

**The South Florida Emerald Society, Inc.**  
**Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes**  
*Miami Yacht Club*  
**Thursday, April 3, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.**

Pledge of Allegiance

Members Present: Sean Hayes, Richard Welch, Jr., John Doherty, Dan Fitzgerald, Kassie Doyle, Johnette Hardiman, Judi Tierney Sherry, Joe McManus, Sean Ferrell, Noel McManus Stillings, Meghan Knol, Ann Eustace, Bill O'Brien, Blair Brogan, Chris Kelley, Hugh Ryan

Excused Absences: Don Harrington, Jr.

Unexcused Absences: Sean Glynn, John "Jack" Thompson

Guests: Barbara McManus, Mary Ann Kerr, Ann McShane, Amy Law

Order of Business:

President's Report: (Sean Hayes) For the Good of the Order

- Sean is glad to see us all here because we are the folks who do the work. Sean can't do this alone and he is grateful for this organization, this team of people to help him. A year from now we will look back and ask "How well did we do?" so today is the day to start.
- One thing that didn't happen this year was the Celtic Cultural Series did not use its money from the last CCS event.
  - o J. McManus moves to donate \$250 from Celtic Cultural Series to Breffni Academy of Dancers for purposes of dancing in an international competition.
  - o M. Knol - Would the Emerald Society get recognition on the t-shirts?
    - Sean: Yes.
  - o John Doherty wants to know where the budget is at. So long as CCS does not come back in the future and ask for more money.
  - o Discussion was had amongst members.
  - o Based on discussion and apparent opposition, Joe McManus withdrew the motion.
- Sean encourages Board member to work together and respect differing opinions throughout the year
- Distribution of Guidelines to each Board Member
  - o This helps us get things done. Helps the organization become a title that people in the Community start to relate to and participate with us. Directors, generally, are charged with being Committee Chairs
  - o Judi says this is really great, but we also need a copy of the ByLaws to further direct us
- Committee Roundup
  - o Historian – Dan will continue this year
  - o Publications – Joe will continue

- Membership – Ann will continue
- Sean wants each Director to put their name beside each committee

Secretary's Report: (Kassie Doyle)

- Minutes of March Board Meeting
  - D. Fitzgerald - Guest typed as "Carolyn Dunn" should read "Karen" Dunn
  - J. McManus - Please correct spelling of Noel's name
  - S. Ferrel moves to approve March Minutes with two aforementioned corrections. Second by J. McManus. Motion carries.
- Kassie requests emails from each board member present

Treasurer's Report: (John Doherty)

- Combined balance \$39,425.99
- \$150 collected from Tom Lynch for his Christmas in Ireland Dinner Tickets
- See March Treasurer's Report for additional details
- Motion to Approve March Treasurer's Report by S. Ferrel. Second by R. Welch. Motion Carries.

Committee Reports:

- Marlins vs. San Diego (April 5) Tickets \$25 (C. Kelly)
  - 12 tickets sold so far. Please buy your tickets if you want to come.
  - Chris will try to sell unsold tickets to outside/non-members
  - Hugh Ryan says possible tailgate at his house around 5:30
- Fundraising and budgets (Sean Ferrel)
  - Asks what fundraising we have done
  - John Doherty: the only things that make money are membership dues and Christmas in Ireland
  - Plans for a Membership Drive
    - Sean wants Ann to address this
  - Blair Brogan suggests a Café Press print ([www.cafepress.com](http://www.cafepress.com)). A lot of groups do this. Not a lot of overhead.
- Publication: (Joseph McManus)
  - Newsletter – working on it now. Hope to publish Saturday at noon. If you have any items, please discuss with Barbara and Joe.
- Plans for membership drive – No report.
- Communications – No Report
- Socials – (Vacant)
  - Ann reports David Horr and Patrick Novak have suggested a social at the King's Creek Tavern
  - Hugh Ryan volunteers to be Social Chair.
    - Sean Hayes thus appoints Hugh as Social Chair.
  - Blair Brogan volunteers to assist.
- Public Relations
  - Noel had volunteered for PC Chair, but looking at the Guidelines it looks overwhelming. She would like assistance.
    - Discussion – these are guidelines only.

