



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

## ***Running Club***

**BROOKINGS, SD EST. 1969**

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**Tuesday, April 7, 2020**

Noon, via Zoom link:

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

### **Business Items**

1. Approved **Feb. 11 minutes** for posting on website
  
2. **Discussed a \$100 donation** to Healing Words Foundation (founded by Dr. Rick Holm and Joanie Holm) in memory of Dr. Rick Holm. Rick and Joanie have been Prairie Striders members and supporters since 2007.

There was considerable discussion about the purpose of the foundation (supporting the Prairie Doc communications), if it was in line with our donation guidelines and if this amount was in line with other memorial gifts given.

Motion was approved to donate \$100 to Healing Words Foundation.
  
- 2.B. Out of this discussion, a motion was made for the club to **draft a policy regarding memorial gifts**. Points to consider included that the deceased was a club member, at a minimum, and that the use of funds match the mission of the club.

An amendment to the motion is that the policy would be brought back to the club for approval.

Both the amendment and the original motion passed. Dave Graves and Nancy Scholl will create a draft to present at a future meeting.
  
3. **Membership dues and donations update.** — Via email, Jay Larsen provided an update on dues and donations from Jan. 1 through March 31. Dues received total \$640, including two new life members. Donations from 69 members total \$2,855 with \$1,910 toward the scholarship and \$945 for the club.

There are a total of 257 members, with 104 life members.

4. **Discuss remainder of club's race schedule re: COVID-19.**

**Arbor Day 5K** — April 24 — canceled

**I'm Ready for Summer Triathlon** — April 25 — Race director Shari Landmark reported that after SDSU announced April 6 that no events will be allowed on campus until Aug. 15, she decided to cancel the 20<sup>th</sup> edition of the race.

The race won't be carried over into 2021, however, she does hope to stage a virtual event. More is to be decided when race organizers meet next week. Those who complete that event will receive race medals, the only major expense that the race has already undertaken. Full refunds will be offered to those wishing them.

Landmark noted that three other South Dakota triathlons scheduled for the summer have canceled; no make-up date was planned.

**Longest Day 10K — June 20** — Race director Chris Gruenhagen said he was still holding out hope for the race, but a virtual race is possible. The 605 Running Club gift certificates could be given out at random to those who compete in the virtual race. His schedule wouldn't permit rescheduling until fall.

**Brookings Marathon — May 16** — It was earlier postponed to Sept. 12 and race director Matt Bien is hopeful, but a virtual race is possible. For those who have signed up already, they can transfer registration to Sept. 12 (automatic), switch to 2021 or consider their registration a donation to the Boys and Girls Club. Registration is tentatively to reopen July 1.

5. **Alternative activities during social distancing**

- Virtual group runs — Shari mentioned an Alumni Association Jackrabbit 5K virtual run that was on the association's website. We could share that on the PS Facebook page.

6. **Nike letter** — Matt Bien read a letter received from Nelson Farris, a 47-year employee of Nike. It was intended for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary book for the Brookings Marathon, but didn't arrive in time. Matt had the letter framed and will be presented to Bob Bartling.

The letter reads, in part: "The dedication that Bob and the Prairie Striders have shown to the sport through the Brookings Marathon and other races serves as an inspiration to runners all over the world."

**Miscellaneous**

**Newsletter update** — Emily Berzonsky is editing and designing the spring issue. Most of the articles are in her possession.

**Friend of Running update** — Will hold off on awarding until we can gather in person.

***Next meeting – Tentatively, noon, May 5, over Zoom. Will touch base in April and send out notice via email.***