

Athens Road Runners
Board meeting Feb. 21, 2018

Meeting was called to order at 7:46 p.m.

In attendance Greg Waddell, Dustin Shinholser, Cera Jones, Sara Freeland, Susan Adams, Brad Fink, Michael Klipper, Cathryn Quinn, Tino Johnson, and Krystina Stoner (via video conference call).

The minutes for the previous meeting were approved.

The Athens Road Runners received a \$500 donation from Tap Bennett. Tino made a thank you card for him. The group will think on what to do with the gift.

Financial information

Cera passed out a balance sheet. Financials were approved.

Parking update

Parking in the Bottleworks has changed and there is now a pay-by-the-hour kiosk where you type in your license plate and it's been made clear your car will be booted without a ticket from the kiosk. The past week, road runners on the group run parked on the side street.

Group members should continue to park on the side street. Greg talked to Flagpole and the group has the permission to park in front of the Flagpole, but not behind the building, Greg has contacted St. Joseph's church secretary, who gave the group informal permission to park there since the church isn't there on Saturdays.

The pay policy in the lot is in effect 24 hours a day. The first hour is free.

Members should be careful crossing Prince Avenue and watch for traffic.

The group meet-up should still be in the entrance to that parking lot.

There will be no more football Saturday parking. Greg asked the property owners if the group could pay for parking for the time runners parked there Saturday mornings—when the businesses aren't open. Greg asked about this and it was refused. Greg will follow-up with Bottleworks in a month or two to see how it's going. The board approved an offer of \$250 for annual parking for group members, with a cap of \$500—to give to the parking lot owners.

Tino asked about parking in Wendy's back parking lot as another option.

National Running Day

Fleet Feet is doing a 5k June 6 at 6:30 p.m. for National Running Day. The event is a partnership between the Fleet Feet franchise and Brooks. This year the 5k will be on the

Greenway at Sandy Creek Nature Center (the certified out and back route.) Paperwork with the city has been filed. Classic Race Services will time. Fleet Feet will cover costs. The idea is to get as many people running a 5k as possible—with Athens numbers submitted to be part of a nationwide number.

For the 5k, participants would have to register to get a race bib and be included in the results. Shirts would be available for around \$5. 150 medals and bibs were ordered for participants. There would not be awards, but there would be giveaways. Registration opens March 2. Registration will be capped at 150 people, since that's how many medals were ordered. They could take race-day registration with overflow bibs. But Dustin didn't think the race would be more than 200 people. The event is all-ages and Dustin hadn't planned a kids fun run, but will consider it based on registration numbers.

Dustin proposed the Athens Road Runner host their annual National Running Day picnic at the picnic shelter at the Nature Center after the 5k. This would promote the club to people who might not know about it. The Athens Road Runners should have a table at the event.

The ARR event is usually potluck and Tino said the group might want to order pizza for runners that aren't group members. Fleet Feet will also provide typical post race snacks.

Tino didn't want Road Runners to max out the runners in the group—and take spots away from others. But Dustin would like to have a lot of Road Runners there.

Easy alternative routes

A Road Runner asked for flat, easy route alternatives at the annual meetings. This would be a year-round flat alternative. There would be 3 and 5 mile options. Mike will design it and it will be ready for March. The route will be called the Classic route.

Tino didn't want more routes to be more opportunities for accidents so safety is a priority with these runs.

Route might be Milledge and back (avoiding dangerous Prince Avenue intersections) with a 2-mile add-on. Dustin suggested Oglethorpe and Sunset. The Classic route might actually be the route in the summer. Mike will check on water stops.

Marigold 10k

Dustin met with Winterville Mayor Dodd Ferrelle and the city is supportive of the Marigold 10k and want to have it the same day as the Marigold festival. Instead of two separate events—race and festival—going on at the same time, he wants them to be together, and to make the festival as big as possible. Options: ARR could use the stage for awards, Dodd could give out awards, winners could be in parade.

Two hour time limit for 10k is in place. It has been added to registration form.

The parade starts at 10 a.m. Race is 7:30-9:30 a.m.

Athens Road Runners could be in parade. Does anyone have a cool car/tractor to be in the parade? Greg wanted Road Runners to be in parade.

