Minutes of the Central Vermont Runners Meeting on August 24, 2026

Two people joined the meeting online, and 15 attended in person.

Club president Tim Noonan ran the meeting.

The minutes from the May 18 meeting were approved.

Finance report

The treasurer was not able to attend the meeting, but key aspects of the finance report were discussed. The move of $10K from club's Eastrise account to high yield savings account as agreed at May 2026 meeting was in process.

The finance committee is working on a budget for the club. For the next fiscal year, the club will have a full budget to track where we spend money. The budget will be voted on at November meeting.

Club's assets in the past year have decreased 7K as planned.

Expenses are increasing significantly for races, so prioritizing the club as the main beneficiary of races was discussed.

Membership report:

Membership has increased slightly this year.

Race updates:

Capitol City Stampede. There was good weather for the race. More race revenue was donated back to the club as compared to previous years. The directors increased race fees by $5 this year, which helped with revenue. Next year the directors would like to do outreach to increase the size of the runner field. Heather is looking for a co-race director for the Stampede next year. This is a New England 65+ race, with really good 65+ turnout. It is also a Senior Games race.

Bear Swamp Run went fine. No bad injuries, no storms. About 50 people turned out for the race.

Barre Festival 5K had 64 Runners. The race generated about 1K. There were a couple of injuries, but overall it was a good event.

Berlin Pond. The temperature was nice: 75 degrees. There were 68 runners, up slightly from last year. More people preregistered, so the revenues were down somewhat. The raffle featuring Red Hen bread was very popular.

All Comers Track Meet: This is not our race, but some members did attend. Dot and Heather said the meets were very fun and well-attended, including relays and speed workouts.

Nathan Suder. Organizers were worried that no one was going to come, but in the end a good number attended for a summer event right before school starts. Discussion included whether the start time for a kid's track meet should be closer to 5:30 than at 4. The even was also scheduled longer than it needed to be, with the 4-5 pm period very slow. It was also scheduled to run longer than needed as well. It might be better to have it in June when it is light later (maybe 5:30-7). This was a successful even with a lot of CVR volunteers.

Upcoming Races:

Northfield 5K/1 mile – Numbers are down by about 10 in pre-registrations over last year. Also offered with the Senior Games. Last year total numbers were 150.

Sodom Pond – On track.

Fallen Leaves -Very low-key event. There is a new track at the high school that will be part of the race route.

Leaf Peepers transition. Going to need to discuss and make some decisions at the November meeting.

Note from Will Robens: There is a need for an extended conversation about cutting costs and overall expenses. This conversation is happening later in September.

The race is running below usual volume in preregistrations.

Planning is coming along nicely. Permits etc. are on track.

250 people are registered – 75 fewer than last year. The director will start recruiting volunteers soon.

Discussion of the need for a volunteer coordinator from CVR for the event to avoid paying for a volunteer coordinator. Discussion of how this race will fit into the CVR calendar. There used to be a committee working on this the whole year. Income from this race used to provide a cushion for other races.

Still no "donor" sponsor in addition to Onion River.

A committee will be formed for the 2027 race calendar and race series.

Options to reduced costs were discussed, for example, not having 5K medals. Also, only order for those preregistered. In future, registrants could choose whether they want a t shirt and pay for t-shirts directly.

Fun Runs updates: Chico's closed so a new gathering spot will be needed.

Club merchandise: It is difficult to work with Factotum and the vector/image formats that are needed for the shirts. In the end, club paid Factotum to produce the vectors needed for printing.

The finance committee is discussing ways to take payments onsite with a CVR Venmo account.

Grants for Fall Running Programs: Grants in the fall for cross-country. Practices just started.

Reached out last week to everyone who applied last Spring. 2 Montpelier schools have applied. Other schools/groups are interested but still haven't sent in applications.

Last year the club allocated 4K for 10 grants. This year we might lower back down to less money? Instead of approve specific grant amounts, there was a proposal to approve a total amount and divide it up by the number of applicants.

Motion: Allocate $3000 total, with a maximum of $300 award per school. **The motion passed.**

Proposals to use Front Porch Forum to improve communications:

Addie: Communications. We don't have a directory listing on FPF. We could have a page on FPF with info about the club. We could list our website, fun runs etc. Waiting for the new Google email address communications@cvr

Ads for Leaf Peeper. Facebook and Instagram ads were discussed as well as how much is allocated for advertising.

Heather: Updates on new club email accounts. John and Graham have been trying to work with Google to get the non-profit status. When that is done, we can create different emails. We would have unlimited Google Meets and documents/workspace.

Formation of Committee to work on Leaf Peepers:

Volunteers for the race committee: Sue, Dot, Sal, Heather, Tim, Addie

Coordination with other clubs.

Coordination with the GMAA schedule. Gordon was the liaison last year and this worked well.

Upper Valley Run – Darryl was the liaison.

Air Quality Policy for Races

This should be discussed at November meeting. We need a weather policy that still emphasizes individual race director's ability to make a decision regarding weather.

Next meeting date and location: November 15th. 1:00.