

**The South Florida Emerald Society, Inc.
Board of Directors' Meeting**

Miami Yacht Club

**Thursday, December 5, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.
Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order

Members Present: Hugh Ryan, Sean Hayes, John Doherty, Kassie Doyle, Judi Tierney Sherry, Sean Ferrel, Ann Eustace, Paul Reilly, Dan Fitzgerald, Noel McManus Stillings, Richard Welch, Bill O'Brien, Chris Kelley, Pat Duffy, Meghan Knol, Blair Brogan

Excused Absences: Joe McManus

Unexcused Absences:

Guests: Mary Gerhardt

Pledge of Allegiance

Order of Business:

President's Report: (Hugh Ryan) For the Good of the Order

- Tom Flynn – we will miss you, friend
- Jr. Orange Bowl Parade
- Looking forward to growing in 2014 - Think Nominations!
- The annual Emerald Board Member picture will be taken at January board meeting (Jan 9) – wear green!

Secretary's Report: (Kassie Doyle)

- Minutes of November Board meeting – motion to pass by S. Hayes. Second by W. O'Brien. Motion Carries

Treasurer's Report: (John Doherty)

- See report & upcoming budget!
 - o Total combined balance \$39,394.60.
 - o Still waiting for budget from Christmas in Ireland. All other budgets have been received by Treasurer for next year. Thank you to Committee Chairs! Working budget nearly ready, to be sent 12/15/13 to Board.
 - No budget for Celtic Cultural Series because there is no Committee Chair, but Treasurer will make allocation.
 - o Motion to approve Treasurer's Report by D. Fitzgerald. Second by S. Hayes. Motion carries.
- J. Tierney Sherry – Emerald Society needs to allocate money for advertising for St. Patrick's Day Festival book. Last year's number was \$2,000 (two full colored ads), to be plugged into

next year's budget. Emeralds usually have approx. 5 pages, so \$2000 is not enough money. Collective decision to put \$5000 line item for this year's budget.

Committee Reports:

- Socials- (Paul Reilly)
 - o Paul resigned last month.
 - o John Martin Social was great.
 - o We need someone to step up and take over
- Christmas in Ireland- (K. Doyle)
 - o It's tomorrow!!!! Last minute details!
 - o Raffle = \$1165 collected.
 - o Thank you to Ken Pines for donating our Centerpieces (and to Paul Reilly for safeguarding them for us!)
 - o Thank you to Mary Ann & Oliver Kerr for sponsoring the Breffni Dancers
 - o Thank you to Joe and Barbara McManus for sponsoring the Bagpiper
 - o Silent Auction Prizes:
 - GOLD SPONSOR (\$1000) – Patrick Novak of Horr, Novak, & Skipp
 - 2 Heat Tickets versus Atlanta Hawks on Monday, December 23, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. Section 103, Row 31, Seats 13 & 14 (aisle seat) (Donated by K. Doyle)
 - Staycation at the Hilton Conrad (Donated by Don Harrington, Jr.)
 - Basket (Donated by Mary Gerhardt)
 - Coffee Basket (donated by Ann Eustace)
 - Whiskey Basket (donated by Mary Ann Kerr)
 - \$50 Gift Card to Fado's
 - Two \$50 Gift Certificates to Irish Times (Donated by Dave Higgins)
 - Two One Hour Furniture Repair and Consultation in Your Home from Furniture Medic Miami (donated by Gerald Doyle) (Value: \$150)
 - Two tickets to show at the Olympia and a private one-hour tour for four
 - Two Gift Certificates for One Day Pressure Cleaner Rental from any O'Gee Paint Location (donated by John Schultz)
 - Two \$50 Gift Certificates from John Martin's
 - Hugh Ryan's Home Brew
 - Multiple Baskets Featuring Alcohol donated by Bill O'Brien (2011 Malbec achaval ferrer (Argentina); 2011 padrillosalbec (Argentina); Taittinger brut champagne; Celtic crossing liquor 750 ml; Crema de tequila armendrado orendain (Mexico) 750 ml; Baileys 1000 ml X 4 bottles; 100 proof stolichnaya vodka 750 ml; Doch-an-dorrach liqueur; Crown royal whiskey 750 ml)
 - Homemade Shamrock Blanket (donated by Blair Brogan)
 - Home knit dish cloths (donated by Meghan Knol)
 - o This is Kassie Doyle's last year as Christmas in Ireland Chair.
- Membership – (Sean Hayes & Ann Eustace)
 - o Tomorrow = first day of a major effort to recruit and bring in new members
 - o Renewal notices for next year's dues – will go out Monday
 - o Committee is requesting update for roster information
 - o Accepting online payment for renewal notices
 - Charges are \$3.74 additional if you use the online website
 - Line for donation will also be included

- Frank O'Dowd renewed his old membership
- New Member: Molly Harris has applied to be an Emerald. Homemaker and student. From Omaha, Nebraska, Irish heritage in Dhairy, Claire, and/or Kerry. Motion to approve by D. Fitzgerald. Second by A. Eustace. Motion passes. D Welcome Molly!
- Nominations Committee-Dan Fitzgerald
 - January 9 – get excited!!
- Installation Dinner- (J. Tierney)
 - Emailed Andrew at Jungle Island to see if our regular neighbor has booked yet, but they have not. If they don't book by January, we will come up with a new plan. Discussion will be revisited next month.
- Website and Big Mouth –(J. Doherty)
 - Can Big Mouth go out after business hours?
 - Explanation by J. Doherty about how Big Mouth operates.
- *Shamrock News* –(Joe & Barbara McManus) - Nothing to report
- Health & Welfare- (J. Tierney) – Nothing to report.

Unfinished Business

- Membership pins? S. Hayes has a few, but it is a line item for Membership's budget for next year.

New Business

- J. Tierney Sherry – Marge Hartnet's Estate donated \$1000 to the Emerald Society. We have not designated what to do with that money. The Christmas in Ireland Committee decided we would like the Board to approve the Spirit of Marge Hartnett award to be given each year at CII dinner to the Emerald member who exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism and supporting the Emeralds.
 - J. Doherty – if we want to do a grant from this it adds to the deficit. The money from Marge Hartnett was thrown into the general fund.
 - H. Ryan doesn't think Marge wanted the money thrown into the general fund. He thinks Marge would have liked something more
 - B. Brogan - This year it costs roughly \$130 but it doesn't have to cost this much each year. This is the inaugural award, so its ok if it is better.
 - M. Knol moves to have the Spirit of Marge Hartnett Award to be presented in perpetuity to be awarded at Christmas in Ireland dinner with the funding to come out of the Emerald Society's general fund. Second by B. Brogan. Motion carries.
- S. Hayes – We need a Quartermaster to keep an overview of the organization.
- C. Kelley – Marlin's game is being put together for next year.
- Meghan Knol got into medical school at the University of Michigan!!! She starts Aug. 3 at her first choice! Congratulations!!

Good of the Order/ Adjournment by 7:30PM

- Motion to adjourn by M. Knol. Second by D. Fitzgerald. Motion carries.

Next meeting: Thursday, January 9, 2013-6:30 PM Miami Yacht Club