

BKVR General Membership Meeting, 12/06/2023 – 6:30 – 7:45 pm

Present: Ruth Jones, Judy Raffone, Jennifer Sharp, Gail Wood, Elisa Donato, Matt Vernon, Mark Kelsey, Anita Gabalski.

1. Review of Minutes BOD meeting 10/25/2023 – approved.
2. Membership and renewals – There are 32 active members, a few renewals for 2024. Suzy will give a breakdown of single, family and total for family members before the end of the month as we'll need that for RRCA renewal.
3. Treasurer report – Total deposits \$2818.09, expenditures \$1200 (for ROTT Timing), current balance \$16,965.56. Upcoming expenses total \$3600 (~\$700 RRCA membership, \$400 Arlington Community house, \$2500 scholarships) leaving account balance \$13,354.56.
4. Certificate of Deposit – Anita proposed putting money into a 6 or 9-month CD to earn a little more money given our current balance. Discussion ensued about amount with decision to place \$5000 to cover the cost of scholarships for 2024 (which wouldn't be paid until January 2024). Anita will pursue.
5. QuickBooks accounting: Judy presented a sample of reports from QuickBooks. Need to complete entries from the monthly checking statements and adjust some category names. We will be able to see income from membership as well as races with ability to attribute expenses to each race. Judy will forward to board for review once completed.
6. Becky and Len Kolter remembrance – plan was to donate but still not certain to which organization. Tom did not have information when contacted. Judy will reach out to John Toth of the Lion's Club.
7. ACH storage – no further information but lots of purging has been done. In spring, will pull out the tent to check its condition and then decide its fate.
8. 501(c)(3) status: Judy has information from RRCA but requires some minor By-Laws revisions as well as a Conflict-of-Interest policy. Judy will complete it and send to Board members for review.
9. Annual dinner – January date for West Mountain Inn 1/20/24 – 5 pm. Total estimated cost ~\$50/person with a 3-course meal, cash bar. The board agreed to fund \$20/person toward the cost. Deadline for reservation/payment will be 1/13/24. E-mails will be sent to membership; Judy will post on website along with a way to pay via the website if desired but at a higher cost to cover the PayPal fees. Matt will reach out to a potential speaker. There will be a brief meeting in addition but primarily a social evening.
10. Election of officers, board members for 2024 – nominations due at the next meeting.
11. BKVR races
 - a. Running of the Turkeys (ROTT) –Total revenue was \$7,073.95. Judy noted it was a group effort with BKVR members volunteering as well as getting non-member help, Gail getting raffle prizes, member donations of dollars and food for prizes (Anita with 3 apple pies) and food raffle items (Suzy), as well as cookies for runner food. ROTT orange beanie and age group BKVR logo insulated lunch bags seemed to be well received. As was the raffle. There were 295 registered runners and 9 children for the kids run. presented.

Discussion for improvements for next year: no dogs inside the building (signs are already made), improved signage for registration with better separation of pre-registered and day of registration, improved flow for day of registration to get them their bling, options for raffle with BKVR Logo items and food baked by members rather than asking businesses for donations, blocking access to other areas of the school, pace flags at the start line, more cones at the race finish turn to prevent running on lawn and mud ruts.

Discussion about dogs in the race as dogs and strollers are strongly discouraged by RRCA. There were issues with dogs this year. Consensus, strollers must be at the back of the runners, participants who insist upon dogs will start 2 minutes behind other racers.

There was \$19 in Vintage T-shirt donations, \$ 105 in BKVR Logo wear sales and a \$100 donation given on an entry. The vintage T-shirt donations were ear-marked for the funds for the Fisher Elementary playground. Judy proposed \$500 as donation given our current financials. Gail noted this was in keeping with our mission to promote fitness. Moved and second to approve the donation. Judy will reach out to Deanne LaCoste, principal at Fisher.

- b. Zem-Benn Road Race – We will be spear heading the race organization. Judy will reach out to the Zemianek’s to see if they are going to tackle the race timing or if we need to secure Underwood Timing. The theme is Cinco De Mayo (since it will be May 5th). Thinking about age group prizes as succulents (which was done the last time it was May 5th. The cost for local acquisition will be ascertained.
- c. 4 on the Fourth –on hiatus. Race director needed for next year. There are still lots of T-shirts that could be used. Judy proposed running it on River Road in semi-informal manner – low entry fees, T-shirts (first come, first serve for what we have in storage), summer picnic fruits as post-race fare (watermelon, etc.). Will discuss more at future meetings.
- d. Wandering Witches Trail Run – October – race director needed – tabled for this meeting.
- e. Kid’s “Marathon” – lots of T-shirts. Consideration to participate with local schools and they “finish” the Marathon at the Zem-Benn. Will discuss further at a later meeting. – tabled for this meeting

NEXT MEETING: January 20, 2024, 5:30 pm in person at West Mountain Inn in combination with our BKVR Winter Club dinner.

Submitted by Judy Raffone.