Event Director Phil Stewart opened the meeting with random prize drawings shortly before 7pm.

Attendees:

Call-ins:
Kerri Hill, Keith Peters, Eric Sinkeldam, Donna Titus, Kim Westrich, Barri Winiarski

Random Prizes:
Rick McDonald - Shirt
Sarah Beth Hensley House - Porta Potti Stress Reliever
Ken Donovan - Water Bottle
Adina Crawford - Shoes
Nita Roncone - Hat
Anna Finlay - Singlets
Eve Mills - Shoulder pack
Muffet Chatterton - Shoes
George Tarrico - Mystery sack

In addition to the random prizes, Beck Lambros passed out CUCB shoulder sacks.

**Introductions and Announcements:**

Bob Burgess - Photography Team Coordinator (team of five photographers). Email a note to Bob if you have special photos you want. **bobburgess4@gmail.com**
Rick McDonald - Retired from U.S. Park Police
Adina Crawford - Elite athlete hospitality
Danny Talmadge - Shed master

**Events since the February Meeting - Phil Stewart, Event Director**

There have been two major issues requiring rearrangement of the course and the staging area.

**The Course** - The initial course issue this year was construction at the Kennedy Center of a bridge between the water taxi landing and the Kennedy Center promenade that causes weekend lane closures. The good news, initially was that the lane would not be closed on our race weekend. The bad news is that in late February Phil discovered that
Jersey barriers restrict the southbound lanes of Rock Creek Parkway too much to accommodate the runners so a new 10 mile course to circumvent the Kennedy Center needed to be developed. The new 10 mile course goes north on the northbound (Kennedy Center side) lanes of Rock Creek Parkway before turning onto Virginia Ave. The 5K can go through the choke point because the race is smaller. The 5K course goes north in the southbound lanes of Rock Creek Parkway (the lanes that narrow), turns at F St. and then returns south in the northbound lanes of Rock Creek Parkway until hitting the S curve. The Army Ten-Miler and the Rock and Roll Marathon have previously used that stretch of road. The course change is not locked in yet. We still have to make the case to the Neighborhood Advisory Council, which will take place in March 20th. This is the first time the race has gone off federal land and has required obtaining DC permits and presentations to the DC Special Events Task Group.

We will need a strong sentry presence at the start of the median strip on Rock Creek Parkway just before the Kennedy Center underpass because the outbound 10 mile runners go on the right side of the median and the outbound 5K runners go on the left side. We will also need sentries at Ericcson Circle to direct the slowest 10 mile runners straight into West Potomac Park and the lead 5K runners left onto Independence Avenue. The 5K starts one hour after the ten miler. Depending on the number of 5K runners, a wave start may have to be considered.

Course marshals will have to help move barrels on Memorial Bridge and quickly move them back as soon as the last runner passes.

**The Staging Area** - Last Friday Phil learned from committee members visiting the area that a section along Jefferson Drive between 14th and 15th Sts. where the main medical, elite athlete and drug testing tents were going to be located has been bulldozed for construction. Those tents must be moved.

The following comments were offered:
- The elite athlete tent might go near the bicycle corral, and the drug tent relocated to the area formerly occupied by the Navy Federal tent.
- The finish line medical tent location might be located across 15th Street at Madison Drive. David Martin recommended it be close to Madison. The west side of 15th Street is an access problem for ambulances.
- Keith Peters recommended that the elite athlete tent be very close to the drug testing tent.
- Rob Wolfe suggested that a smaller tent located closer to the finish might be preferable for medical. David agreed that a 10 ft x 20 ft size would work.

The sense of the group was that medical can use a smaller tent near the finish line and that the elite athlete tent and the drug testing tent should be kept together. Glenn Klenk suggested moving bike corral up near the UPS trucks. There will be a site visit on March 19th followed by further discussions.

The National Park Service will be renewing the turf on alternate sides of the monument grounds each year, which means the staging area will alternate between the 15th Street
and 17th Street sides of the grounds. The 15th Street side works better because everything is adjacent to where the runners line up.

The National Park Service has placed more restrictions on use of the turf so we cannot use heavy matting for the tents. All tents have to be backed up to the sidewalk so they can be accessed by the gators, which are restricted to the paved surfaces. Movement of materials across the turf will be done using hand trucks and additional hand trucks have been purchased. The regulations are getting tighter and it is becoming more and more difficult to make the staging area work. There may come a regulation that forces moving the race back to West Potomac Park where there are less restrictions on the turf.

