participate.
- The Tidewater Striders Cross Country Classic is October 12th. Race director Thomas Hicks said there is currently 100+ participants signed up for the 5k race and about 50-75 for the Kids 1.5 mile. * Packet Pick-Up is scheduled for Friday October 11th at Running Etc. in Virginia Beach from 3pm to 6pm and Thomas will need some volunteers to help out. The course will be cut Thursday. There are 15 porta-potties in place. Hay bales will be placed out along the course. Thomas needs the credit card reader and cash box from Tim for Friday's packet pick up.
- ERR – The City of Portsmouth emailed Thomas Hicks and mentioned they were increasing the size of the UMOJA festival and planning to take over even more area of our race course. Thomas replied with his extreme displeasure in this decision to which they replied they would correct it. This still leaves a bad taste in the mouth to the point where Thomas is considering moving the race back to Norfolk in 2021. * He'll talk to Jerry Frostick about sponsors, because he'd like to incorporate prize money this year to promote more participants and faster runners.
- Thomas is considering adding another race to our schedule and making it another 1 mile race at Atlantic Avenue.
- Dan announced so far we have 185-190 race participants signed up for the Turkey Trot (20% higher than last year this time). Running and Walking Medals have been ordered. We are locked in with colored long sleeve t-shirts this year.
- We are still booking races for the Spring
- The Resolution 5k is being moved to the Oceanfront and we are looking to have Smartmouth Brewing host the post-race party. Jim Martin will contact 'Special Events' to make sure the date is secured and application submitted.

Scholarship/Campership: (Dan Edwards / Jim Dare) – There was a hiccup with one of our scholarship recipients money that Tim Robinson had to address and correct.

Teams: (Thomas Hicks) – The Striders Cross Country Classic will be having a men's teams of seven runners (first five score) for the race. We could not muster up a Striders women's team. Endeavor has a team. Tom is looking for more runners for the Striders team.

Thomas is looking for team participants for the Yorktown 10-Miler and the Harbor Lights. The Striders have a 3-race winning streak.

Thomas is looking for a project the Striders can come up with for the J&A Community Award. Sending Striders to Little Creek Elementary school to promote running and their Fun Run (November 1st) and help out as much as possible during the race. We'll need to document and photograph the event and send to J&A.

Volunteer: (Marie Price) – All the invitations went out for the Volunteer Party

Website: (Jim Martin)

- The Striders website is up to date including all the latest volunteer lists.
- All Striders email boxes have been cleaned out freeing up 200Mb of disk space.

Old Business:

- As we look for alternatives to race timing now that Rick Brown is retiring, Thomas Hicks handed out Rob Hunter's proposal for the timing of Strider races. He asked each board member to review it and we can talk about it more during the next meeting
- Dan received from Ocean Creek and delivered to the meeting all the shirts that were requested during last month's meeting to accommodate Board Members / Walkers/ Adopt-A-Highway Volunteer and General Volunteer. Some shirts were mistakenly printed and the vendor is in the process of correcting them.

New Business:

- Steve Shapiro was able to locate a hardcopy of the Strider's Strategic Plan that was developed years ago and handed them out to board members to review for discussion during the next board meeting with particular attention towards the fundraising and philanthropy section.
- Angelo Celesia released a new version of "general" volunteer signup using RunSignUp. Step by step screen shots of the form were put together and shared among board members with much approval. The older version, written using "Liveanswer.net" will be replaced with this new version soon.

Next meeting will be **November 4th**, 6:45 PM at Running Etc. in Virginia Beach

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at **7:47 PM.**