

**Southern Arizona Roadrunners – Board of Directors Meeting**

**Date: December 12, 2011**

**Time: 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

**Location: Health South (2650 North Wyatt)**

**FINAL Meeting Minutes**

<b>SAR Board Members</b>			
Randy Accetta – P	Sheryl Felde – A	Amelie Messingham – A	Keith Schlottman – P
Tim Bentley – P	Steve Felde – A	Kara Middendorf – P	Lucas Tyler – P
Don Branaman – A	Greg Gadarian – P	Steve Outridge – P	Greg Wenneborg – A
Shane Carr – P	Mary Lasser – A	Jocie Riley – A	
Andy Dolphin – P	Ron Lumm – P	John Sabatine – P	

Meeting called to order at 6:36

1. November Minutes  
7B: Yor -> Yore. Tim makes motion, Ron seconds, all approve.
2. No guests
3. Office Manager Report (Lucas)  
Membership is still around 1200. 90 renewal notices were sent out for memberships expiring in January, more than most months. Maybe just that it's the first race of the year. Payment from Thanksgiving was received, a little over \$3000.
4. Treasurer's Report (Keith)  
A more detailed report will be given next month. The current bank balance is around \$46,000. There weren't many deposits recently. It might just be that there isn't anything coming in to deposit right now. Randy is about to start receiving sponsorship checks from TMC and others for his races. Keith would like clarification as to whether these checks should be written to SAR directly and deposited into SAR's account, since the money is intended for Randy's race. In the past, checks have been made payable to SAR, but because money is for races there is question as to whether or not this artificially inflates SAR's account. Greg G mentioned that perhaps we need to separate SAR's checking account from an operating account to be used by race directors. Discussion ensued about who has sent flyers to the printing press for our upcoming mailing.
5. Recap of Completed SAR Events
  - A. Thanksgiving (Lucas)  
There were about 1765 participants in the two races with 670 in the fun run. There were no bottleneck problems with the finishing line this year. Although, they were close to having problems until some volunteers helped out. There were fewer complaints about the start this year than last year. There were problems with the water jump area, as fastest runners in their second loop caught up to the slow runners finishing their slow loop. It was especially problematic in the women's race this year, where top runners were fighting through crowds for ~1/2 mile and actually had to stop when they got to the water jump. A wave start may help alleviate this, or directing the slow runners around the water jump. They might also move the water jump earlier in the loop.
  - B. Winterhaven (Steve O.)  
The Food Bank estimated that about 1400-1500 pounds of food was donated. About 500 people showed up (425-450 signed in). The Pizza Party at Old Chicago went well. Jim Irish and Steve O feel that the event is getting too large to use the parking lot. Plus there were major issues with a church organization parking cars in the lot while our group assembled in the same lot. Discussion ensued about other locations including nearby church parking lots. Neither megaphones worked (sirens worked, the speaker doesn't).

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6. New Business

A. Jocie Riley has stepped down from the SAR board.

B. Facebook Update (Tim)

We have 2020 fans of our Facebook page which is comparable to Dallas and Chicago running clubs. The RRCA has 2800 fans. There are about 10,000 pictures (60-70 albums) and 15 active discussions. It's a resource for people to post things like "I'm looking for a running group". Randy raised the question of whether or not this is well publicized on our website. Steve O mentions we could put a Facebook badge on our site. Randy asked if it's OK if people post photos on the SAR site. Tim says yes, as long as it has something to do with SAR events. Comments have been generally positive.

C. Grand Prix Update (John)

How should we recognize people who ran all 12 races and the super volunteers? Last year we printed T-shirts for them. Two years ago, we entered them into raffles for a gift certificate (one raffle for runners and one raffle for volunteers). Thirteen people did all 12 races this year. Other ideas suggested included one year's SAR membership. Tim made a motion to allocate up to \$300 for recognizing runners who did all 12 grand prix races and the super volunteers. The specific award will be chosen by Grand Prix committee. Randy seconds. A vote was taken with all in favor. John made a motion that, in addition to the \$300, the super volunteers should be given free dinner at the SAR banquet. The cost to SAR is about \$20 per person. Steve O questioned why the volunteers and not the runners who ran all 12. Shane mentioned this is true of anyone receiving Grand Prix awards; at what point do we draw the line? Keith mentioned that we had exactly the same discussion last year. Ron seconds. A vote was taken with 2 in favor, 6 opposing and 2 abstaining.

