

Visalia Runners
July 2nd meeting minutes

Members in Attendance: Michael Young, Adam Higareda, Joleen Quinley, Casey Barber, Michelle Rodriguez, Steven Garcia, Nate Ortiz, Richard Rodriguez, Leticia Randolph, Jenn Couto, Alyssa Houtby, Cynthia Serpa, Victor Raya, Michael Castro, Justin Harris.

Michael Young called meeting to order at 6:44pm

Welcome and Introductions: Michael Young welcomed our first meeting at the Cabin with our largest attendance thus far. Welcome our newest members Victor Raya and Adam Higareda. Victor has stepped up to be the Harvest 5k Race director along side Shaun Enderton.

Approval of agenda: Michelle made the motion to approve the agenda as written, Cynthia Seconds, all in favor.

Approval of minutes: Richard made the motion to approve the minutes as written, Michael Castro seconds, all in favor.

Treasurers report: Jim was not in attendance to give a report.

Old Business: 6:47pm Coupon codes and club discounts moving to Strava. The meeting corrected the agenda to Run sign up instead of the word Strava. Michael Young highlighted all of the aspects of Run Sign up and how it will be easier for club members to sign up and get their discount codes on that site versus Visalia Runners website first.

At 6:48pm Race committee and scholarship director. Victor and Shaun are the race directors of Harvest run, please contact them for any questions or if you would like to volunteer for a position. Registration is now open! 5 people are signed up but hopefully we can get all 500 spots filled. Victor got the idea to start a couch to 5k training program. He is a personal trainer and hopes that a training program will get more sign ups for the race. He will need to be given access to our Instagram page to be able to make posts and spread the word.

New Business:

At 6:49pm Alyssa talked about Run Rabbit discounts. Alyssa is an ambassador of their product and has been running in their gear for quite a while. She has presented the idea to contact their company and see if we would be able to race in their gear. As a member of Run Rabbit, you will be offered discounts: maybe 15-20% advance notice for club's members. Hopefully Casey can print on the shirts and put our VR club's logo on it. The expectation of VR club would be to race in their apparel. You don't need to be a fast runner as no time is required; they just like organized races in the application. There is no cost to sign up with them, they just want more clubs to wear their gear. Just a handful of clubs in California represent Run Rabbit. What Alyssa presented doesn't appear to have negative appeal, just asking their company if our club could be given membership to wear their gear. Michael Bauman made the motion to apply to wear Run Rabbit. Cynthia second. All in favor.

At 6:56pm Michael Young mentioned that the Sunshine position is now available. Amanda is stepping down. Michelle nominated Joleen, she was runner up at the previous voting meeting last fall, and made a motion to have her carry out the duties of sunshine for the remaining of this year. Michael Castro seconds, all in favor. The position of Sunshine is to great new members and sends cards to injured runners.

At 6:58pm. Hell of a half. The club hasn't been notified about our aid station spot and doesn't have much information on what the Race Director needs from our club. Michael Young will reach out to soul2sole to confirm our spot.

Up Coming Events:

At 7:01pm. Alyssa talked about another fundraising event to give back to the running kids in our community. She wants to organize a running shoe and running gear clothing drive. She will check to see if there is any interest that the high school kids could benefit from this and what sizes we would need to collect. There will be certain drop off locations

around town; Alyssa could collect, wash, and bring the items to the “cabin” and open up our “store” to all running clubs to come and pick up any running gear. School starts Aug. 16. Cross country usually starts a week before school. A member mentioned that we could open up the donations to the public to see if anyone has stuff to donate and possibly having students bring their school Id’s to get the stuff for free so that we can limit the amount of stuff being resold for profit elsewhere. The donation collections will run from now until the August meeting.

At 7:06pm Steve mentioned that Billy Mills will be hosting a motivational speech on August 13th. He is a gold medalist that travels around to give inspiring speeches to athletes. He won his fame from the 1964 summer Olympics in the men’s 10,000m. He is an advocate to Native American youth and people with diabetes. He is asking for a \$300 donation for the rotary theatre. The cost is in the lighting and security. If he is still interested he needs to sign a form from our website to apply for the donation. If our club does vote to donate, maybe our club can have a one on one meet and greet to get questions answered. Alyssa motions to approve to allow him to apply and give him the requested \$300 only if we get time with him before or after his speech, Steve seconds. All in favor

At 7:09pm The topic of possibly allowing a Jr. Visalia Runner membership. This membership would be open to high school students and allow them to be a member of a nonprofit organization. It would benefit their college applications and it would benefit our club by having them volunteer at our events. The membership cost would be lower, possibly \$25 and would not include the annual dinner ticket. Their parents would have to sign a waver to allow them to run with us or participate at our volunteer events. With their membership they would get a shirt and discount codes. A membership application for minors would need to be drawn up. Alyssa motions to approve a Jr. Visalia Runner membership, Steve seconds. All in favor

Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.

Next meeting is Monday, August 6th