

## 5 Dec 2023 TRC Business Meeting Final Minutes

Call to order: 6:48 (after many issues with Zoom)

Members present: Eric Anderson, Ric Goldman, Ed Slintak, Dean Stanton, Cris Wendt; Kat King, Jeff Young.

Agenda for current meeting: 6:38.

Minutes from previous meetings: November minutes approved as amended.

### OFFICERS' REPORTS

- \* President: (Ed) No report
- \* Vice President: (Ric) No report
- \* Secretary: (Dean) Sent November DRAFT minutes just yesterday.
- \* Treasurer: (Dave) \$5,048.12 at B of A; \$5,123.12 total.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- \* Insurance (Cris Wendt):
  - We don't have our contract with details (rules).
  - Asked when our annual fee is due.
  - A/I: Dean wants to know the per-member fee so he can propose new accounting for per-rallye contribution of a new membership.
- \* Awards Chair (Eric Anderson): No report.
- \* Database Chair (Eric Anderson):
  - Eric sent emails about online rallye.
  - A/I: Check wiki says that RM needs to collect email addresses & how they heard about us.
- \* Publicity (Kat King):
  - Kat to publicize December's online rallye.
  - Kat to post the rallye school from October as a sample (with a disclaimer).
  - Ric proposed linking Facebook and Instagram and Threads. Kat agrees.
  - Post early to Puzzle Hunt calendar.
  - Find a way to appeal to people that can't spend a day finding out if they like rallyes.
  - Look for other free web sites on which we could post.
  - How can a TikTok quick video attract rallyists? Need something fun and quick.
  - QR codes link to them?
- \* Webmaster — Ric Goldman
  - Ric A/I: Send next Business meeting with TRC's paid Zoom account .
  - A/I Ric and Eric: Merge mailing lists between the database and online rallyists.
  - We should have a way for board members to help update TRC's website. FrontPage doesn't do much for us, but does keep others from getting access and making updates. Plan is to switch to WordPress or something during 2024.

- Eric has ideas to improve online registration and paying for IRL rallyes.  
Ric sent a prototype form to Eric and is awaiting feedback.
- Ric A/I to nag Ken for soft copies of Jazz on the Rocks, Press Your Luck, Notes on a Car Rallye, and The Office, Fool Rallye. Ric to nag Dave for Amazing Rallye.
- Search engine optimization is in progress.
- A/I Webmaster: Propose conventions for archiving past rallyes as soft-copies.
  - \* Want editable start packet, map(s), critique, CP instructions and handouts.
  - \* Ideally, we will archive protests and their resolutions, as well.
  - \* We will also take what we can get from hard copy-only rallyes.
  - \* Define process that requires RMs to turn them in and who will nag RMs for these.
  - \* Strongly prefer Word-compatible formats *and* also PDFs.
  - \* Also want the scoring program for online rallyes.
- Ric A/I: Tell Eric how people can “whitelist our domain in your mail program.” Then Eric can make a sign for physical rallye starts instructing our rallyists.

## PAST EVENT(S) REPORT

- \* 2022-03-26: “Press Your Luck” Online rallye, A/B+Q/A, Ken
  - Ken A/I: Send soft copies (Word and PDF) of final materials to Ric for safekeeping.
- \* 2022-10-08: Ken’s “Jazz on the Rocks” CM, near SJC.
  - Ken A/I: Send soft copies (Word and PDF) of final materials to Ric for safekeeping.
- \* 2023-04-01 Ken’s online AB Q/A “Fool Rallye” (Dean, Ric, and Eric help)
  - Ken A/I: Official results have been posted, but haven’t been emailed to rallyists. Nor the rallye’s certificates.
  - Ken A/I: Send final materials to Ric for safekeeping.
- \* 2023-08-05 Princess Bride - Dave and Cris (Sunnyvale)
  - 19 cars
  - Made \$270.90 (not counting increased annual insurance fee).
  - QR code for getting emails was popular.
  - Dave to send PDFs and editable sources have been sent to Ric.
- \* 2023-10-07 Monster Mash – Jeff Young (Palo Alto / Mountain View)
  - 11 cars.
  - A/I: Send results to Ric at correct email.
  - Made \$83.45 profit
- \* 2023-12-02 – Santa and the Naughty Children — Frank
  - 18 registrant teams. 16 finished.
  - “Split” CP: email info first to rallyists and then “enter CP” via Zoom, using TRC’s new paid Zoom account.
  - Frank was happy having everything come to the same email. (One thing to check.)
  - One trap was faulty near the end.
  - One small spreadsheet scoring bug: Q15 could take a number or some text.
  - Frank working on automating score sheet response.
  - Sent email TO rather than BCC.

- The original author from 1991 was one of the competitors!
- Frank A/I: Send Eric all the names and emails of all competitors.
- Dean A/I: Send Frank spec for soft copy to Ric. [done after meeting]
- Frank A/I: send soft copy to Ric [done after meeting]
- Kat A/I to draft award certificate template. Get Frank's approval.

