



# **Prairie Striders™**

## **Running Club**

**BROOKINGS, SD EST. 1969**

[run@praiestriders.net](mailto:run@praiestriders.net)

[www.praiestriders.net](http://www.praiestriders.net)

Box 504, Brookings, SD 57006

**Tuesday, June 11, 2019**

Noon, Mission Coffeehouse meeting room

Present: Dave Graves, president; Jay Larsen, treasurer; Bob Bartling, Matt Bien, Steve Britzman, Rod DeHaven, Chris Gruenhagen, Brett Pettigrew

1. Approved **May 7 minutes** for posting on website
2. **Approved guidelines for donation requests to the club** — Jay Larsen presented a draft policy that gives a preference to organizations with a mission aligned with Prairie Striders. Following some minor tweaking, the policy was approved on unanimous voice vote. The finished product is to be posted on the club's website.
3. Update on **\$50,000 for 50 Years** — Jay Larsen reported an increase of \$200 since the May meeting bringing the total to approximately \$73,700 with a goal of \$75,000.
4. **Club's 50 anniversary:** — Sept. 28 @ South Dakota Art Museum gallery. Organizer — Lou Eggebraaten to assist Nancy Scholl with "day of" activities. Program — Scotty Kwas considering being our emcee. **Names suggested for interview panel:** Jay Dirksen, club founder, his availability is uncertain; Dellas Cole, radio announcer and former event helper; Lou Eggebraaten, first female club president; Shari Landmark, former president and longtime leader. Send other suggestions to [run@praiestriders.net](mailto:run@praiestriders.net).  
It also was suggested to have a slide show with an historical span of photos and anecdotes from Scotty Roberts' book "Becoming a South Dakotan."  
Food — Hy-Vee provided \$100 for cake; SDSU ice cream costs \$36 per 3-gal container. **Consider purchase of pop-up banner** — (Square One Productions estimate: 28 to 32 inches wide by 72 to 84 inches high, good quality material, full color with text and artwork, \$250 plus \$40 to \$100 for design time.  
There was considerable discussion on whether this was a good investment with concerns about its durability outside. A motion was made and approved to find out more information on its suitability for outside use before voting.

(Note: Dave contacted Val at Square One Productions. The material is suitable for outside use, but not the stand. It would need additional support. She has not tried producing any with wind holes. "That would be an experiment," Val said.

5. **Discuss future of "I'm Ready for Summer" Triathlon** — After speaking with Shari Landmark, Dave reported that the triathlon will need new management needed for 2021 if it is to continue. No one within the Wellness Center has an interest in directing it. Triathlon participant David Ulmschmid of Brookings is considering, but said he wanted to talk to some potential helpers before committing.
6. **Request for funds — Brookings Marathon book – graphic designer** — Matt Bien presented a request for club help in funding design of a 50-year history book of the Brookings Marathon. He has a quote for \$895 from an affiliate of Blurb, which is based out of Boston. A local quote was for \$6,800. The Blurb affiliate would produce a lower quality journal-style book, a high-quality glossy book and an electronic version. Actual bound copies would be paid for separately by the buyer. The motion was unanimously approved to pay the expense out of the Reed Hart estate funds maintained by First Bank and Trust.
7. **Consider joining Brookings Chamber of Commerce.** This was presented after an email was received encouraging membership (\$300 full year, \$175 through December.) There was no support for this.

## **Miscellaneous**

1. **Librarian's report** — Evaluation of Chase Cayo's paper on PS. Bob reports that Chase's report needs a lot of help. Matt and Jay agreed to look at it. It also was suggested that Emily Berzonsky might be willing to edit it for use by the club.
2. **Newsletter** — June issue is ready to go out, but former webmaster Kevin Smith was out of country and new webmaster Trevor Penning hasn't learned how. Kevin created a how-to video and sent it out later Tuesday. Next issue in Aug/Sept.
3. **Race directors** — sponsorship levels re: interest by Falcon Plastics. A sheet was circulated among those in attendance. Dave presented the information to Falcon Plastics marketing rep later Tuesday. She expressed interest and in response to a question, was told she could write one check to Prairie Striders and the treasurer could write individual checks to races they choose to sponsor.
4. **Sanford-Jackrabbit Athletic Complex trophy cases** — Rod DeHaven thanked the group for its donation for a trophy case and said one shelf will be available for use for Prairie Striders in an effort to maintain the legacy between the track/cross country program and the club. The trophy cases are to be installed by this fall.

## **Race director reports**

- **Brookings Marathon weekend May 10-11** — Matt Bien

Weather/Rain leading up to event created many course issues. Fortunately remedied just in time for race day. Will be looking at course changes to avoid Sexauer and gravel road. Still in discussion with Park and Rec in regard to use of Nature Park.

The weather cooperated on race day, which was one of the best weather days in years. No major race day issues. Great volunteers. Records set in women's half and men's marathon masters. Runner feedback positive.

To celebrate the 50th, recognized 15 past champions/honored guests at the awards ceremony and post race event at The 9 Bar. Great feedback from runners on the post race event, and we many look to incorporate something similar in upcoming years. To cover costs, looking into a small increase in our relatively low race fees and/or seeking additional sponsors.

We had built reserves to help cover expected increase in costs for this year's 50th running and special celebration. Donation to Boys and Girls Club will be down this year but hope to return to prior levels in subsequent years.

Race committee met after the event. Matt Bien entering 16th year with event and 14th as director. Matt would consider co-directing with someone who might be interested in the director role in the next few years. For now, given the strong race committee, he plans to continue as director. Committee also discussed possibly dropping to a half marathon event only, with difficulty in growing the marathon. For now, no major changes planned. We will continue to offer full/half/relay/5K and continue to improve the small town race experience.

Work continues on the 50 Year race history book. Matt Bien hopes to have completed by late summer/early fall. Database of 50 years of finishers/times now complete. Majority of content collected. Still a few pieces needed. Will propose hiring graphic design help in creating the final layout and book.

- **Longest Day 10K** June 15 — Chris Gruenhagen. Online registration being used with 15 signed up to date for the 10K and four relay teams. Slight route modifications made to accommodate soccer games starting at 9 a.m. and possibly interfering with the finish line.
- **Beef and Eggs 5K** July 13 — Kevin Bjerke — Volunteers needed for the fastest 5K in South Dakota. To help out, email Kevin at [KevinJBjerke@gmail.com](mailto:KevinJBjerke@gmail.com).

***Next meeting – noon, July 2, at Mission Coffeehouse, First Lutheran Church***