

## **Santa Fe Striders (SFS) Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting**

Monday, March 17, 2025

Attendees: Jenny Day, Loretta Dodson, Therese Trujillo, Svati Narula, Tamika Gordon, Henry Klee, Jes Wood, Ben Shulman, Helen Wang, Vinnie Kelley

Start: 7:02pm

End: 7:49pm

Track Group Run: The SFS BOD addressed the track issue in April 2024 and said we'd revisit the topic in 2025. Loretta emphasized the support for Vinnie and track work. The issue is that track work is \$1,560, a large fee. Vinnie said we've been doing track work for 41 years, we're dealing with three entities from the schools and City. These entities are also experiencing a lot of pressure and scrutiny. Fees are scheduled to be \$195 more this year due to a variety of factors. They applied a small discount for us going forward. Track work has 20-50 people per session, so it's likely our most successful and well-attended group run. Vinnie wants to know the issues that would result in the SFS BOD not approving the track work fees? Loretta says that this is the only group run that we have to pay for in order to hold, and there are some people that attend track work that aren't SFS members. It's not fair that some people pay, but everyone gets to use the track regardless of if they're members or not. Bathrooms have been an issue in the past, but Vinnie included bathroom use in the contract, so hopefully that'll solve that issue. Santa Fe High School Athletic Director has asked that we not use the track at the same time that kids are using the track. Vinnie agrees that no SFS will use the track while kids are running on the track, and we will emphasize track etiquette with all SFS trackwork participants. Therese says that restrooms haven't been a problem in the past so long as we have the port-a-potties to use. Therese mentions that there are no runners on the track, sometimes hurdlers on the far lane, and we routinely discuss running etiquette at these group runs. The fee is \$65/night at the Santa Fe High School track, and \$50/night at the Desert Academy dirt track. There is construction at the track, but it's not clear when that will start in order for us to have a firm total estimate for how much we'll be paying for track work. Motion to approve the track work by Therese, and Svati seconded. Track work will start tomorrow, Tuesday, March 18. Vinnie will reapply in May 2025 when we have more information.

Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve meeting minutes by Tamika, and Ben seconded.

Treasurer's Report: From SFS Treasurer Tamika Gordon, Striders' balance is \$42,537 and this excludes the scholarship fund and later transactions for Snowshoe and Corrida. For Snowshoe, we had 127 registrations, \$4336.30 earned in fees, a donation from Santa Fe County was \$500, and the biggest expense (beanies) was \$2000. For the Corrida, our fee income was \$3042, with \$750 from the County of Santa Fe, and the greatest expense was for shirts \$569. Motion to approve from Jes, second from Svati.

Membership Report: We have 243 members, last year we had ~266 members, so down by ~20 members year-for-year. For next year, what do we think about doing online registrations only? The paper registration is very labor intensive. Motion to approve going to online membership sign up only, first by Svati and second by Jenny. Loretta has something to write up and send to people about this change.

Iron Temple Strength Club: This business approached Loretta and is willing to give member discounts. Does anyone have concerns? There are SFS members that go. Motion to approve by Therese.

Gray Shirts: We're getting down to the nitty-gritty for these shirts. Is anyone willing to finish handing out the shirts? Loretta won't be here until June, so we only have large sizes and a few mediums. What do we want to do with the really large sizes? Would somebody think about that and take that on?

Volunteer Incentive Program: Loretta and Jenny found this program to be very helpful for the Corrida. Ben has a spreadsheet that he tracks for all of our volunteers. We'll see how it goes for the next year, and reevaluate.

Snowshoe: We need to figure out how much we want to donate. Total from race, how much do we have from race to consider donating to Search & Rescue? We had an income of \$1,653. Last year we donated \$1,250, and the year before we donated \$2,500. Ben motions to donate \$1,500. Board approves to donate \$1,500 to Search & Rescue. Loretta will email Whitney Spivey and cc Ben on the email. We need to figure out how to deliver the donation amount.

Corrida: Jenny, Cindy, and Loretta led the race. Everything went well, good comments on course, Henry was at the turn-around. Attendance was good, good comments about t-shirts. The kids' race had a lot more kids this year. Loretta is starting to see familiar faces coming back to the kids' events. Jenny said it went pretty well. At the very beginning, volunteers were confused about the map, but they fixed that quickly. All good feedback! Maybe we should have had a Santa Fe Striders banner closer to the award table? Don used the new timing system, and that worked out well.

Run Around: Jenny is race director! We're moving along, meeting with Girls on the Run every two weeks. Many conversations with the City. We'll hold the race at the Railyard. It's going smooth, and it's a lot of organization. It will be a fantastic event! She needs volunteers. The day-of, Jenny will need a lot of help. There are many picnic tables that need to be moved early Saturday morning before the race. Possibility that there will be a lot of set-up by the sponsors. Could be a really big event. Svati and Helen are happy to volunteer. A few things to do on Friday night, but most of the help is needed on Saturday before, during, and after the race. Volunteer signup is online.

Running Festival: Two kids have signed up. Loretta will be doing more work on that this week.

Timing: Don suggests we increase timing fees to \$350 plus bibs at \$1.75. For nonprofit, Don recommends \$250. Jes motions to increase fees, Svati seconds.

Holiday Party: Venue secured, date is December 13, 2025.

Safe Sport Training: We need to do this training every two years. Group leaders and folks involved in kids' events need to take this training this year, and then we'll all take it again in 2027.

Website: Some updates needed, but generally in good shape!

Shoe Scholarship: Therese contacted 10 out of 11 track coaches, and she's waiting for the 11<sup>th</sup> track coach before she sends out the form. All of the track coaches are excited about the scholarship!

New Business:

- **New weekday run**: Starting another running day in the morning? Perhaps places close to town & start around 7am, either Wednesday or Friday.
- **Track race**: Should we start an event or race that involves track? Perhaps incorporate the track into our race program for SFS? Perhaps a one-mile race broken down into age groups? Consider facility rental and fee? Timing might either be morning or evening? Svati might be interested in spearheading this for 2026. Loretta has some creative ideas for awards.
- **Kids' race series**: All of our kids' races are free – Corrida, Run Around, and Running Festival. Loretta is thinking about having this as a series, and any kid that runs all three races gets an award. This would be for 2026.
- **Santa Fe Bicycle & Trail Advisory Committee**: City of Santa Fe is seeking a bicycle and trail advisory committee, it would be great to have a Strider on this committee!
- **Club Races**: Loretta is keeping track of statistics so we know who's coming in from out of town and how many members are participating.