

The South Florida Emerald Society
April 8, `2004
Miami Yacht Club
Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:55 P.M. Present were President Tom Dunn, First Vice President Bill O'Brien, Second Vice President Jim Cooney, Treasurer Dave Russell, Past President Michael O'Connor, Board Members, Oliver Kerr, Judi Sherry, Billy Cameron, John Cosgrove, and Mary Ann Fierro. Also present were members Phil Gallagher and Jan Paris. Excused were Dan Fitzgerald, Carroll Cameron, John Doherty, Joe McManus and John Kane.

In the absence of the Secretary, Mary Ann Fierro took the minutes. A quorum was established. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Order of Business

The agenda prepared by the President was adopted. A motion to accept the minutes of last month's meeting (which we received by email) was made by Jim Cooney, seconded by Oliver Kerr. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report (Dave Russell)

The treasurer's report was approved. These detailed reports are attached to the minutes. Dave also presented a letter from the IRS detailing our application for the South Florida Emerald Society.

Committee Reports

Installation Dinner: Judi Sherry announced that the Installation Dinner, planned for May 26, 2004 and the Treetop Restaurant at the Parrot Jungle is moving ahead as planned. Judge Carroll Kelly will preside over the installation of officers. Judi has guaranteed an attendance of at least 50 people. A motion was made by Oliver Kerr and seconded by Billy Cameron to reconsider the price that was approved last month (\$30) and change it to \$35. to cover expenses of postage, invitations, centerpieces, etc. The motion passed.

Directive: John Doherty, as membership chairperson will oversee the recognition of all new members at installation of officers.

Membership:

Three new members were presented:
Sheila Dowd...sponsored by Jim Cooney
Joseph Hackney...sponsored by Carmen and Henry Kissane
Constance Kuehn...Sponsored by Mike O'Connor

Cultural Series:

The presentation last Sunday by Dan Fitzgerald was a huge success. 32 people attended this enjoyable afternoon of memories and nostalgia but it was brought up that the Board of the club could be more supportive of the cultural events.

The next cultural function will be on May 16th with a storyteller from Ireland. It will be held at John Martin's at 4 P.M. and Board Members are encouraged to attend.

Social:

The April Social will take place on Wednesday April 28th at 6:30 P.M. at the Grand Bay Hotel, Bice restaurant, 2690 South Bayshore Drive, Coconut Grove.

Good of the Order:

Member Phil Gallagher brought up the subject of encouraging new younger members to join the Emeralds. He mentioned that this was discussed at Sunday's Cultural Series and that a former Colleen, Meghan Moore would like to be involved in this venture. Oliver Kerr and Judi Sherry offered to pursue these ideas further.

Dave Russell mentioned that Bill Hartnett has offered the use of his Big Mouth recorder/machine to the club. He owns one that is in his office. We only need to give him a disc to insert with the phone numbers. Jim Cooney made a motion that we look into Bill Hartnett's offer and it was seconded by Oliver Kerr. Motion passed.

The Knights of Columbus has offered their meeting room for our meetings. There would be no charge. Discussion was tabled.

New Business:

Tom Dunn thinks it is time to plan for our Christmas entertainment. He will contact Vince Mitchell to see what is available. Dan Fitzgerald has found out that the Coral Gables Country Club is available on December 9th 2004.

We are again invited to participate in the July 4th Parade on Key Biscayne. Contact people for that are Bill Gregory and Tom Flynn.

Tom Dunn reports that the Scottish American Society is requesting support for their events. They will supply us with notices, envelopes, and stamps if we will send things to our members. Oliver Kerr made a motion that we support the Scottish American Society by doing event mailings for them at their expense. Motion seconded by Bill O'Brien and passed.

Mike O'Connor has front license plates with the Emerald Society emblem for sale. A motion was made by Judi Sherry to buy 25 of these that we can then resell to members. Mike O'Connor seconded and the motion passed. He also mentioned that our shirt supplier has many shirts left over from the festival.

Health and Welfare:

An update was given on Nick Valeriani. He is in an assisted living facility in Massachusetts. But we have been requested not to send him any mailings.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Tom Dunn to adjourn at 8:10 P.M. Seconded by Mary Ann Fierro.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Fierro
(for Carroll Cameron)