

The South Florida Emerald Society
December 2, 2004
Miami Yacht Club
Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Present were President Tom Dunn; First Vice President, Bill O'Brien; Second Vice President, Jim Cooney; Treasurer David Russell; Secretary, Carroll Cameron; Board Members, Dan Fitzgerald, Judy Sherry, Billy Cameron, Joe McManus, John Doherty, Michael O'Connor, Patrick Novack, Tom Lynch, and members Michael Geyer, and Barbara McManus. Mary Ann Fierro Kerr and Oliver Kerr were excused. A quorum was established.

Order of Business

The order of business was adopted.

President's Report (T. Dunn)

The president led the Board in the salute to our flag and welcomed new Board member, Tom Lynch.

Report (C. Cameron)

Directives were reviewed and updated. The minutes were approved. Note from Linda Murphy was read.

Directive: Cameron to send note from Linda Murphy to John Kane, the Emerald historian.

Directive: Dunn to bring a new notebook to secretary at next Board meeting.

Treasurer's Report (D. Russell)

The treasure gave detailed reports that are attached to these minutes. We have just over 150 paid members. The member list is accurate as of this month. The treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

Committee Reports

Membership Committee (Billy Cameron)

The following was approved as a new member.

New member	Sponsor	Status
Evelyn J. Budde	Marge Hartnett	Active

Directive: McManus to contact a prospective member from WPB and invite him down to the next cultural series.

Cultural Series (McManus)

On Sunday, November 14, Professor Kathleen McCormick spoke on Maria Edgeworth, who wrote *Castle Rackrent: An Hibernian Tale*. The presentation was excellent. Concern was expressed about the low turnout. On Sunday, January 9, 2005 the Cultural series will stage a reading of "The Irish Divorce" by Anna Mae Burke.

Website (Doherty)

The website is beginning to receive several queries about membership. All information on the site has been recently updated.

Social Site (O'Brien)

The January social will be Wednesday, January 26, 2005, 6:00 PM. Place will be either La Palma in Coral Gables or the Hurricane in Miami Springs.

Big Mouth (Doherty)

The Phone Tree 2100 can be purchased for \$865.25. **Motion** by C.Cameron to purchase. Second by Russell. **Motion Passed.**

Directive: Doherty to purchase and set up Big Mouth, including moving the Emerald Society phone line to his house.

Procedures Manual (C. Cameron)

Doherty the procedures for handling applicants for new and renewed members. The procedures were approved as amended and will be placed in the procedure manual.

Directive: C. Cameron to enter the membership procedures in the procedure manual as soon as Doherty enters the amendments.

Christmas Dinner (Cooney)

Sales have been slow, with 104 of the guaranteed 300 seats having been purchased. We have sold 250 raffle tickets. To break even we must sell 300 seats and 300 raffle tickets.

Prizes are: Grand Prize: \$1,000; First Prize: 3 or day Cruise in owner's suite on the festival, a Carnival Cruise, arranged by Novak. Guyer has negotiated a weekend at the Royal Oasis and Casino on Grand Bahama that includes airfare. O'Brien is still looking into 2 round trip tickets on Caymen Airways.

Door Prizes: Karen Dunn has donated two nice gifts for door prizes.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Dolores Fitzgerald has recovered and is planning to be at the Christmas party. Jimmy Flynn has been ill. Stu Robinson is in an assisted living facility awaiting eye surgery. A card was sent to him by the Camerons, signed by numerous Emeralds. **Directive:** Fierro Kerr to send "thinking of you" card to Jimmy Flynn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2004

Calendar

Date	Event	Place
12/02/04	Board Meeting	Miami Yacht Club
12/9/04	Christmas Dinner and Show (6:30)	Coral Gables Country Club
1/6/05	Board Meeting	Miami Yacht Club
1/9/05	Cultural Series	John Martin's

January Directives

Directive: McManus to send C. Cameron protocol for the Cultural Series to be included in the procedures manual.

March Directives

Directive: C.L. Conroy & Fierro to develop a marketing brochure to increase membership.

Directive: Doherty to add key word links to our site to increase the number of hits when interested parties are using search engines to find Irish events in South Florida. Suggested key words: Irish, Irish-American, Florida, Miami, Gaelic, Celtic.

October Directives

Directive: B. Cameron to continue to pursue former members to encourage renewal.

Directive: Russell to include a line item for socials in next year's budget.

Directive: Dunn to contact Bill Hartnett about using his Big Mouth system.

November Directives

Directive: T. Dunn to contact Joe Healy at Hurricane Bar and Bill O'Brien to contact Martin Lynch at John Martin's to ask for gift certificates for dinner for two.

Directive: Dunn to email Nancy Harrington's address to Fierro so Fierro can send a get well card.

December Directives

Directive: Cameron to send note from Linda Murphy to John Kane, the Emerald historian.

Directive: Dunn to bring a new notebook to secretary at next Board meeting.

Directive: McManus to contact a prospective member from WPB and invite him down to the next cultural series.

Directive: Doherty to purchase and set up Big Mouth, including moving the Emerald Society phone line to his house.

Directive: C. Cameron to enter the membership procedures in the procedure manual as soon as Doherty enters the amendments.

Directive: Fierro Kerr to send "thinking of you" card to Jimmy Flynn.

Carroll Cameron