Bag check will be using nine UPS trucks located on Constitution Avenue between 15th and 17th streets. This is the same system used by the Marine Corps Marathon and the Rock and Roll Marathon.

Parking - VIP parking passes are greatly reduced in number. Plan on finding alternate transportation to the race.

Photography - The new participant photographer is Marathon Photos replacing Marathon Foto.

Elite Athletes - Bill Orr
We are in a cooperative effort with RRCA. We give $10,000 to the Road Scholars program to help emerging American athletes. We put up a challenge offering $1500, $750, $500 (matched by the RRCA for a total purse of $6,000) to the top three American runners who are current or past RRCA Road Scholars or RunPro Campers and that has triggered a big response.
On the international scene, last week there was a night race in Bahrain at which the defending champion broke free of the pack but stopped at what he thought was the finish line. Another Ethiopian runner passed him and he lost $75,000. He is very anxious to come to Cherry Blossom.

Sponsorship - Becky Lambros - Deputy Event Director
- Aetna may come in as a water bottle sponsor, replacing Navy Federal.
- Peet Coffee will be handing out coffee.
- Honey Stinger is a sponsor. Granola bars are being purchased to supplement the post race food.
- Garmin has signed on for two years
- Gold's Gym has signed on for two years and will do the warm up and pace signs
- This is the last year of sponsorship by Under Armour and Potomac River Running. Under Armour is providing committee apparel - ladies top is dusky purple that the ladies will like, bottoms maybe not so much, and blue shoes. Mens - gray shirt, blue jacket, pants and shoes
Apparel pickup will be at the Expo.

$100,000 has been raised by charity runners. That, plus money raised by the credit unions will add up to about $400,000 for Children's Miracle Network.
Runner Confirmations and Race App
Runner confirmation emails go out next week. Working on a Race App for participants. Will publish a central number for the Command Center.

Les Kinion Award
Voting is complete for the Les Kinion award. The award winner will be announced at the Saturday night dinner.

Dinners, Brunch and Hotel Rooms
Everyone should have received invitations for dinner and brunch. Contact Becky Lambros if you have not received them. Friday night of race weekend committee members will be reimbursed up to $50 for dinner. Marlene Yencho is working on hotel rooms and will send out confirmations.

Signs - Glen Klenk
New welcome signs have been printed for the airport and hotel, and for the Kids' Tee shirt contest. Signs for the course and staging area are waiting resolution of final arrangements.

Volunteers - Nita Roncone
Nita has sent a list of volunteers and email addresses for stations that are filled. A follow-up list will be sent if there are volunteer cancellations. Currently there are 2,037 volunteers. That is more than last year and reflects a great recruiting effort by Nita's team. It is important for team leaders to contact their volunteers. Reach out to them and let them know you are depending upon them. Nita can help create a canned email to do that. Provide a link to the correct map on the web site so volunteers know where to go. Nita would like to find boy scouts to support green initiative and is looking for a boy scout contact.

EXPO and Packet Pickup
Michelle Carter will distribute committee apparel starting at 3pm on Friday at the National Building Museum. If you would like a participant shirt, see Derek Honda at the Expo.

Donna Titus and Barri Winiarski reported that the Expo was sold out on March 1st with a waiting list. We are at maximum capacity with many returning vendors and a dozen new vendors.

Becky reported that the Packet pickup team members are Leah Rochelle, Dennis Janey, Ryan Morris and Ed Hartwell. New packet pickup boxes, branded for Cherry Blossom have been purchased. 5K and ten mile packet pickup will be in the same room. There will be a special table for Capitol Hill runners. Leah will handle corral move-up requests and approvals. Need 3-4 boxes for Capitol Hill.
Merchandise - Committee members can get a 35% discount on all official merchandise by emailing their order to Muffet Chatterton (chatrton@verizon.net) or talking to her at the merchandise booth at the EXPO.

Clinics - Keira D'Amato and Julia Emmons.
Clinic speakers include Deena Kastor, Dick Beardsley, Lisa Bentley, Michael Wardian and Sri Lankan Olympic hopeful Hiruni Wijayaratne.

Parking at the EXPO
There will be no National Building Museum parking hangtags this year. We are allowed to load in and load out but vehicles cannot be left on the lot. They will be towed and there is a $200 fine in addition to the towing fee. Parking is available one block up on the left.

