

***River Region Runners (R3) Board of Directors Meeting
May 13, 2014***

The R3 Board of Directors meeting was held at Cucos Restaurant in Montgomery, Alabama. All members of the board were invited. Dave Stever, President, opened the meeting at 6:09 PM.

Officers and other Attendees Present

Dave Stever – President	Barb Stever
Beth Johnson – Vice President	John Johnson
Kevin Banning – Treasurer	West Marcus
Janet Arant – Co-Secretary	Irene Tyner
Patti Preston – Membership Chair	
Jim Larkins – Equipment Manager	
Pete Preston – Past President	
Ron Macksoud – R3 Communications & Promotions Coordinator	

Meeting Minutes

Proposed Changes to Bylaws

Dave Stever explained that there are two proposed changes to the River Region Runners (R3) Constitution and Bylaws. The first proposal is to realign the current membership year of June 1st through May 31st with that of the national RRCA membership year, which is from January 1st through December 31st. The second proposal is to offer an extended membership for anyone who joins by May 31, 2014. Membership for those who join by May 31, 2014 would extend through to December 31, 2015. This would be fair and would also eliminate the need to prorate memberships. For anyone who joins after May 31, 2014 the membership would begin from the day of joining through December 31, 2015.

Jim Larkins referenced the *River Region Runners Constitution and Bylaws*, renumbered Article V, Section 4. The membership “fiscal year” will need to be revised to reflect the proposed new membership year dates (January 1 - December 31). Changing the R3 fiscal year will also require a change to Article VI, Section 5 (was Section 4), regarding term of office dates. Section 5 states, “Terms of office shall be for one year or until such time as club elections are held beginning with or at the close of the first meeting within the fiscal year and in no case beginning no later than August 31.” In discussing new club election dates, John Johnson pointed out that January will be the start of the new fiscal year. Dave Stever requested that the election dates be changed to a more generic term such as “two months prior to the fiscal year,” since the elections would take place in November. The current officers would stay in office until the end of the year (2014), and the new officers would assume office on January 1. Dave Stever added that “Jim Larkins can word it later as long as the concept is understood.” Instead of “August each year” say “elections will be held two months prior to the fiscal year.” To avoid the holiday season, Dave suggested an October election. John stated that a three-month transition would be better anyway. Therefore, the bylaws should state “three months prior to the end of the year,” instead of specifying the month of October. To provide the club with more leeway, the proposed change states elections will be held 60-90 days before the start of the new fiscal year. The bylaws state that the club's Board of Directors includes four officers, four “Members-At-Large of the Board of Directors,” and the club's immediate past president. All will be elected except

the immediate past president, who is an ex officio member. Jim Larkins pointed out that we currently have the club's constitution and bylaws on the Internet although Facebook is now more popular. Dave Stever recommended displaying the R3 Constitution and Bylaws only on the club's website at this time.

Dave Stever stated that in some past elections members who had just joined the club had volunteered to run for office. There was discussion about introducing a new rule that would prevent this from happening in the future, such as a prerequisite for being “a member in good standing for 6-months.” John Johnson suggested that we expand on the term “member” to specify that a member must have attended a certain number of meetings for a minimum membership period of 6 months. This would allow members such as Wesley and Andrea Cure, who both jumped in to help out even though they had been members for only a short period of time, to run for office. Beth Johnson proposed using the term “active member” to avoid members who pay dues but do not actively participate. The voting will recognize those who are active members versus those who make a lot of noise but don't contribute, or others who show up just for the election meeting.

See the attachment for specific information on the recommended changes and corrections to the R3 Constitution and Bylaws.

Dave Stever pointed out that at the previous election there were people who walked into the meeting at the last minute, requesting to be candidates, which required an “on the spot” decision. There was discussion about new rules that would prevent this from happening, such as a prerequisite such as “a member in good standing for 6-months.” This would allow members such as Wesley and Andrea Cure, who both jumped in to help out even though they had been members for only a short period of time, to run for office. Beth Johnson proposed using the term “active member” to avoid members running for office that pay dues but do not contribute. The voting will recognize those who are active members versus those who make a lot of noise but don't contribute, or those who show up just for the election meeting.

Labor Day Run

Dave Stever gave an update on Labor Day Run. Ron Macksoud has taken care of the t-shirts, entry forms and publicity. Irene Tyner has the awards. Pete Preston will help with the course marking and water stations but will need volunteers for the water stations. Beth Johnson will contact Avery Ainsworth and Ron Macksoud will send group e-mails and post on Facebook about the need for volunteers. Dave Stever will send Ron Macksoud the wording for the notifications. Dave Stever will set up registration on “active.com.”

