

**Arizona Road Racers Board Meetings**  
**February 18, 2019**

**Present:** Katherine, Connie, Norm, Elisabeth, Omar, Courtney, Mike, Janet, Erin

**Absent:** Paula, Hal

**I. Approval of Minutes.** Approved.

**II. Old Business.**

a. **Desert Classic.**

i. **Tablets.** The two tablets we used for registration (provided by Omar) worked, but there was a period where the hotspot was disconnected.

ii. **Truck.** The truck arrived about 15 minutes late. This caused delays in registration, mile marking and aid station setup. Next year, the truck sequence should be registration first, then the aid stations. Also next year, ARR will do the first three aid stations and Omar will do the last three.

iii. **Registration.** Next year we need to have the shirt tables and volunteers behind the registration table to allow for number assignment and shirt pickup at the same time. We also need to ensure we have enough volunteers to keep the line moving. Finally, we need to either change the t-shirt crew or train them better. People have complained.

iv. **Volunteer Coordination.** We should have two volunteer coordinators for this race next year.

v. **Food.** A food volunteer, Lynette, provided suggestions for handling food at future races: food choices should include protein (we only had carbs); pretzels and cookies were dumped into trays for people to grab by the handful, which is unsanitary; not enough water bottles; Gatorade not replenished; no napkins, plates or cups; and peanut butter and jelly were getting mixed on the knives making it dangerous for anyone with peanut allergies. We should bag loose food beforehand or have volunteers pass it out while wearing plastic gloves, ensure sufficient hand sanitizer is available and have a recycle bin for the water bottles. Lynette offered to assist with this.

vi. **Course.** There was not enough traffic control at Canyon Springs road. We need to review the course and ensure we have sufficient security or police. The security company we used was not very involved. We will not use them again.

vii. **Gear.** Shirts were more expensive than last year and mugs are more expensive than gloves. Maybe next year we should give jackets to the marathoners and half marathoners and gloves to the 10K and 5K runners.

viii. **Future of Race.** We need to decide if we want to continue the marathon. For a time, this was the only marathon in town, but now there are more and around the same time, too. 48 registered (40 participated), so it's a nice marathon for those who prefer small races. Plus, for a running club it's good to offer a marathon.

However, we may need to consider a new venue. Parking is already an issue and new homes are being built in the area, which will increase traffic.

- b. **Equipment and Staging.** Discussed elsewhere.
- c. **Finance Report.** Deferred.
- d. **Social Media & Marketing Reports.**
  - i. **Website.** Paula is updating the ARR website. It was recently hacked, so she has to recode it. This will require us to buy a new web package. Until that's done, the rest of the marketing is on hold.
  - ii. **Postcards.** Postcards have been dropped off at Sole Sports Tempe. Postcards were given to the Board at the meeting to hand out at other local running stores.
  - iii. **Race Expos.** Omar shared his table with us at the Lost Dutchman expo (no cost to ARR). We displayed the Summer Series shirt, the postcard and some medals and plaques. If we go to another expo, we need to have ARR signage. Omar's company has Mountain to Fountain (March 3), so he will let us have a table at that expo for free, too.
- e. **Social Report.** Discussed elsewhere.
- f. **Membership Communication.** Janet is working on next month's newsletter.
- g. **Membership Report.** Membership is steady, although a little better than where we were for 2018. Most membership renewals get delayed until Spring though.
- h. **Race Day Clothing Report.** Discussed elsewhere.
- i. **Race Timing.** We have to replace the tripods and magnets. Ron hit some with the truck at Desert Classic.
- j. **Race Venues.** Deferred.
- k. **Registration Report.** We need to update our refund policy for if a runner can't run a race. Omar suggested giving the runner a race credit for a future race if the runner volunteers at the race where they can't compete. Mountain to Fountain has done this over the years and it has apparently been a successful way to get race day volunteers. The Board agrees with this approach. The RunSignUp policy will need to be updated to reflect this.
- l. **Volunteer Report.**
  - i. **Volunteer Recognition Banquet.** This will be held Feb. 25 at 6:30 at the same Barro's where the Grand Prix awards were.
  - ii. **Volunteer Recognition awards (based on the most amount of**

**volunteering in 2018)**

1. Free 2019 races for volunteer of the year – to Debbie Goodwin
2. 5 free race coupons for 2<sup>nd</sup> volunteer of the year – probably to Steve Finklestein
3. Race coupon for each person who volunteer in 2018 – the Board approved.

iii. **Volunteer T-Shirts.** We should offer volunteer shirts to volunteers who sign up for all 2019 races (same front design/volunteer on back). Elisabeth suggested fluorescent green.

iv. **Jerome.** We need to attract more volunteers for the Jerome Hill Climb. The Board suggests recruiting a girl or boy scout troop (and giving them \$100) or recruiting from the Chino Valley Cross Country group.

m. **ARR Grand Prix Report.**

i. **Marketing.** Mike proposes setting up a dedicated Facebook page to communicate with participants.

ii. **Races.** People have said they want the free race to be part of the Grand Prix.

iii. **Participation.** Right now, we have about 36 participants.

n. **Recording Secretary Report.** Erin suggested revisions to the race form's liability waiver for the Board's consideration.

o. **Upcoming Races.**

i. **2019 Summer Series.**

1. **Age group medals.** In 2018 we introduced custom ARR Sumer Series medals, the same medal cast in gold, silver and bronze with different ribbons for the five different races. They were a big hit in 2018. We ordered 484 and have 86 left over. We initially planned to use the same medal design for 2019, but have different ribbons, but with the amount of leftovers, we will use the same ribbons, with the exception of SS2, since the venue has changed to the Riparian Preserve. Last year, SS2's ribbons were orange, but Norm thinks Kelly-green fits with this venue. The Board agreed. Based on the medals distributed last year, Norm thinks we can order 327. We could also put "ARR 2019" pins on each ribbon; Omar will provide his contact's information so we can get a quote. In 2020, we should move on to a new design. Norm's wife, Carol, has volunteered to swap out and stich up the new ribbons and the ribbons that we change out for SS2.

2. **Race Director.** We need a race director for SS3. Ideally it should be someone who lives in the west valley.

ii. **South Mountain Classic.** The Park Manager has approved a 4- and 8-mile race for 10/20/19.

iii. **Thanksgiving Day Classic.** Elisabeth and Norm are co-race directors. Norm will do the background work and Elisabeth will handle Wednesday and day of the race. Heather will be the volunteer director for that race, to cover Elisabeth's duties in that area.

iv. **Festivus.** Mike will be the race director. He wants the relays to be better supported.

### III. New Business.

a. **ARR's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.** ARR was incorporated on 11/20/70. If we don't celebrate it all year in 2020, then South Mountain would be the closest to that date without going past the anniversary (Thanksgiving in 2020 is 11/26).

b. **Location of next meeting.** Will be at Janet's office on 3/18/19.