

Central Vermont Runners Meeting – May 18, 2026

Location: Old Meeting House, 1620 Center Road, East Montpelier Center

Time: Potluck 5:30 pm, Meeting 6 – 7 pm

Attending in person: 16; Attending online #?

Finance report, including Finance Committee recommendations

Graham Sherriff, who is transitioning into the Treasurer role, gave a summary of the finance report, which was provided with the meeting materials for the May 18th meeting.

Quarterly numbers are in the shared documents:

- 81% of operating expenses are in the balance. Costs are rising, so it would be better to be closer to having 100% of operating expenses covered by revenues. Revenues are down almost 20% year over year.
- The finance committee is looking at ways to increase donation revenue as well.
- Expenditures were 41K last year, which helped to spend down some of the club savings. There is a planned drop to 33K this year.

The new finance committee consists of Graham, Jim, Tim, and Gordon McFarlen. They will continue to meet quarterly.

The finance committee proposed that the club have an established budget for the first time. This will be helpful for projecting forward annually and year to year. The RSCA assumes clubs have a budget, but CVR club bylaws do not specifically address having a budget.

Graham and Jim will be working in QuickBooks for the coming year. They are moving the club's fiscal year to a January 1 start date. The fiscal year 2027 budget will be brought forward for approval at the November meeting.

A question for further discussion at a future date is whether the structure of the annual meeting should be changed.

There was a discussion of the reasons for the drop in revenue, as well as the increase in expenditures. John Valentine noted that biggest decrease is related to Leaf Peepers. The revenue for that race is down to 2K. In the past, the club relied on that race to generate cash, but expenses have increased significantly, decreasing revenue.

The discussion also covered whether new limits should be set on how much race directors donate out of race proceeds, beyond the existing required amount set aside from proceeds of specific races.

Formal proposal regarding finances: The finance committee would like to have some of the club assets in a high yield savings account, and proposed moving 10K into such an account. There is still the possibility to increase or decrease the amount in that high yield account. Currently the yield is around 3%, but that could go back up to 4% if interest rates continue to rise.

Interest earnings can be used to add to available funds for small donations, or to help fund the banquet.

Motion made by Jim, seconded by Donna.

Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Race updates

Races completed since Annual Meeting

- Paul Mailman – The race seemed to go fine. Numbers were down a bit this year. [race director absent]
- Mutt Strut – We had a good race. 30 participants or so. [race director absent]

- Adamant Half Marathon – This race had good turnout. There were 104 registered and 80 finishers. The race director is donating 1K of the proceeds to the Adamant Community Arts Center Barn restoration, and \$950 was returned to CVR. About ~\$150 of that amount was donations to a direct beneficiary gathered through registration.
- Barre Town Spring Run. This year was a color run. There were over 100 runners, and lots of kids. Jackie was not crying at the end. No one called the police. Overall, a success.

Upcoming Races

- Capital City Stampede was in less than 3 weeks of the meeting. They were still in need of a couple more participants/runners – only 34 people were registered at that time.
- Senior games meeting –Previous week was the corporate cup, and a lot fewer people showed up than usual. CVR took delivery of a pallet of bottled water, if you want water for a race.
- Bear Swamp Run. New England 65+ runners club is a co-sponsor. The race raises money for the club and for the Senior Games.
- Barre Festival 5K – July 25th – We have lost the race director for this race and are looking for a new race director, new ideas. Nick is considering stepping in.
- Heritage trail 5K – This is a completely off-road trail race that has long standing. Jackie was hoping to move on after 10 years but still be involved. She noted that there is trail marking support as well as support from the Town recreation director. There is prize support as part of the ORO series.
- Berlin Pond

- Northfield 5k/1 mile - The race director is moving the kids' race to be before the 5K, at 8:45, with the 5K at 9:30. Otherwise, the awards ceremony is delayed by the kids' race. The beneficiary has changed to CVR for supporting youth running.
- Powerwalk state championship will be at Capitol City Stampede.
- Leaf Peepers – We lost Darn Tough as a sponsor last year. Registration is open.

Race Directors' meeting report – Summary was provided with agenda materials. One major decision was moving towards making CVR the primary beneficiary of most races. Race safety issues were also discussed and ideas for mitigating traffic safety issues for downtown races.

Winter group runs report – We are looking for a new coordinator for next winter's group runs.

Fun Runs update – Fun runs are every Tuesday. The last Tuesday of the month the group usually tries to do something different. The runs start out of the Dept. of Labor, with finishes at Chico's or Julio's.

There are Wednesday trail runs as well. Meet at the Northbranch Nature Center in the parking lot at 5:30.

All Comers track meets update. Information is on the website. These are Thursday nights at U32. On Friday June 26th there will be a meet in honor of Nathan Souter.

Discussion and action on club merchandise purchase

Quote from Factotum. Minimum of 48 shirts in the run. Request to be approved for \$1000 so we can sell them at the races. Same design, fabric, etc.

Motion to approve the \$1000 dollar allocation.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

A new Marathon Sports is open in Montpelier. Danny is the manager and he would like to partner and be a club sponsor. Issues discussed in relation to this were: CVR doesn't want to create any friction with ORO. Marathon Sports is in competition with ORO, but ORO does not just do running. Marathon is also a chain/national brand. Danny has ideas for trail/mountain series – these should be discussed as a club more before committing to any kind of partnership.

Other Business

Race to the top of the Vermont – Jim Rohr has discounts.

Next meeting date and location – Next meeting date is Monday 8/24, location TBD