## **NEXT EVENT(S) REPORT**

- \* 2024-02-03 Membership Rallye "42" - Dave and Cris in person 11 AM to 1 PM start. Finish by 4 PM.
- \* 2024-04 or -12? – Ric's online "Rallyists in Toyland II" (in Portland)  
Use out-of-town precheckers to help write it (if they're willing) or check it.  
– Ken cannot run in December, so he volunteers to precheck.
- \* 2024-10-05 Jeff "Talk Like a Poirot Day" ?
- \* 2024-11-02 or mid-month ? Possible Frank Thanksgiving rallye

## **OPEN DATES**

- \* In-person rallyes should state: Neighborhood(s), Registrar(s), CP worker(s), whether CP signs or other tools are needed.
- \* Goal: to schedule each even-numbered month.
  - Dave has CM rallyes that could be rethrown.
  - In-person RM A/I: include questions about how rallyists heard about the rallye. Then inform the club what the score sheets said about value of postcards.
- \* 2024-04? – Matt Poppe online rallye (in Paris)?
  - Ken A/I: email (or talk to) Matt about it.
  - Jeff could be back-up for April, maybe.

## **POTENTIAL RALLYEMASTERS**

- \* Offer rallyes to rethrow and mentors (Abby, Ed, Dave, Dean, Cris).
- \* Robert French said "too busy" in January 2023, but "It would be fun to do some day." Dean asked again in July, but got no response.
- \* Ken talking to Matt Poppe, Brian Andersen, Gil Milbauer, Wei-Hwa Huang, Linus Hamilton / Daniel Palumbo (now Experts), and Nick Cravotta.
- \* Linus and Daniel have started a Cambridge, MA rallye.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- \* None

## NEW BUSINESS

### \* Budget

- Assuming 4 in-person rallyes, new insurance cost, added Zoom cost.
- Gain \$366 for the year.
- Printing and mailing predictions are less than actual, but expect some RMs won't seek reimbursement for printing and ideally we can amortise mailing cost over multiple rallyes.
- **A/I: Send any recommendations for updating budget.**
- No interest in changing our rallye entry fees and per-member registration or how we "account for" the greater per-member annual fees.

### \* TRC requires our checks to be double-signed to avoid fraud, but PayPal has no similar feature AFAIK.

- There is nothing we can do except what we've done: All have access to the B of A statements. Dave mailed the links (but for security I did not put those links here).

## ACTION ITEMS

### All

- **Read December minutes. Send any changes to all of us. Can we approve them?**

### Cris:

- Contact K & K to find their terms and fees.
- Dean wants to know the per-member fee so he can propose new accounting for per-rallye contribution of a new membership.
- Curious how other clubs address safety.

### Dave:

- Merge your online rallye checklist into TRC's wiki or provide it to Dean to do so.

### Dean:

- **Send final November minutes and draft Deember.**
- **Send agenda for January meeting.**

### Eric:

- Pick up a box of old rallyes from Steve Watt.
- Prepare a box of old rallyes for Ric to pick up while local to scan and keep.
- Try to merge online mailing list with TRC's database.
- Pending determining how: Make a sign for physical rallye starts saying "whitelist our domain in your mail program."
- Check wiki says that RM needs to collect email addresses & how they heard about us.

**Frank:**

- Frank A/I: Send Eric all the names and emails of all competitors.

**Jeff:**

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**Kat:**

- Draft award certificate template. Get Frank's approval.
- Edit and post video from October rallye, perhaps with Cap Cut.
- Create Threads account.

**Ken:**

- Email (or talk to) Matt about April in Paris rallye.
- Email final Fool Rallye results and certificates to rallyists.
- Send soft copies of Press Your Luck, Jazz on the Rocks, The Office, and Fool Rallye final materials (Word and PDF) to Ric for safekeeping.
- Work with Linus and Daniel on their Cambridge rallye.

**Ric:**

- Ric A/I: Send next Business meeting with TRC's paid Zoom account .
- Present ElectionRunner.com to Dave (for possible use in future).
- Tell Eric how people can "whitelist our domain in your mail program." Then Eric can make a sign for physical rallye starts instructing our rallyists.
- Keep working on "Rallyists in Toyland II" Portland rallye.
- Propose conventions for archiving past rallyes as soft-copies.
- Ric and Eric should merge mailing lists into TRC's database.
- Working on on-line membership signup/renewal.
- Search engine optimization is in progress.
- Move TRC website to WordPress or something (so others can help) during 2023.
- Pending: Ric offered to scan a box of old rallyes (when Eric provides one).
- Pending: Look into modernizing the look of our web site.
- Nag for soft copies of Ken's Jazz on the Rocks, Press Your Luck, Notes on a Car Rallye, The Office, and Fool Rallye.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

\* Adjourned: 8:00 PM

\* Next business meeting: 6:30 PM, first Tuesday, 2 Jan 2024, online only **using Zoom**. We should ratify 2024 budget.

Ric will send a new meeting invitation using TRC's paid Zoom account.