

Strider Board Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2008

By Lou Thrash

Board Members in attendance: Whitney La Rocca, Miriam Terc, Lou Thrash, Andrew Keller, Santos Hernandez, Lee Greb, Chip Maxa, Steve Schroeder, George Moriarty, Loren Neufeld

Also in attendance: Lisa Ruthven, Stacy Stepler, John Yoder, Megan Clark-Dillingham, Lee Baughman, Jack Rubalcava, Michelle Chang

Board Member/Committee Chair Reports

President (Whitney La Rocca)

Good turn out for start of SMART program; about 40 members in attendance

Vice President (Miriam Terc) – Message board suggestions sent out via email. Decision made to use the free service for trial period.

Secretary (Lou Thrash) – No report

Treasurer (Andrew Keller) - Statement distributed of financial activity since May 2008. Major expenditures were ROQ reimbursements, deposit for next strider meeting and deposit for Strider Christmas Party

Membership/stride4fun (George Moriarty) – Miriam and George coordinating efforts to completely update membership roster. Initial clean up eliminated non-active members, out of towners etc. Further updates to be finalized through signmeup.com and paper applications.

Shirt Distribution and Promo Items (Lee Greb)-

Many members have shown an interest in more Strider apparel than just singlets. Ideas include seat covers, hats, car decal. Lou Thrash to research cost and availability of such apparel.

Lou will also work on possibilities of new logo with Chris Sosa

Half Marathon (Lisa Ruthven, Stacy Stepler) – Current Updates:

* City of Houston: Met with Todd (Mayor's office of Special Events) at the end of June to review permits etc needed, Met with city on July 10th to discuss course - Still no resolution on course

* New sponsor! Whole Foods will sponsor the post-race party. They will provide water, energy bars, and fruit. Sweet Leaf Tea will also be at the post-race party

* Registration numbers: 173 registrants (as of Monday afternoon)

* Houston (& others) Fit Programs - giving \$3 discount to fit participants, inline with HARRA discount: Looking for volunteers to go out to Fit programs to sign runners up for race

* Beginning to recruit volunteers through Stridelines ad, Sign ups tonight, Emails will be sent to Stride 4 fun

* Packet pick up: Due to feedback from the running community we will again offer packet mail outs at an additional \$3 to cover the cost of postage and mailing supplies, Packet pickup at Katy and Woodlands locations of Luke's will be eliminated, Koala will host packet pick up at their downtown location on Saturday, October 18th 8:00 a.m. – noon

* Advertising: Inside Texas Running (September & October) and Runner Triathlete News (September), Electronic advertising with ITR and RTN, Competitor Texas magazine (September issue)

* New website & brochure: Chris Sosa has designed new website and brochure, Lee Baughman will update the website so all is cohesive

* Timing: Gary Mulvihill will again provide timing services for the race, the disposable tag system will be used - was used successfully at July 4th race

* Awards/Volunteer T-shirts/Finishers' Shirts/Medals – awaiting bids from Ts Awards and More: Looking at new awards - something more traditional for the winners and smaller ones for the age group winners, Medals will be different this year, The finishers' shirt will be revealed at the post-race party

* Volunteer appreciation party! Saturday, November 1st Mission Burritos on Durham 10:00 – noon.

Volunteer Efforts (Michelle Chang)

Volunteer Recruitment will be implemented through Stride4fun. Information and volunteer forms to be distributed at this evenings' meeting

Relay Coordination (Chip Maxa) –

Approximately 10 teams have been put together for HARRA cross country relay

HARRA update (Steve Schroeder)

Help is needed to coordinate “Just For Kids” event, HARRA “party in the Park” set for August 23 8:30 – 10:30. Saturday morning run will be scheduled in Memorial Park to draw more members to the event. Strider volunteers needed to help set up tent and to promote/register participants for ½ marathon

Governance Committee (Megan Clark-Dillingham)

*The committee suggests board meetings be conducted on a day different from scheduled club meetings, and **all board meetings** (time, date, location) must be posted in *Stridelines*, on the Web site or advertised via e-mail blast to all members.

*Cheryl Harding has stepped down from the committee due to personal commitments.

* To clarify from previous board discussion – all currently labeled AT-LARGE MEMBERS are DIRECTORS of the board. Leadership (PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER) are OFFICERS and the remainder of the board are DIRECTORS. This is just semantics; the only place AT-LARGE is listed is in *Stridelines*.

Nominating Committee

*Worked well in 2007, early 2008

*Would be ideal to present slate of nominees (as recommend by the nominating committee) two months in advance

*Other nominations can be accepted from the floor from club meeting prior to election

*Continue to allow president to select nominating committee chair, but ask that

members of committee continue to represent all aspects of the club; volunteers also may be accepted to participate in the nominating process

*Call for nominations needs to be advertised in *Stridelines* and via e-mail blast

*Officer and director nominees must be active club members; nominating committee members should be active members of the club

*Timeline: Nominating committee put together three months prior to elections; Slate announced two months prior to elections; Additional nominations from floor or other means announced one month prior

Elections

*Suggest online voting

*Can be completed absentee or live and in person at scheduled club meeting (computers would need to be available at meeting for voting)

*Each family/individual will be allowed an appropriate vote with nominating/governance committee cross checking votes against master membership list

Other Matters

Strider Warm Up Series Dates (some courses may change due to construction)

- Bear Creek 10K/20K – Sunday Oct 19
- Tour de Memorial: Saturday, Nov 22
- Christmas Lights Run: Wed, Dec 10
- Longest Long Run: Sun Dec 28 @6am (3weeks prior to Houston Marathon) – Suggestion to have runners sign waivers for safety, have a check-in/check-out roster to locate runners that may need assistance, have water stations and possible SAG vehicle
- Resolution Run: Thursday Jan 1 – location to be changed to Memorial Park to allow alcohol for post run celebrations. Suggestion to coordinate efforts through HARRA to include other local clubs and a good community/PR opportunity