



Prairie StridersTM

Running Club

BROOKINGS, SD EST. 1969

run@prairiestriders.net

www.prairiestriders.net

Box 504, Brookings, SD 57006

Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2023

Noon, Mills Construction, 1311 S. Main Ave., and via Teams:

Present: Dave Graves, president; Jay Larsen, treasurer; Matt Bien, Dani Bohn, Harry Mansheim, Brett Pettigrew. Present via Teams: Kati Merkley.

1. Approved **Dec. 5 minutes** for posting on website.

2. Review 2023 financial report — Jay Larsen

Highlights: Jay pointed to the Reed Hart estate gift of \$20,000 in 2014. Thanks to beneficial investing through First Bank & Trust, there is still \$17,000 in the account despite the purchase of \$13,000 worth of equipment. In 2023, the fund earned \$1,665.

Apart from that, the club had an income of \$5,452 in 2023, primarily through dues (\$810) and donations (\$3,670). Expenses in 2023 were \$5,857 plus a \$1,750 scholarship that occurred in 2024 but should be assigned to 2023 expenses. That would make the total 2023 loss \$2,155.

Larsen noted the Jan. 1 checking account balance is \$8,157 minus \$1,750 for the scholarship and \$4,502 dedicated to the Harvey Mills Longest Day 10K, making the current available balance \$1,905.

The donation breakdown was \$1,750 to the scholarship, \$1,920 for general club needs, and \$400 for other requests. There were 102 members who paid the \$5 annual dues, plus three new life members (\$100 in 2023) and a total of 274 members with 126 life members.

3. Act on 2024 budget — Jay Larsen

Highlights: Total income is budgeted at \$6,075 with \$4,100 from donations and \$1,100 in dues. Expenses are pegged at \$7,427, which includes \$3,600 in gifts to the scholarship fund. That includes the \$1,750 that was paid in 2023. The only other major items are \$1,200 for equipment (general items) and \$800 for bibs and associated software costs.

Both the financial report and budget were approved on a unanimous voice vote.

4. Consider participation in 3rd annual Warrior Wellness Week at SDSU —

A week dedicated to mental health, wellness, and self-care. Monday, Feb. 26, thru Saturday, March 2. Each day will focus on a different dimension(s) of wellness.

As no volunteer was available, Dave Graves notified the organizer that the club will not be able to help.

5. Introduce race directors

A. Arbor Day 5K — Daniel Radtke. Dan wasn't present. Dave Graves reported that Dan is a 2019 SDSU graduate and a four-year member of the distance program. He currently is plant manager at MTR Technologies, Brookings.

B. Brookings Marathon — Dani Bohn, a human resource generalist at Twin Cities Fan, was present to share a little about herself and the race. While she hasn't directed a race before, she has run the Brookings Marathon twice and is a frequent participant in Prairie Striders races. In fact, she picked up her frequent racing certificate at the meeting.

As for the race, shirts and medals have been ordered. Rough signup numbers are 40 in the full and 60 in the half. No major changes are planned in this transition year.

The theme is "55 and Staying Alive," reflecting on the 55th running of the race.

The new volunteer coordinator is Natalie Buenger.

C. Ramrod for Hoyt running chair — Suzy Gehring, Title I reading teacher Dakota Prairie Elementary School, has agreed to be the advocate for running chair the club purchased in 2022. Dave Graves will contact her in advance of the Arbor Day 5K.

6. Advertising in Brookings Park & Rec Guide

Options

- **tradition race listing**
- **Promote Run4Fun Brookings**
- **Separate ad for race listings & Run4Fun Brookings** — Club members approved separate ¼-page ads. Dave Graves will coordinate copy & submit.

7. USATF discussion — Jay Larsen presented the following as informational items.

- Beef & Eggs 20th Anniversary – Saturday, July 13. USATF designated 5K Championship (2023 only had 2 USATF members, both female finishers).
- USATF Youth Junior Olympics Region 8 Championship in Aberdeen, SD July 4 – 7, 2024. Need competitors from SD. Ideas for Brookings area, Eastern area to get participants. Volunteer help is not needed. Information pending on [USATF 2024 Region 8 Junior Olympics Championships | USA Track & Field Dakotas](#) The event for ages 13 and up and was last hosted in South Dakota in 2009.

- USATF Prairie Striders Club does not sponsor coaching youth teams including practices and competitions. Coaches must pass background checks and complete SafeSport training. If needed complete coaches training Zoom 3 day Friday-Sunday and pay \$210.
- MN association provides discounts (typically \$5) for USATF members for designated races. USATF memberships may be purchased by visiting www.USATF.org. USATF adult memberships cost \$40 and youth memberships cost \$25. There was brief discussion about the club providing a race entry discount (\$5?) for USATF members.

Race director reports

- Indoor 5K — Jan. 20 — Dave Graves/Jay Larsen — Ninth annual running, records set in men's open and women's open and masters. 50 total registered; 44 runners; finances — net of \$1,030 with \$400 to the SDSU Track and Field excellence fund and \$400 to the scholarship at SDSU.

Miscellaneous

1. **Newsletter update** — Dave Graves — Dave is compiling copy and hopes to have to the printer by Feb. 9 or 12.

2. **Spring CPR courses** at Miller Wellness Center's large conference room. [To register, please visit the Miller Wellness Center website.](#)

Members are encouraged to pick a date and take advantage of this training, with the club reimbursing the cost. Sign up closes one week prior to each class.

- February 7 at 6 p.m. February 13 at 3 p.m. February 22 at 3 p.m.
- March 4 at 3 p.m. March 26 at 3 p.m.
- April 3 at 6 p.m. April 10 at 3 p.m. April 16 at 3 p.m.

Note: please notify Dave Graves with your class choice. You will then be registered through the Wellness Center and the club will receive one bill from the center.

Next meeting – Noon, Tuesday, April 2, at Mills Construction, 1311 S. Main Ave.

Note: No meeting in March. Bob Bartling library report