- Membership (Ann Eustace)
  - We have 90 members in good standing as of just before this meeting.
  - 42 people outstanding.
    - Ann has called and/or emailed every person who had not paid their dues.
      - Responses ran gambit from “never call me again” others were “thank you for letting me know and others no response.
    - John Doherty – Ann should not be doing this herself. Board members should be assisting her in calling these 42 people to see if they are going to renew. Sean, you need to delegate people to call to Board members.
    - Judi Sherry – There are quite a few Board members listed in the Treasurer’s Report who have been voting since January 31 who have not paid dues. This is a problem.
  - Festival booth went well. We had a lot of traffic. The Raffle went well and we were able to give away some donated and/or purchased gifts.
    - Four membership applications from the Festival (See below)
  - Ann is requesting assistance with the Membership Committee
  - Directory Deadline is April 15
    - If Dues are not paid by this date you will not be in Directory or receive Big Mouth
  - Advertisements for Directory are due
    - Ann to start “Fast and Furious” campaign for this
    - If you are interested in an add you must have your check and the art to Ann by April 15
    - Business card size = \$25
    - John Doherty – Need approx. 40 ads for Directory to be self-sufficient
  - Membership cards
    - Ann has bids out to four printers. She knows she is behind but is working for is
  - New applications to submit to Board for approval
    - Linda von Cannon
      - Retired nurse; maternal side is from Ireland. Maiden name Beame. Lives in Coconut Grove and sponsored by John Lindemen, Sr.
      - She gave us too much money (\$88), so we should have return some because this is in excess of her membership dues
      - Motion to approve membership by D. Fitzgerald. Second by J. McManus. Motion carries.
    - Ken Quinn
      - Sponsored by Mary Ann
      - Not sure where from Ireland he is from. Applied at Festival. Paid by credit card.
      - Knights of Columbus. Goes to Mary Ann Kerr’s church and he runs their festival.

- Motion to approve by D. Fitzgerald. Second by J. McManus. Motion carries.
  - Ruby Whalen
    - Paternal side is Irish, from Cork. Signed up at festival, so Ann Eustace will serve as her sponsor.
    - Motion to approve by D. Fitzgerald. Second by J. McManus. Motion carries
  - Woody Woodside
    - Re-applicant
    - Paid dues online.
    - Was an Emerald 20 years ago, now he is back.
    - Ann Eustace will sponsor.
- Question by Mary Ann Kerr – Are dues prorated? Sort of.
  - Proration of dues is as follows:
    - If New Member Dues are paid during the first quarter of the year, then the following year will be billed at 75% or \$37.50
    - If paid during the second quarter of the year, then the following year will be billed at 50% or \$25.00
    - If paid during the third quarter of the year, then the following year will be billed at 25% or \$12.50
    - If paid during the fourth quarter of the year, then the following year will be billed at 0% or \$0.00
- Celtic Cultural Series
  - April 27
  - Thinking about showing movie “The Quiet Man” with John Wayne
  - At an impasse because losing technical experts
    - Can either run through a laptop to show movie
    - OR can buy a DVD projector and run the DVD through the DVD projector and projecting it on the screen
- Sergeant-at-Arms
  - Sean Ferrel will continue in this regard.
- Corresponding Secretary – Vacant? No report
- Parliamentarian – Vacant? No report
- Contributions – Vacant? No report
- Historian; (Daniel L. Fitzgerald) – No report
- Installation Dinner; and Health & Welfare: (Judith Tierney Sherry)
  - Wednesday, May 21 at 6:30 p.m. at Jungle Island
  - Price is the same as last year - \$40 per person
  - We need to pay for the bagpiper
    - Budget of \$200
    - Judi asks Sean to bring Irish flag to Installation Dinner
- Health and Welfare (Mary Ann and Judi Tierney Sherry)
  - John Sorgie has been sick
- Quartermaster (Richard Welch)
  - Keeps track of inventory (flags, banners, etc)

- We need to define what we have, collect it, and have an accounting system. Then we need a process for how things come and go.
- Sean
  - This includes items purchased for the Society, by the Society
  - Note the flag sets we have do not belong to Emeralds but instead are on loan. He has had to replace a few times because they are fragile
- Mary Ann Kerr – has a flag that she will be happy to donate to the Emeralds

Unfinished Business:

- Society Shirts: (Sean Ferrell & Ann Eustace)
  - Ann says Sean Ferrell sent her information about shirts, but she didn't have time to address.

New Business

- None

Adjournment

- Chris Kelley moves to adjourn. At 7:50. Second by S. Ferrel. Motion carries

Next meeting: May 1, 2014-6:30 PM, Miami YC