Announcer
We need to find an announcer for the EXPO since Kari Keaton will be working on the Kids' Run

Kids' Run
Nancy Books and Kari Keaton are directing the Kids' Run. Montgomery County Road Runners will set up the signs. Chris Tatreau will put up the start and finish markers. To date, 330 kids are signed up. The number of total participants could break 400.

Race Day
Wheelchair competitors have signed up.
There will be no lucite awards for RRCA Road Scholars and RunPro Campers but they will get envelopes with cash prizes. PRR certificates will be included in the random awards.

Logistics
Marsha Way will have lanterns, bull horns, extra bags, pins and coffee at the volunteer equipment tent.

Gators will be in demand. George Tarrico would like advance notice of gator needs. There will not be a gator park. Adam Lambros will have a gator pool at the volunteer equipment tent.

The moving contractor is Suburban Solutions. Charlie Harr will be at the Washington Monument grounds. Danny Talmadge will coordinate at the shed. New box labels indicate where the box goes on the monument grounds or at the Expo. Label every single box to cut down time at delivery and assure that the box goes to the correct location.

David Martin requested that all medical supplies and ice bins go to the infield medical tent, except chaise lounges that will be split between the infield and main medical tents.

Peggy Posey asked for a plan to distribute food to medical tent and bag check. Bag check will pick up food. Joe Castro will distribute food to medical. The elite athlete tent will need food for 70 people. Peggy will need to know the location of the banana truck.
Money Matters - Kerri Hill.
If you need money over race weekend let her know. She will be at the EXPO and the credit union tent on the Washington Monument Grounds. Submit expenses to Kerri as soon as possible.

Radios - Ken Donovan will have radios for people at the EXPO on Saturday from 9-12. He will then be at the volunteer tent on the Washington Monument Grounds.

Web - Denny Steinauer
Web equipment is lined up and locations have been selected. A secure location is needed to place the equipment for pickup.

Sustainability - Kim Westrich
Michelle Carter's daughter will be picking up plastic at the Expo. Please save plastic for her. There will be a Golden Recycler award - see the ADMIN page.
Rick Merryman will check on recycling containers from the Park Service.

Timing - Ed Hartwell.
Time Limit - The 2hr 20 minute limit will be strictly enforced. Those running behind 14 min/mile at the 5 mile mark must leave the course.

Sign Recovery
Glen Klenk needs two people to bring back signs after the race. Joe Castro will get the people.

Need to coordinate with the Park Police to assure access for official vehicles through the barriers on race morning.

Meeting adjourned at 9pm

The "Wrap Up Meeting will be Monday, April 29, 2019
Renaissance Washington Downtown Hotel
Dinner: 6:30 P.M.
Meeting: 7:00 P.M.

Action Items:
☐ Bob Burgess - Photography Team Coordinator (team of five photographers).
  Email a note to Bob if you have special photos you want. Email is bobburgess4@gmail.com
☐ Instructions for course marshals regarding moving and relocating barrels on Memorial Bridge
☐ Assign sentries to the intersection of Potomac River Parkway and Rock Creek Parkway and at Ericsson Circle. Provide instructions to the sentries. Arrange transportation for sentries.
☐ Publish a central number for the Command Center.
☐ Contact Becky Lambros if you have not received dinner and brunch invitations.
- Reach out to your volunteers and let them know you are depending upon them. Nita can help create a canned email to do that. Provide a link to the correct map on the web site so volunteers know where to go.
- Help Nita find boy scouts to support green initiative.
- Contact Muffet to get a 35% discount on official merchandise.
- An announcer is needed for the EXPO.
- Notify George Tarrico NOW if you will need a gator.
- If you have items coming from the shed, label each individual box with the exact location it is going to at the EXPO or the Washington Monument Grounds.
- A secure location is needed to place the web equipment for pickup after the race.
- Contact Keri Hill regarding money needs.
- Provide Kerri Hill with receipts for reimbursement as soon as possible.
- Put information regarding the Golden Recycler award on the ADMIN page.
- Rick Merryman - check on availability of recycling containers from the Park Service.
- Add station Echo and the medical facilities at that location to the course map.
- Obtain nylon fencing for the bike corral.
- Send Peggy Posey the location of the banana truck.
- Advise medical personnel that the course marshal bus at 16th and Madison will take them to the medical stations.
- Arrange for a motorcycle escort to lead the 5K.
- Coordinate with the Park Police to assure access for official vehicles through the road barriers on race morning.