Dustin passed around an initial T-shirt design from Satisfactory. This design this year will center around the train depot. Dustin was thinking of a navy blue T-shirt this year, to do something a little different than past years. The orange-yellow color is called Marigold. Board asked for more Marigold flower emphasis.

Medals will cost \$8 a piece (using Kyle Jones, same potter as last year). For overall prizes (4 for overall), mugs are \$30 each, bowls \$45 each, platters: \$100. Last year, the board ordered 94 medals.

Motion passed to buy mugs for overall winners (total \$120) and to order 94 medals (total \$752).

Medals will not have year on it. We can add a tag for a year. Mugs will have overall winner on the bottom.

Last year, Athens Road Runners gave the city of Winterville a \$500 donation for holding the race and providing police services. The board voted to do a \$500 donation again this year, and if the race has a good year, surprise the city with an additional donation at the end.

John Johnson will coordinate volunteers.

Milledge Mile

Greg had a first meeting with the city.

Cera will update the insurance to reflect coverage needed to put on this race. Greg will fill out the form. Cera will need an RCA login to update this. (The insurance is through the RCA).

Greg is going to ask for Sept. 8 for the race. That weekend is an away football game. (Another race is scheduled for the other away football weekend).

Mike suggested starting at/around Broad and running towards Five Points. Or vice versa.

A straight one mile would be better to run and harder to put on, as compared to an out and back.

Parking: Could we ask the Varsity about parking? Parking near Stegeman Coliseum might be close enough.

Course will need to be certified.

There is a 3-hour minimum for police officers for street intersections. We will also need volunteers to staff the course. Race would be from 7-10 a.m. with first race starting around 7:30 a.m. with heats every 15-20 minutes. Seven heats based on approximate finish time.

- 5 minutes and under
- 5:30 and under
- 6 and under
- 6-7 minutes
- 7-8 minutes
- 8-9 minutes
- 9 and over

There will be fewer heats if there's a small turnout. If it's 150 people or fewer, just do one heat, or fewer heats (starting at 6 minutes and under.)

Cathryn will check on the mile race from back in Pittsburg to see how they did their version of this race. Specifically, do we want to do time trials or have people register with their anticipated finish time? This will be tabled until race has permit.

Should there be a kids race?

Because of the center barricades on Milledge, traffic can't be shifted. So race will likely be one lane.

Membership drive

Athens Road Runners celebrated five years on Feb. 14, 2018.

Tino is ordering stickers. We have plenty of key fobs.

Greg wants more people to join the Athens Road Runners. He meets lots of people at the group runs who aren't members. We had new members at the annual meeting. Could we do announcements at some of the group runs, not every week.

Run The Town Red

Do a monthly announcement at group runs: First full week of the week, starting in March. Have the Athens Road Runners have a table at the group runs. (It shouldn't be a problem to have an ARR table and a vendor at the stores.)

Banner is in Greg's truck.

Tino suggested getting a table banner.
Sara will print more one-pagers.

Grand Prix series

Point series for Athens Road Runners based on six selected races. Will pick six races on another night. Someone will need to keep track of points. The awards not based on who is the fastest, but rather who goes to the most races. Awards will be given at annual Christmas party.

This is tabled until at least the summer.

Runner of the Year to be announced at the annual Christmas party. The award will be a board decision based on nominations.

Summer track series

Six-week series will be on Tuesday or Wednesday nights. We would take July 4 out. Greg is trying to find a location. There will be ribbons for participating children 12 and under. There will be a 40-meter and 100-meter race every week. Weeks 1, 3 and 5: 200, 800 and 2 mile. Weeks 2,4 and 6: 400, mile and 5k. The point series race would alternate. Age group awards. Meets open to public, but only points for Road Runners.

Do we want to do both Milledge mile and track series?

Chick-Fil-A Half alternative

Fleet Feet will do a 13.1 mile run the morning of April 7. Chick-Fil-A is partnering. Since Chick-Fil-A Connect Half Marathon isn't happening this year.

Trail Series

Trail series will be monthly from March to September, on a Wednesday, in locations in and around Athens. Sara Freeland will lead.

Proposed dates:

Series dates:

March 28: Botanical Garden, approved.

April 25

May 23

June 27

July 18

Aug. 29

Sept. 26

Possible other locations: Lake Chapman, North Oconee trails, East Jackson, IM Fields, Trail Creek Park, Commerce Bike Trail, Cooks Trail

Locations will be finalized later.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.