Ron Macksoud and Irene Tyner suggested a price break for members who register up until a certain date. Irene Tyner added that we lost money at the previous Labor Day Run, and although we do not need to make money we should try to break even. For the previous Labor Day Run the registration was set up online for both the 8K and 2-mile races with registration fees at \$20 per person for nonmembers, \$18 for members and \$25 for all registrations on the day of race. Irene Tyner suggested that we increase the day of race registration to \$30 with no breaks for members. Pete Preston added that there is no way to verify membership the day of the race. Ron Macksoud will include the registration fees in the application. Irene Tyner stated that another expense the last time was \$500 for cash awards to R3 members. After discussion it was decided that there will be no cash awards or door prizes this year.

West Marcus reported that with the new city rules, beer from outside vendors can no longer be brought in on city property. However, the grassy area at the end of the train shed is not part of city's property; therefore beer can be set at that location. Steve from Bama Budweiser told West that it takes as much effort to set up beer for a few runners as for 500, so we need to give him an idea of how many runners we expect. Per Jim Larkins there were 134 finishers in the 2012 Labor Day Run.

Patti Preston stated that food provided at the race will include hot dogs and bananas. Other foods will be determined at a later date. West Marcus offered to cook the hot dogs and provide the grill. Dave Stever passed around a snack called "Pirate's Booty" for everyone to taste. The snack comes in ½-ounce bags that can be placed in each runner's bag for 50 cents each. Dave suggested purchasing 4 cases of 60 at \$28.94 per case.

Ron Macksoud stated that *Earth Fare* will be a sponsor, providing water and bags. There was discussion regarding other potential sponsors such as *Chick-Fil-A* and Ron Macksoud will contact them. The names of the sponsors will be printed on the t-shirts for \$200. The sponsors can also offer to supply items for the bags.

West Marcus proposed a free 50-yard "tot trot" for ages 6 and under. The race would begin at the end of the street and finish at the arch. The children would have fun running through the arch while parents take pictures. Ron Macksoud will include this on the registration form.

Barb Stever stated that the cost to rent *The Train Shed* is \$312.50 for five hours, plus \$140 each for the two required police officers. Tomorrow she will pay a \$50 processing fee for the permit to hold our reservation. Barb Stever had already submitted a copy of our RRCA insurance to the City of Montgomery, and the city approved it. Ron Macksoud will give Dave Stever the RRCA contact information so Dave can check with RRCA to ensure that the race has insurance coverage.

Per Irene Tyner we need to post small signs all around various areas of the region in order to advertise the run, adding that *Signs in One Day* has good prices. West Marcus volunteered to talk with them about the signs. Jim Larkins recommended putting paper race applications around town at places such as gyms, sporting goods stores, and at the base fitness centers. For previous Jubilee Runs *Alfa* did a lot of publicity work such as putting little posters and 5 x 7 cards around town.

Dave Stever announced that packet pick-up will be at Fleet Feet on 8/31/2014, which is the day before the race. The registration times will be determined at a later date.

John Johnson asked about volunteers for the race so the same people will not have to do everything. Dave Stever pointed out that requests for volunteers are always announced at the meetings. John Johnson suggested advertising that there is a need for volunteers and offered to create and send out a newsletter if someone will send him the list of contacts. Dave Stever suggested also using Facebook where there are already postings and photos and will give John Johnson an article for the newsletter and a mailing list that includes the officers. John Johnson also brought up for discussion the idea of setting up a chat room, which is similar to a website but designed differently and would include a moderator. The chat room would be used to disseminate club information and would include a member list so private messages could be sent. Beth Johnson presented the idea that the newsletter with a column written by Avery Ainsworth that could be called "Avery's Corner." Irene Tyner suggested also including a "President's Message."

Ron Macksoud proposed that the Labor Day Run committee meet every month up until the run. Dave Stever stated that he would work on a list of meeting dates.

Christmas Party

As announced by Barb Stever, the Christmas party will not be held at Incredible Edibles due to the \$200 fee for alcohol. Pete Peterson's Lodge was suggested because there are no fees for alcohol and costs only \$400 to book the facility. The dinner would run between \$12 and \$16 per person plus the cost of renting dishes. For rentals Barb Stever is trying to contact *A Catered Affair* and West Marcus suggested the *Little Red School House*. Per Barb Stever *Brendle Rentals* will provide place settings and tablecloths for \$200. An alternative to rentals would be to provide our own paper plates and utensils. A \$50 deposit and signed contract is required by May 20th in order to ensure availability. Patti Preston motioned to have the Christmas Party at Pete Peterson's Lodge. Pete Preston seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by President Dave Stever at 7:15 PM.

David Stever
President
River Region Runners

Attachment:
Proposed changes to the R3 Constitution and Bylaws