D. Banquet Agenda (Steve O)

Last year, Mary did most of the talking. Tim, Greg W, and Dave Hill each had short segments. Mary would like other SAR Board Members involved this year. Tim said that SAR will be 40 years old in 2012. Tim would like to have a segment on SAR history and involve a few of the original SAR members. Tim also thinks we should use the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in our marketing over the course of the year. Steve O will describe SAR's donations to charities over the past year. Keith may be able to provide details with race director input. This can be combined with Children's Fitness Fund. Randy suggested several agenda items. He will circulate a draft by e-mail. Kara said the reception is from 6-7, the buffet opens at 6:45 and presentations should start at 7 and last for 30-45 minutes. Kara would like to encourage people to mingle more like assigned seating. Randy suggested having the emcee announce that it's time to talk to new people. On the other hand, we don't want to be too heavy-handed. Kara suggested spending money on party favors like SAR mugs with the race calendar, which would cost \$400-\$500. Discussion ensued that we should look for a sponsor for mugs if we want to go that route. Tim suggested that water bottles are more relevant for running. John made a motion to allocate up to \$450 to spend on gifts for the banquet. Tim seconds. A vote was taken with 6 in favor, 2 opposing and 2 abstaining. Steve reiterated that a sponsor should be sought for this.

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E. Membership Topics (Steve O)

SAR Membership Application Update – Steve provided a page with calendar dates and suggested updates – use new logo, raise membership price for \$5 for each category except students. Dates for the printed SAR calendar need updating. Thanksgiving is 11/22. The Oracle date needs to be checked. A suggestion was made to add the banquet. The paragraph describing the Grand Prix can be shortened to “Part of the Running Shop Grand Prix”. Randy suggested adding a senior discount. Discussion ensued as to the age for this discount and how much the discount should be. Randy suggested that we should communicate any increase in membership price to the membership prior to actually raising them. Individual membership was raised to \$20 about 10 years ago, and the cost of running the club (insurance, postage, timing system, office manager, etc.) has increased by more than 25% over that time. Randy suggested that there may be alternatives; such as asking race directors to give more to SAR (possibly after raising entry fees). Steve O mentioned that part of the reason for a fee increase would be having mobile credit card processing available at races, which carries a 2-3% fee. It's a more convenient way for handling race-day registration and race-day memberships. There is no cost to sign up, aside from the fee they charge on purchases. Steve O made a motion to authorize signing up for a Square Up device. Greg G seconds. A vote was taken with all in favor. Greg G suggests tabling the decision on membership fees until summer meeting. The Board concurred. Steve O raised the question of SAR providing refreshments for social runs with Tucson Trail Runners at Sabino and Saguaro West on 1/7. Steve O makes motion that SAR authorize up to \$100 for food and refreshments at each event. John seconds. A vote was taken with 9 in favor, 0 opposing and 1 abstaining.

F. Children's Running Brigade T-Shirts

Greg G made a motion to reimburse Randy for purchase of children's running brigade T-shirts to be given out during kids fun run races (approximately \$500 or \$700). Ron seconds. A vote was taken with 6 in favor, 0 opposing and 4 abstaining. Discussion ensued as to why we are giving away T-shirts for the kid's races. Randy mentioned that SAR has historically done this. The cost was \$2.20 each to purchase and about \$3 to print.

7. Communications

A. Media

Randy has worked with Cox. Cox Charities will be beneficiary of Get Moving ½ Marathon. SAR events to be posted on web calendars soon based on info on SAR event web pages. Race directors please check that information is correct.

B. Newsletter

Reminder that due date for next newsletter was 12/1. Steve doesn't know if Shelley received enough material.

C. Website

Nothing to report

D. Email Blasts

Randy would like race directors to provide information for a start-of-year e-mail with the complete 2012 race calendar. Randy has asked race directors for feedback on single fee for entry into six spring races. The response was positive, so a page will be set up on active.com for this and e-mail blast will contain details.

8. Old Business

No updates

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9. Around the Room
  - A. Tim said that the search for a new location for Dave's Run is going well.
  - B. John said that the preliminary final Grand Prix results are posted. No corrections have been received yet. People eligible for multiple prizes will receive the one of highest value; other people will be moved up.
  - C. Randy said that Sunrise preparations are moving along and the Valentine's run will have new categories.
  - D. Lucas researched lighting for shed. Both solar-powered and battery-powered lights are viable options. \$500 has already been approved.
  - E. Shane met Mike Bell, Rob Bell's brother. Discussion ensued as to whether the family should be involved in the selection of winners. Traditionally this has been trusted to the SAR board.
  - F. Shane researched RRCA running award criteria. RRCA website contains specific criteria for each award. For example, "Race of the year" requires RRCA branding on race promotional material. He listed several other awards – website of the year, newsletter, club president, etc.
  - G. Randy said that the RRCA annual convention is in March 2012 and the Running USA (trade organization for running industry) convention is January 16-18, 2012.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40