

Tidewater Striders Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

Date: December 7, 2020

Call to Order

At 6:33 pm, President Thomas Hicks called the Striders Board of Directors meeting to order. The meeting was held via video conference call. The following Board members were in attendance:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Armitage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marie Price	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Randy Cook	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kimberly Moore
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Martin	<input type="checkbox"/> Andrew Hoffer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim Robinson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Pommerenk
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bunny May	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thomas Hicks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim Westfall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> William Tallent

Guests: New 2021 board members: Danny Smith, Avi Kelley

President's Report

- Thomas asked the new board members to introduce themselves.
- The minutes of the November Board meeting were approved with 9 Ayes (1 abstention, 2 votes missing).
- Election results for the 2021 Board of Directors: Lori Sherwood reported that 2 people cast votes for 8 board members (instead of only 6). The vote tally was as follows: Thomas Hicks 164, Tim Robinson 146, Randy Cook 127, Bunny May 122, Avi Kelley 108, Danny Smith 107, Tim Westfall 97, Chris Loney 80, Dean Stover (write-in): 3. One write-in vote each was cast for current board members Kim Moore and Peter Pommerenk.
- The Striders Marathon/Half Marathon went very well, 29 out of 58 marathoners ran Boston-qualifying times, which may be the highest rate of qualifiers at any US marathon in 2020.
- Turkey Trot went generally well, even though the milled pavement provided less than ideal conditions. Kudos to volunteers. Since there was no awards ceremony, the trophy delivery was challenging this year.
- Upcoming: 100k/50k Ultramarathon at Dismal Swamp Canal Trail: Dan Edwards and Thomas will set up; various board members will be volunteering as race leads through the day. There will be one aid station and two pizza deliveries during the day.
- The Seashore 50k is set to go; the number of participants dropped to 180. COVID plan is in place; there will be only pre-packaged food at the aid stations.
- Grand Prix: Points for races have been tallied and are posted on the web site. Final results will be posted after volunteer points from Seashore 50k have been incorporated.
- HR Super Grand Prix: There is one more race left ("Jingle Jog"). Results will be posted after that race.
- 2021 races: 16 people have signed up for the Strider Plus race bundle.
- Resolution 5k at Dismal Swamp: Permit is in; just awaiting on certificate of insurance. Award medals are being ordered. A Striders-logo fleece blanket will be the giveaway this year. There have been 82 sign-ups. The 5k will be a Striders Grand Prix race.
- The Distance Series is all set. Striders received permission from Fort Monroe to use the course this year, under stringent COVID restrictions.
- Grand Prix for 2021 is set. Stacin Martin will step down unless nobody else steps up as the GP Committee Chair.
- Thomas had discussions with Dan and Tim that races have become more expensive because of the cost of timing (\$1,000) and more high-quality race swag. The race committee is considering a \$5 price increase for races.

- The Great Bridge High School cross country team has been volunteering for numerous races. The race committee will reward the team with \$300 per race.
- Cindy Meinen will be awarded \$600 out of the race committee budgets for her ongoing photography services.
- Teams: Last weekend's Yorktown 10-miler was the year's last team competition (against the two Peninsula's clubs)

Vice President's Report

- Banquet is still on track; The Norfolk Yacht & Country Club can accommodate 78 participants. Invited will be the new Hall of Fame members (with a guest), the major award winners, and board members and guests (who must pay). The banquet will be live streamed.
- The four new Hall of Fame members are Winston Brown, Angelo Celesia, Jim Dare, and Brian Sagedy. A Facebook announcement is forthcoming.
- The Club History is up to date.

Treasurer's Report

- Tim sent out financial reports (see attachments). The year 2020 will be a net loss year because of revenue losses.
- Budget: There is considerable uncertainty for planning the budget. Restrictions will still affect 1st quarter revenues. Tim proposed revisiting the budget in February and every two months thereafter depending on the ongoing pandemic.
- Tim noted that the annual transfer to the Scholarship fund is the largest expense, and that there is a \$200,000 fund reserve that must be spent down because non-profit corporations should not maintain large fund balances.

Committee Reports

The following committee updates were provided:

- Awards: (Marie Price): Ordering items for the Distance Series. Working on determining premium items.
- Constitution and Bylaws: (Peter Pommerenk): Provided red-lined Election Committee policies based on input by Randy and Thomas (see attachment). Randy moved to accept the policy changes as written. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
- Marketplace: (William Tallent): All orders up to date; ordering new premium singlets (for sale).
- Media: (Jean Phelan/Jim Martin): Striders Podcast (Andrew Hoffer). Jim announced Thomas recruited a new committee member (Molly Gray, works for Virginian Pilot). He is getting good responses on Instagram. Jim updated the website and Adopt-a-road/trail dates. Jim also offered access to royalty-free stock photos for various Striders media uses. He also create two new shared email accounts for the Striders board members and media committee to start using. This will simplify the email process and improve collaboration. (boardmembers@tidewaterstriders.com & media@tidewaterstriders.com)
- Membership: (Bob Brunner): The Tidewater Striders ended November 2020 with 1996 members compared to 1826 one year ago. We ended November with 1296 memberships compared to 1127 one year ago. There were 76 transactions in November involving 124 members. Bob noted that the membership numbers are not complete as not all family members have been added yet.
- Programs: (Kim Borges): Thrive keeps partnering with the Striders for races. Suggestion was made to have Kempsville Chiropractic provide a virtual clinic. Race directors should also reach out to Direct Performance Therapy.
- Volunteer: (Marie Price): Reminded the board that there is no volunteer party this year; Marie is considering mailing a premium item as a volunteer reward.
- Youth: (Steve Sheppard/Angelo Celesia): Considering shorter track races for the future, including indoor event.

New Business

- Thomas thanked Tim Westfall for his 2-year service on the Board. Thomas also thanked Andrew Hoffer for this term and his work on the Striders' Podcast.
- Peter asked the board members to send nominations for the 2021 officers to be voted on during the January meeting.
- Steve Armitage announced that he will be retiring in February and that he may be leaving the area at that time.

Next meeting: January 4, 2020, 6:30 PM (Location/Video call tbd)

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

Minutes prepared by: Peter Pommerenk

Minutes approved: tbd