

The South Florida Emerald Society

Board of Director's Meeting

Miami Yacht Club
Thursday, February 7, 2013, 6:30

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Members present: H. Ryan, J. Doherty, D. Harrington, Jr., K. Doyle, P. Reilly, D. Fitzgerald, J. Tierney Sherry, N. McManus Stillings, J. McManus, S. Hayes, W. O'Brien, D. Slesnik III, S. Farrell, C. Kelley M. Gerhardt, P. Duffy.

Excused Absence: P. Morrissey, R. Welch, C. Daley

Guests: Barbara McManus, Ed Cooke, O. Kerr, M.A. Kerr

Order of Business

For the Good of the Order

President's Report

- We are so sorry about the passing of Dave "Skip" Russell. He was a great Emerald and we are saddened by this loss.

Secretary's Report

- January Minutes. Motion to pass minutes as amended (to correct scrivener's errors) by J. McManus. 2nd by S. Hayes. Motion passes.

Treasurer's Report

- Combined bank balances approx. \$42,000+. Review of expenditures and deposits from last month.
- Review of use of Big Mouth (monthly social, online social).
- Committees should provide calendar of events to put on website on Calendar. Email from at least one member who is missing events.
- Suggestion: Website should be updated, possibly by new member with internet-savvy. Our website is a great tool.
 - o D. Slesnik III volunteers to start with website revamping.
- Motion to approve Treasurer's report by J. McManus. 2nd by C. Kelley. Motion passes.

Committee Reports

- Christmas in Ireland (K. Doyle) – Nothing to Report
- Socials (P. Reilly)

- February Social = Feb. 20 – Social at Scully’s. It is prime Rib Night. If you want prime rib, call ahead and tell them you’re with the Emeralds and ask to reserve a prime rib.
- Half way to St. Pats is Sept. 13 (Friday) - Return to South Beach!
- Ft. Lauderdale St. Patrick’s Day Parade – Saturday, March 9 at Noon
 - No enthusiasm to walk in parade. Discussion about renting a bus to travel up there.
 - N. McManus Stillings – Are we sure we don’t want to participate in parade?
 - Discussion about Newsletter – whom to call if we want a bus.
 - March 10 = Hollywood parade
- Nominating Committee (C. Kelley)
 - Electronic ballots went out Jan 22 with a follow up on Feb 2. 47 responses out of 165 total membership. Deadline to vote is Feb 28 at 5:00 p.m.
 - C. Kelley is working on sending out physical ballots in mail to persons who don’t have internet access.
 - New Board Members need to be invited to next Board meeting (once we know election results)
- Membership (C. Kelley, H. Ryan)
 - New Applicant Sean O’Flaherty – from County Cork, Ireland; sponsor Hugh Ryan
 - New Applicant: Michael Patrick Fitzgerald; from County Cork, Ireland; Sponsor: Dan Fitzgerald
 - Motion to approve both new members by S. Hayes. 2nd by D. Fitzgerald. Motion passes.
 - C. Kelley asks Board to advise what members have not paid annual dues yet.
- Installation Dinner (J. Tierney Sherry) – May 22 is event date. Nothing new to report
- Shamrock News –
 - Coming out this weekend
 - Request to Social Committee to have dates for socials one or two months in advance in order to advertise same.
- Celtic Cultural Series (“CCS”)–
 - Hugh Ryan spoke on his view of the CCS, including its prior inclusion with the St. Patrick’s Day Committee Group and subsequent return of CCS to Emerald Society. Discussed P. Morrissey’s commitment and request to run a program as well as Ed Cooke’s request to run CCS. First CCS in January 2013, prior to that budget meeting. H. Ryan in complete support of CCS programming.
 - Ed Cooke presents:
 - Ed is trying to restart CCS. He was the original founder and in the past has paid for several CCS programs out of pocket. Emerald Society Mission Statement has been interpreted by Board in past to support CCS.
 - Requesting Budget from Emerald Society:
 - \$100 stipend for person to give presentation (Honorarium)
 - \$ 25 for speaker’s dinner
 - \$25 for Emerald Honoree Dinner
 - \$25 for CCS Production team dinner
 - \$25 for monthly graphics
 - \$50 for photocopying/ mailing of 30 programs
 - Total = \$250 per event
 - Request is for 6 months – so total of \$1500

