



# ***Prairie Striders***<sup>TM</sup>

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## ***Running Club***

**BROOKINGS, SD EST. 1969**

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**Tuesday, April 6, 2021**

Noon, via Zoom link: <https://sdstate.zoom.us/j/93514071490>

Present: Dave Graves, president; Nancy Scholl, vice president; Jay Larsen, treasurer; Matt Bien, John Blatchford, Steve Britzman, Andy Carlson, Chris Gruenhagen, Randy Hanson, Shari Landmark.

### **Business Items**

1. Approved **March 2 minutes** for posting on website.
2. Discussed applying for up to \$10,000 in funding from Brookings **Women Without Limits**  
Nancy Scholl explained this is a new group of 60 women that hopes to grow to 100 women. Each woman contributes \$100 every six months and that money is awarded to a nonprofit every six months.  
Any participant can nominate a 501 3 c organization. Five semifinalists are chosen and one selected. The next award cycle will be in February. Nominations need to submit by Oct. 1 so a final plan isn't needed this meeting.  
Several ideas were discussed, including purchasing new running shoes or spikes for needy 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders in the Brookings School District, possibly partnering with Fit My Feet, Brookings. Nancy said we may want to broaden the outreach to allow purchase of any type of shoe, also to try to reach out to others who don't run.  
Nancy asked that people continue think of ideas. The proposal will be revisited at the Aug. 3 meeting and Nancy will work with other club members to finalize before Oct. 1.
3. **Reviewed the initial group run** April 5. Organizer Andy Carlson estimated there were 20 runners present, "a solid start." He discussed running the route in the reverse direction next time. Randy Hanson offered to give away past Hobo Day mugs at each group run. 5:30 p.m. first Thursday of the month, May-September, starting and finishing at Wooden Legs Brewing Co., downtown Brookings.

- Next run is 5:30 p.m. **THURSDAY**, May 6, with Becka Foerster and Randy Hanson as leaders. To lead paces at future group runs, see the SignUp Genius link on the Group Run page on the Prairie Striders website. **Note** change in day from Mon to Thursday.

#### 4. **Update on purchases:**

1. **New clock** — Jay Larsen gave a video demonstration of the new timing clock, which has six timing digits 6" high and viewable from 250 feet. He said it is simple to operate and weighs only 15 pounds. The battery is within the unit and is rechargeable. The internal battery is replaceable for less than \$100.

It was purchased directly from the manufacturer and has a two-year warranty.

With the purchase of a \$116 carrying case, the cost is \$806.

The tripod from the Daktronics unit won't work, so the club will either need to buy a new tripod (\$125) or find a way to adapt our current tripod. Jay is to contact Monteith Welding, Brookings.

There is no remote start.

2. **Portable audio system** — Randy Hanson reported he bought a cordless mic to accompany the new audio system and it works well. His purchase has been reimbursed. He will meet with John Blatchford in advance of the Arbor Day 5K to review the system.

#### 5. **Membership dues and donations update**

Jay Larson reported 88 checks have been received since renewals were sent out; of those 26 came from life members. Eight new life members have been added as well as four new annual members. Total receipts are \$5,378 with \$2,290 designated for scholarships.

#### 6. **SDSU Team RWB partnering with Longest Day 10k** for fun 5k or kids run that day?

Shari Landmark reported on Team RWB (red, white and blue), an organization designed to enhance the lives of veterans. SDSU is the first University Chapter partnership in the country. Campus contact is Connie Johnson, veterans service officer. The first meeting was March 17. There is one program/activity a month.

The June activity is the same weekend as the Longest Day, so Shari thought making Longest Day the activity for that month made sense. Longest Day director Chris Gruenhagen had earlier said by email that he would be interested in having Team RWB lead the kids run.

Matt Bien asked if Team RWB could assist in the marathon. Shari is to check on that.

For more information on Team RWB: <https://www.teamrwb.org/>

## **Miscellaneous**

- **Membership demographics** – Jay Larsen

The age groups totals 157:

2	20-29	1%
17	30-39	11%
18	40-49	12%
34	50-59	22%
43	60-69	27%
24	70-79	15%
14	80-89	9%
4	90-99	3%
1	100+	

In summary age groups 60 and over are 54% and 76% for 50+  
However, birthdates were not on membership forms in the 2010s

- **Skedaddle volunteer request** — 605 Running Co., Sioux Falls, is looking for help with its half marathon April 25. Helped needed April 24-25. To sign up, go to:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0a45aeaf2ea5fa7-20211>

- **Newsletter** — Next issue late April — electronic

### ***Race directors reports:***

- **Arbor Day 5K** April 30 — John Blatchford reports the race will be run at Dakota Nature Park, he is working with Stacy Claussen, recreation manager, and department director Dusty Rodiek. Trees have been ordered and city volunteers to help with refreshments.

To put registration on PS website to encourage advanced sign-ups. Expect sanctioning in the next day or two. Randy Hanson to lead on the bike. Shari Landmark suggested using Instagram to reach college students, she will help with this. She noted that Facebook and Instagram accounts can be linked, so the club needs to start an Instagram account. Dave is to ask Trevor Penning, our webmaster, to do that.

- **Brookings Marathon weekend** May 14-15 — Matt Bien

Preparation is on track. Waiting for medals and shirts to arrive. Needing volunteers.

Individuals who would like to volunteer should send emails to [run@brookingsmarathon.com](mailto:run@brookingsmarathon.com).

- **Jack 15** — Sept. 25 — Dave Graves mentioned that Paul Ekern has stepped aside as a race director, so another assistant director is needed. If you have someone to suggest, please contact Dave Graves at [run@prairiestriders.net](mailto:run@prairiestriders.net)

***Next meeting – May 4***