

## Strider Board Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2008

By Lou Thrash

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

**Also in attendance:** Lisa Ruthven, Stacy Stepler, Helen Grant, Dave Stadnick, Megan Clark-Dillingham, Kate Hallaway, Angela Martinez, Allison Stewart, Barry Chambers, John Yoder, Jack Rubalcava

### **Board Member/Committee Chair Reports**

**President** (Whitney La Rocca) – Whitney announced her decision to step down as President of the Houston Striders due to personal reasons.

**Vice President** (Miriam Terc) – No report.

**Secretary** (Lou Thrash) – Marketing update. Interest has been expressed in ordering seat covers with Strider logo for members to purchase. The “All Sport” cover is being considered from SeatShield Inc. It is waterproof, odor proof and machine washable. In addition, shoe ID tags will be ordered also with Strider logo, from SmartID. Hats/visors will also be priced out.

**Treasurer** (Andrew Keller) – General Ledger was distributed. The club account is on target with current budget.

**Membership/stride4fun** (Dave Stadnick) –

Completed-Membership data has been moved into a database similar to that used by Lee Baughman. The database approach is very flexible which makes it easy to respond to various questions and uses for the data.

The membership data has been cleaned up and inconsistencies addressed as required. The Board should be aware of inconsistencies and

address them either ratifying the approach taken or providing alternative direction.

Active- Membership is being verified. Three email requests so far sent to non-verified members asking them to confirm their status.

Assistance required- Currently 39 members are not verified. Six members do not have an email address. Need members to volunteer to call and ask them to confirm membership.

Future

1. Courtesy email to inactive members confirming they do not wish to re-enroll.
2. Sign-up requests to current members to renew 1/1/09.
3. Request to non-HARRA members to consider joining HARRA.
4. Address confirmation to members with a Strider address different from their HARRA address.

*Household memberships typically have 2 or more voting members. So, our count of voting members is higher than the membership count. After completing verification our count of voting members will be slightly under 500.*

New membership form was proposed and approved with slight modification to wording. Any members renewing this year will be asked to fill out entire form to update info.

### **Governance Report (Megan Clark-Dillingham)**

Committee is waiting for club to vote on revision of by-laws so changes can be implemented. Proposal for vote at general meeting w/absentee ballot available then and at upcoming events

- Nominating Committee will begin for 2009 Board elections. This committee will grow out of the governance committee and will meet second week in December. Goal is for less Board turnover. Board members not committed to serve in 2009 to email Whitney asap.

## Half Marathon (Lisa Ruthven, Stacy Stepler) –

### 1. Numbers

	2007	2008	diff	% diff
Registered runners	2760	2665	-95	-3.44%
Half finishers	2187	2074	-113	-5.17%
Relay finishers	110	109	-1	-0.91%
Total finishers	2407	2292	-115	-4.78%
Registered non-finishers	353	373	20	5.67%
% finishers to registrants	87.21%	86.00%		

### 2. Donations

- a. ATO – approval for \$7,500
- b. Houston Food Bank --  
\$1/finisher = \$2,292

3. Comments/Suggestions: Comments from runners and volunteers and suggestions for next year are welcomed, please email
4. Leftovers: Food to various charities and Finisher's Shirts given as door prizes
5. Next year date: Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>.  
Compiling notebook and meeting in January/February to discuss in depth

## SMART Program

Heather Thompson has stepped down as the training coach. New training program to be revamped in February after marathon.

## HARRA Report (Helen Grant)-

HARRA is working on updating membership. Request for member to note club affiliation and verify through HARRA @ general meeting and Holiday party. Members are asked to notify HARRA and Striders of volunteer hours. Members must be signed up with Striders and HARRA to score points in Fall Series and to receive Race of the Quarter reimbursement. Discussion of resetting Strider renewal date to coincide with HARRA at next board meeting.

Social coordinator: (Kate Hallaway)

Strider Holiday party set for Tuesday, December 2 at the Crown Plaza downtown. Valet parking is included. Cost is \$20 per person for members - \$ to be collected at general meeting and upcoming runs.

Door Prizes: year membership to Striders, Singlets and entry into the KOALA ½ will be considered.

## Volunteers

Volunteers are needed for water @ 30K and at Strider table (mile 21) at Houston Marathon – contact Michelle Chang.

Texas Independence Relay: TIR has contacted Striders requesting a volunteer team of 10-12 people to travel with race to man water stations. Striders would be given a free team entry in return.

## Other Matters

Tour de Hershey: Set from request to get off streets. 3 water stations and progressive meal to be offered. Parking available

RRCA holding a Texas Club Conference in Dallas on Saturday December 13 from 11-3pm. interested board members to send request to Whitney.