- Budget requested for now through June. If series is successful and Ed wants to continue to run after June, there will be a subsequent proposal.
 - Money is a bit of a cushion and cushion so requested to augment budget to account for additional advertising requirements, etc.
- Question from J. McManus – June Event. O. Kerr puts on Bloomsday Event.
- H. Ryan – keep in mind we are operating at a deficit.
- E. Cooke – O. Kerr is requesting a grant with city of Coral Gables for Bloomsday event. (In process).
- J. Doherty on behalf of St. Patrick’s day Committee - No consensus on Bloomsday funding. More likely than not, Bloomsday will be funded by St. Pat’s Committee
- P. Duffy – Importance of honorarium for member of Emeralds vs. Non-Members (i.e. would Emerald Members really require Honorarium?)
- K. Doyle: suggests a \$150 total budget per event for six events with condition that CCS chair obtain prior approval for line item expenses each month.
- J. Doherty: Prior CCS events. Budgets incorporated as line items through St. Patrick’s Day Committee (which had an overall 12 month budget). J. Doherty wants to look at 12-month budget, rather than 6 months.
- M. Gerhardt – Questions
 - CCS is part of Emerald Society? Without grants? Answer: correct. Emeralds as of now are absorbing CCS. Perhaps charge at door?
 - J. Doherty – St. Patrick’s Day no longer funding CCS.
- K. Doyle: Emerald Society should be included on Programs, Ads for CCS as sponsor
- J. Tierney Sherry – Feb through May funding? June is Bloomsday.
 - It looks like we are looking at 4 months of CCS.
 - What are we doing for community this year? Nothing. No St. Patrick’s Day. If we can’t pull up 4 months of CCS then what’s the point? Emeralds needs to have some kind of community presence and involvement.
- H. Ryan – No one on Board wants CCS to fold. We already have a budget. It’s allocated and negative. We are trying to figure out a plan to keep CCS going, however.
- S. Ferrell – We can amend the budget. J. Doherty quick with reimbursements for expenses. We just need to amend budget at \$X per month and then we are done.
- D. Slesnik III: Board has regular discussions that Emeralds are that we are low on cash. As a board we should be stewards with our money despite the fact that this is a good cause. To that end, we should think of how to gain money. Though his past experience with other organizations, he suggested a \$10 charge/donation for non-members/guests to arrive. More guests and more people take it seriously when there is a perceived value. This provides a value to the program.
- C. Kelley – Has a color copier and volunteered to provide color copying of materials for the series to save the cost to the CCS.
- J. Doherty – Mandatory donation for non-members is going to turn people off from future events.
- J. Tierney Sherry – Perhaps there is value in charging for appearances.
- K. Doyle – Suggests the following: Emeralds to provide \$150 each month for January through June 2013 with caveat that all non-members (except kids) should pay \$10 donation to attend and on further caveat that there will be no Bloomsday (June) fund if St. Pats covers it. January expenses retroactive up to \$150. All future

expenses must be approved by Board the month before event as line items up to \$150. Membership applications must be available at each CCS event and Emerald Society must be included in advertising as sponsor.

- J Tierney Sherry – with \$10 off application fee if you apply for membership on day of event
- So moved by K. Doyle. 2nd by P. Duffy.
- J. Doherty – who are the 30 mailings (referenced in budget request) sent to?
Answer: thank you notes, confirmation, etc.
- J. Tierney Sherry offers to reduce cost of installation dinner in order to provide funds for CCS.
- S. Hayes – Emerald Society By Laws require certain amount of Emerald Funds to be spent for the good of the community. We need to comply with this.
- N. McManus Stillings –
 - Moves to amend to K. Doyle’s motion – amendment is that non-member donations will be suggested (not mandatory)
 - K. Doyle will agree to amendment of mandatory donation to suggested donation as long as there is advertising at east event clearly requesting the suggested donation for non-members.
- J. Tierney Sherry – We need a regular MC. Ed says he can’t make monthly Board meetings.
- J. Tierney Sherry nominates E. Cooke to be the Chair of the Celtic Cultural Society. 2nd by J. McManus. Motion passes.
- Amended motion on Floor: Emeralds to provide \$150 each month for January through June 2013 with caveat that there is a suggested (not mandatory) donation of \$10 per event for all non-Emerald member (except kids) which will be advertised at each event and on further caveat that there will be no Bloomsday (June) fund if St. Pats covers it. January expenses retroactive up to \$150. All future expenses must be approved by Board the month before event as line items up to \$150. Membership applications must be available at each CCS event and Emerald Society must be included in advertising as sponsor. All sponsors shall be recognized on the event flyer.
 - Proposed by K. Doyle. 2nd by P. Duffy. Motion passes unopposed as amended.

Health and Welfare

- We are deeply saddened by the passing of a beloved Emerald Dave “Skip” Russell
- Don Harrington, Sr. – Broke his hip in January. Now in Rehabilitation Program. Staying at Heartland of Kendall, room 2208

New Business

- Ft. Lauderdale Museum of Science is holding an Irish Program on Feb. 10. Tickets are \$20

Motion to Adjourn

- By D. Kelley. 2nd by M. Gerhardt. Motion passes.

Next meeting: Thursday, March 7, 2013-6:30 PM Miami Yacht Club