

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

Miami Yacht Club

Thursday, November 7, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Meeting Called to order at 6:30 by Pres. Hugh Ryan

In Attendance: Hugh Ryan, Sean Hayes, John Doherty, Kassie Doyle, Judi Tierney Sherry, Sean Ferrel, Ann Eustace, Paul Reilly, Dan Fitzgerald, Noelle McManus Stillings

Excused absences: Joe McManus, Chris Kelley, Richard Welch

Unexcused Absences: Blair Brogan, Don Slesnick III (resigned), Jeff Bailey, Meghan Knol, Pat Duffy, Bill O'Brien

Guests: None.

Order of Business:

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

- Push before the Christmas in Ireland dinner is our main focus

Secretary's Report: (Kassie Doyle)

- Minutes of October Board meeting - Thank you Judi for taking October meeting minutes in my absence. Motion to pass October minutes by Sean Ferrel. Second by Sean Hayes. Motion passes.

Treasurer's Report: (John Doherty)

- See attached report
- Discussion about CD, protection plan, outgoing funds and incoming funds for the month, email and big mouth distributions.
- As of Nov. 4 combined balance in accounts of \$39,641.91.
- All committee chairs are required to send J. Doherty proposed budgets for 2014 year by Dec 15.
- Motion to pass Treasurer's Report by Dan Fitzgerald. Second by S. Hayes. Motion passes.

Committee Reports:

- **Socials- (Paul Reilly)**
 - o November 21 – John Martin's – Thursday before Thanksgiving
 - o Only 14 people present at October social.
 - o Paul says November is his last social and he is resigning. Suggests perhaps a social every other month.

- Discussion regarding past attendance at socials, including how Heat games/ other events affect attendance at social, whether future socials should include entertainment to encourage attendance, and location of events. Coral Gables, South Miami or west Miami seem to do the best with attendance.
- **Christmas in Ireland- (K. Doyle)**
 - Reservations – 14 so far to Mary Ann; 2 online reservations (\$1200 revenue) – plus two more received tonight (additional \$150 revenue)
 - Menu
 - Four platters during Cocktail hour (Crispy phyllo cups with brie and raspberry; Fruit & Cheese; Sesame chicken skewers with peanut dipping sauce, mini fritas (Cuban sliders)
 - Buffet Dinner: Cesar Salad; Chicken Piccata with white wine, capers, lemon, and butter; Grilled flank steak in Raspberry-chipotle sauce; mashed potatoes; zucchini, squash, and onion blend
 - Dessert: Cheese cake
 - Breffni Dancers – Mary Ann & Ollie Kerr volunteered to sponsor. However, the top level dancers will be out of town for a competition that weekend. We are checking to see if there is another group available to dance at CII
 - Centerpieces – will be donated by Ken Pines
 - Need help gathering prizes for the Silent Auction and Door prizes
 - Need clipboards for Silent Auction
 - RSVPs are due Nov. 15.
- **Membership – (Sean Hayes & Ann Eustace)**
 - Budget submitted.
 - Discussion regarding what budget Directory should come from.
 - Committee has been diligently working
 - New Members this month
 - Catherine Eustace – applying as “Friend of the Emeralds” because she is not of Irish descent. Nursing student at UM. She is young and enthusiastic. Motion to approve by P. Reilly. Second by S. Hayes. Motion passes.
 - Two former members who did not renew, are back! Welcome back, Erin & T.D. Sieber!!
 - Emerald Society Facebook page – Ann will take it over from Hugh
- **Historian’s Corner- D. Fitzgerald**
 - Socials – saw four people at 6:30 pm last time
 - Celtic Cultural Series – had 34 members in attendance at the last meeting
 - Ann Eustace – maybe we should have Socials immediately following CCS every other month
 - We have no membership pins. Initiation Dinner is in May, we need pins.
 - Sean Hayes – Membership budget has line item for new pins
 - The Camerons have the Emerald Society Banner – they want someone to pick it up
- Nominations Committee – Welcoming ideas for nominating committee.
- Website and Big Mouth –(J. Doherty) – covered in Treasurer’s Report
- *Shamrock News* –(Joe & Barbara McManus) – No update today
- Health & Welfare- (J. Tierney) – Mary Ann has no chemo for three months. Very exciting! Richard Welch welcomed a new baby to his family! Tom Flynn is at the VA hospital suffering form bone cancer. He is very weak.

- Celtic Cultural Series – Sunday, Nov. 10 – Phil Morrissey updated version of his discussion on the history and status of the Irish Economy
- **Installation Dinner** –
 - o Jungle Island not booked. She is very worried about attendance. It has gone down from 80 people in 2002 over the years. 57 two years ago, last year 45. Jungle Island will not give reservations to a group under 50.
 - o It's a party for us – let's do it.
 - o President's Directive: E mail Jungle Island

Unfinished Business

- S. Ferrell: Website hosting service.
 - o We should adapt it. Found a server: Dream Host. Unlimited storage, unlimited bandwidth, unlimited domains, email addresses, lists, data backup, web-based apps (like WordPress which is free). 24/7 tech support.
 - o Sean says he will try to build us a new website with access to FB, Twitter, PayPal, etc.
 - o Asking for approval to build a new website for review and possible approval by the board (website not to be launched yet) by J. Tierney Sherry. Second by S. Hayes. Motion passes.
 - Question by J. Doherty – Wants to clarify that we are exploring options with new website and researching possibilities.
- Letter to Hartnett Estate

New Business-

Good of the Order/ Adjournment by 7:30PM

- Motion to adjourn by S. Hayes. Second by D. Fitzgerald. Motion passes.

Next meeting: Thursday, December 5, 2013-6:30 PM Miami Yacht Club