

The South Florida Emerald Society
November 4, 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; Secretary, Carroll Cameron; Board Members, Dan Fitzgerald, Billy Cameron, Joe McManus, John Doherty, Mary Ann Fierro, Oliver Kerr, Michael O'Connor, Patrick Novack, John Cosgrove and members Michael Geyer, Brian Eaton, Karen Dunn, and Barbara McManus. Treasurer David Russell was excused. A quorum was established.

Order of Business

The order of business was adopted.

President's Report (T. Dunn)

Dunn suggested that Tom Lynch replace John Kane for the rest of this year on the Board (until the next elections are held). **Motion** by Fierro. Second by Fitzgerald. **Motion passed.**

Report (C. Cameron)

Directives were reviewed and updated. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report (D. Russell)

There was no treasurer's report. **Motion** by Doherty to contact the bank to have our accounts close on the 15th of the month to allow the treasurer more time to prepare the reports. Second by O'Brien. **Motion passed.**

Directive: Russell to contact the bank about changing the closing the account on the 15th of the month.

Committee Reports

Membership Committee (Billy Cameron)

The following was approved as a new member.

New member	Sponsor	Status
Tom Logue	Oliver Kerr	Active

Cultural Series (McManus)

The next Cultural Series event will be on Sunday, November 14 at 4:00 PM. Professor Kathleen McCormick will speak on Maria Edgeworth, who wrote *Castle Rackrent: An Hibernian Tale*. This is an early family saga novel, the first written in Irish dialect.

Website (Doherty)

The following is in the process of being added: Cultural Series calendar, Christmas Dinner and Show. We are beginning to get more hits on the site. Call for suggestions to enable us to use it more effectively.

Social Site (Eaton)

The November social will be Wednesday, November 17, 6:00 PM to avoid conflict with Thanksgiving. Place is Michael Collins' Lounge, 1233 Lincoln Rd, just west of Alton. Parking is available at Wachovia Bank. Happy hour drinks (2 for 1) are available from 5:00-7:00 PM.

Directive: Eaton to provide easy directions to Michael Collins' Lounge to Doherty to be put on web site. Doherty to copy to Dunn & Fierro so they can send email/newsletter reminders.

Directory (C. Cameron)

As new members join the society, Cameron is putting them in the directory list. A directory is sent to each new member and their information forwarded to Doherty, Fierro, and Cooney. The list was used to make mailing labels which were emailed to Cooney and Fierro so they can keep their mailing labels current.

Procedures Manual (C. Cameron)

Motion by Doherty to allocate ten minutes of each Board meeting to the procedure manual, taking one item at a time for discussion until the manual is complete. Second by C.Cameron.

Motion Passed. Directive: C. Cameron to email one page of the procedure manual to the Board.

Directive: Board members are to provide input to the email prior to the next Board meeting.

Directive: C. Cameron to incorporate Board procedures input into the emailed page and bring to the next meeting for discussion.

Christmas Dinner (Cooney)

Cooney has created a detailed procedures manual for the Christmas dinner and show.

Motion by Novak to make a copy of that manual. Second by C.Cameron. **Motion Passed.**

Motion by Novak to allow Cooney to exceed the budgeted amount for postage, to enable a second mailing to include: the invitations, raffle tickets, a flyer advertising prizes. Second by Fierro. **Motion passed. Directive:** Novak to design and print an insert advertising prizes and get it to Cooney for the Christmas Party mailing.

Prizes are: Grand Prize: \$1,000; First Prize: 3 or day Cruise in owner's suite on a Carnival Cruise (arranged by Novak). Guyer offered to pursue a weekend at the Lucaya resort in Freeport, Grand Bahama. **Directive:** Guyer to contact Novak as soon as he knows about the possible prize at the Lucaya resort so Novak can list the prize in the Christmas Party insert.

The Coral Gables Country Club will supply a piano if we want background entertainment.

Motion by Fitzgerald to hire Peter Fuchs for \$175. **Motion passed.**

Door Prizes: **Directive:** T. Dunn to contact Joe Healy at Hurricane Bar and Martin Lynch at John Martin's to ask for gift certificates for dinner for two.. **Directive:** K. Dunn to get a craft item.

Old Business

Big Mouth (Dunn)

Dunn spoke to Hartnett and was advised Hartnett would contact Woody Woodside about getting our list on Big Mouth. **Motion** by Cooney to reaffirm whether the Board authorized purchase of our own Big Mouth. Second by Fierro. **Motion Passed.**

Directive: Doherty to take over negotiations for Big Mouth, whether through Hartnett or through buying our own equipment.

Ireland Trip (B. McManus)

A planning meeting will be held Sunday Nov. 7 at 3:00 P.M. at McManus's Condo in Boca. The trip is planned for April 28, 2005.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Dolores Fitzgerald has recovered and is planning to go on the Ireland trip. Fierro sent a sympathy card to Linda Murphy.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2004

Calendar

Date	Event	Place
11/14/04	Irish Cultural Meetin	John Martin's Coral Gables
11/17/04	Social Meeting (6:00 P.M.)	Michael Collins Miami Beach
9/2/04	Board Meeting	Miami Yacht Club
12/02/04	Board Meeting	Miami Yacht Club
12/9/04	Christmas Dinner and Show (6:30)	Coral Gables Country Club

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.

July Directives

Directive: Hartnett to check if the directory listings will suffice for taking names and numbers for Big Mouth announcements.

Directive: Hartnett to prepare a page for the procedures manual on how to create and send Big Mouth announcements.

October Directives

Directive: Dunn to call Bill Hartnett about Hartnett's remaining directives.

Directive: Russell to purge member list to remove those who have not paid dues. Deferred until after the Christmas Party.

Directive: B. Cameron to continue to pursue delinquent 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:** Russell to contact the bank about changing the closing the account on the 15th of the month.
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- Carroll Cameron