

Rockford Road Runners  
Minutes - May 6, 2009  
Stockholm Inn

I. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Larry Ward.

II. Minutes –April minutes were approved as printed in the May newsletter.

III. Treasurer’s Report – Balance as of April 30 was \$4,272.68. Reports are available at meetings for members to review.

IV. President’s Remarks – No Report

V. Vice-President - No report

VI. Race Coordinator

A. Larry Swanson noted that he has been asked about the lack of races on the RRR calendar. In order to get races on the calendar, he needs to get information from the race directors. Since it is not always forthcoming on a timely basis, Larry will put tentative dates on the calendar for races that are traditionally held.

B. Larry said the Army Johnson and Red Shoe races had excellent turnouts with hundreds of runners from the Rockford area. However, there were not that many RRR members participating which brings up an interesting observation as to why more runners are not members of Rockford Road Runners.

C. Upcoming races include the Literacy Half-Marathon Saturday, May 9; Rockford Marathon, Sunday, May 17, the 9-1-1- Race Saturday, June 6, and the Pretzel 5k on Saturday, June 27.

D. There was discussion on the Northwest Passage Race held Sunday, May 3. Ed Clucas questioned why there was no recognition of age division winners. The RRR circuit standards stipulate that in order to be a circuit race, there need to be five-year age divisions and award/recognition provided. The circuit was established to improve races and set standards for local races. Discussion ensued about the \$600 prize money given that might have been better used for age division awards. Larry Swanson said alerting the Northwest Passage race director was the appropriate action to be taken in this regard.

E. Further discussion ensued about local races and the lack of marketing for them. Mike Makes said getting timely results in the newspaper and on the web site was the best way to ensure the success of a race.

VII. Communications Chair

A. Jim Simmons said the newsletter and web site are the best ways to get the word out about races.

B. Jim said he was trying to improve the newsletter with permanent sections and also was looking at improving the quality of newsletter printing. Input of members is welcomed.

VIII. Membership

A. Norn Yarger said 119 members/units have not renewed. However, he explained that this number generally is fluid as more members join or renew during the year.

#### IX. Staff Positions

A. Equipment Manager –No Report.

B. Web Master - Kathleen Yarger said she is working on adding a runner's blog to the web site. She also noted that she is investigating banner ads and prices for the site.

C. Circuit Scoring – Marilyn Goepfert said she needs a current membership list in order to update circuit scoring.

D. Wildcats Liaison – Mike Mapes said the seven-week spring session had between 130 and 140 kids participating. Sixty participated in the Heritage Run and others participated in two time trials bringing the total of kids being timed to 110. Training will resume in June on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Rock Cut. He also noted that the Wildcats program in Rockton/Roscoe needs assistance.

#### X. Old Business

A. Gerrie Gustafson thanked those who either participated in or volunteered for the Heritage Run. She said profits for Big Brothers Big Sisters were close to \$9,000 but considering the large sponsorship, profits were questionable as they may be for other fund-raising races held during this economy.

B. Kathleen Yarger requested that members participating in upcoming races wear orange bandanas to honor Carol Bingley's father who is seriously ill.

#### XI. New Business

A. Noreen Caliva reminded members about the Pretzel Run to be held in Krape Park, Freeport, on Saturday, June 27.

XII. Next Meeting – Larry Ward suggested that the June 3 meeting be held at the Stockholm Inn and those present agreed. After discussion, it was decided that the July meeting will be held at Puri Crest at Rock Cut and the August and September meetings at the Lions Shelter at Rock Cut.

XIII. Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Gerrie Gustafson  
Secretary