



Prairie StridersTM

Running Club

BROOKINGS, SD EST. 1969

run@prairiestriders.net

www.prairiestriders.net

Box 504, Brookings, SD 57006

Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2023

Noon, Mills Construction, 1311 S. Main Ave., and via Teams at:

Present: Dave Graves, president; Jay Larsen, treasurer; Randy Hanson, Harry Mansheim.
Present via Teams: Matt Bien, Shari Landmark.

1. Approved **Nov. 7 minutes** for posting on website.
2. **2024 officer election**—Approved the slate nominated Nov. 7. Their one-year terms begin in January.
 - President – Dave Graves
 - Vice president — Randy Hanson
 - Treasurer — Jay Larsen
 - Webmaster — Trevor Penning
3. **Report on tent purchases** — Jay Larsen reported he took advantage of a Black Friday sale at Dunham’s in Brookings and purchased three 10x10 pop-up tents for \$70 each for use at races. Regular price is \$120. They are in the Prairie Striders storage shed. (photo attached) It was agreed to pursue imprinting the Prairie Striders logo. Jay checked with Terry Nemitz at Outlaw Graphics and found this isn’t feasible.
4. **Focuses for 2024**
 - A. Find a director for the Arbor Day 5K (April 26) — John Blatchford reported via email that he won’t be able serve next year due to a coming transition. No candidates surfaced during the meeting, but suggestions can be forwarded to Dave Graves at run@prairiestriders.net.
 - B. **Find a champion for Hoyt running chair** — Dave Graves cited the need for someone to figuratively take the chair under their wing and find pushers and potentially riders.

During the meeting, it was suggested that the City of Brookings Disability Committee be contacted as well as an SDSU student organization who could take on the role of pusher. Other mentioned were Matt Weiss, who serves on the

committee, and Mark Sternhagen, who also has been a focal advocate for those with disabilities.

Note: After the meeting, Matt Bien suggested Suzy Gehring, reading interventionist at Medary Elementary, as a possibility. Dave Graves sent her an email Tuesday night. She said she would like to be the champion. **605-696-4319**
suzy.gehring@k12.sd.us

A motion also was passed that makes entries free to the pusher who uses the Prairie Striders running chair. The race's director may ask the club for reimbursement for the free entry.

C. Other —

- Runner participant numbers for 2023 need to be updated. DG to contact Andy Carlson, who has done that in recent years.
- Position statements on the Prairie Striders web page need to be updated.
- The club could use a publicist, especially to help with social media outreaches, but also in creating copy for the website as well as traditional media. Shari is to contact Yeager Media Studio on the SDSU campus.

Race director reports

- Community Turkey Day run — Becka Foerster. Dave reported that Becka said there were about 45 in the pre-run photo plus another 10 that came later. Randy Hanson and Jay Larson confirmed there was good attendance and camaraderie despite a chilly north wind.
- Indoor 5K — Jan. 20 — Dave Graves/Jay Larsen — Dave reported 10 signed up to date with only one of them being a Brookings resident. Year-end awards will follow the race.

Miscellaneous

1. **Newsletter update** — Dave Graves — At printer
2. **Next Sports Show appearance** — DG and/or Jay. Dave will schedule with KJJQ.
3. **Friend of Running Award update** — Dave Graves — This year's committee will be Matt Bien, Steve Britzman and Shari Landmark. Nomination deadline is Jan. 3. The decision will be made in early January with the presentation Jan. 20.

Next meeting – Noon, Tuesday, Feb. 6, at Mills Construction, 1311 S. Main Ave.