

The South Florida Emerald Society, Inc.

Board of Directors' Meeting Miami Yacht Club Thursday, May 7, 2015 at 6:45 p.m. **Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Members Present: Don Harrington, John Doherty, Johnette Hardiman, Sean Ferrell, Bill O'Brien, Kassie Doyle Taylor, Blair Brogan, Sean Glynn

Excused Absences: Chris Kelley, Hugh Ryan, Paul Reilly, Rich Al-Imam, Ann Eustace

Unexcused Absences: David Donnelly, Mark Donnelly, Megan Walsh, Michael M. Lally, Sean Hayes

Proxies: Rich Al-Iman to Don Harrington

Welcome guests: None.

Order of Business:

President's Report: (Don Harrington, Jr.)

- Attendance at socials and board meetings

Secretary's Report: (Kassie Doyle)

- Review & approve Minutes of April Board meeting
 - April minutes were not taken contemporaneously to minutes.
- Additional information recently received. Discussion whether to defer approval of minutes until next month so they can be supplemented with additional information. Motion to defer approval to next month by Johnette Hardiman. Second by Blair Brogan. Motion carries.

Treasurer's Report: (John Doherty)

- Review & approve Treasurer's report
 - Combined account balance \$32,324.04. Please see Treasurer's report for additional details. Johnette Hardiman moves to approve the Treasurer's Report. Second by S. Glynn. Motion carries.
- Website and Big Mouth

Committee Reports:

Membership (Sean Glynn)

- April Social / Installation & Beltane recap
 - Social Installation was fantastic. Very efficient and cozy. We had about 50 people in attendance including a couple new members.

- Beltane event was a great event but poorly attended. It would have been really great if more people were there. There was a lot of advertising but also a lot of competition that date (proms, Kentucky Derby, fight, etc.). May could be a bit warm and with unpredictable weather so a good learning experience for future events.
- Membership is sad to announce that Rachel is moving to West Palm Beach soon. She will be missed but welcome always!
- Membership has a plan for renewals. Members who have not been renewed have been divided among committee members for phone calls.
- Discussion regarding new membership directories. John is following up. Who is doing this? Are ads being sold? By whom?
 - Don Harrington suggests adding a line to each person's entry to include each person's occupation.
 - Kassie Doyle Taylor suggests using Google docs or Google Spreadsheets to collect information easily and electronically from members
- Goal is June 1 to send membership directories to print
- New Member: Michelle Thomas from Delray Beach. She is an account Manager for EGIS Insurance & Risk Advisors, LLC. She was born in Dublin. Maternal name is Penny and Paternal name is Thomas.
- Don Harrington submitted his mother, Nancy Harrington, as a Friend of the Emeralds. However upon further research it was determined that she has Irish ancestry from Limerick, Ireland. He would like to move to change Nancy's status from Friend of the Emeralds to Emerald member.
- Sean handed out spreadsheet of new members since January. Shows contact info, sponsor info, and committee interests.
 - John Doherty suggests the Committee Chairs should do a better job reaching out to new members who have interest in their committees
- Membership cards - Rockfish Grill was printed on cards, but they since backed out about sponsorship. So they have been blacked out from back of the card. Blair Brogan tried to use card at John Martin's and they would not honor card. Sean indicated John Martin's has not officially agreed when the cards were printed, but that he saw Martin Lynch give his approval
- Motion to approve Michelle Thomas as a new member and to reclassify Nancy Harrington as an Emerald (rather than a Friend of the Emerald) by J. Hardiman. Second by S. Gynn. Motion carries.

Socials (Don Harrington for Hugh Ryan *in absentia*)

- Upcoming Socials:
 - Weds., May 27th - Hurricane Bar
 - Weds., June 24th - Irish Times
 - Weds., July 29th – Duffy's (not finalized yet)
 - August – No Social
- Paul Reilly reported he will have socials for September, October, and November set up for next meeting
 - June 27 at 4:10 pm - Miami Marlins playing the Dodgers
 - John Doherty mentions that Board should be sensitive to fact that Membership does not look like they are going to meet their budget. Blair Brogan notes that people are aware of the issue (as evidenced by combined Installation dinner/social) but we should not cut socials. "What's the Emerald society without socials?"

Celtic Cultural Series (Don Harrington for Joe McManus *in absentia*)

- Bloomsday (June 16, 2015) - Joe McManus has requested a budget. He would like \$900 from Emeralds plus \$600 from St. Patrick's day committee (\$1500 total).
 - Recall that last year, John Kane worked with a \$500 budget and made it work. Unfortunately, no one is here to explain variance to last year's budget.
 - John Doherty not sure how much St. Patrick's day festival will give Bloomsday. Last year St. Pats gave \$500.
 - Last year there was a good showing (almost 100 people) at Bloomsday. A lot of new members. Blair Brogan went last year and she said it was a good event.
 - Johnette Hardiman moves that we allot \$500 of the current Celtic Cultural Series budget for Bloomsday. Second by Sean Ferrel. Motion passes unopposed.
 - Johnette Hardiman suggests CCS include Bloomsday as a specific line item in future Celtic Cultural Series budgets (this is a future action, not for this year). Second by Kassie Doyle.
- John Doherty reminds group that Bloomsday was moved to St. Patrick's day so they could request grant money. When Oliver Kerr was running Bloomsday, he got a lot of bang for his buck because he knew a lot of people. John suggests that if we think we can take over Bloomsday we should. Johnette replies that there may not be a need to absorb Bloomsday from St. Patrick's day committee.
- Motion carries unopposed.

Shamrock News (Don Harrington for Joe McManus *in absentia*) – Newsletter will be sent by editors to John Doherty for distribution on May 9.

Health & Welfare (Johni Hardiman) - Get Well cards signed and sent.

Public Relations (Don Harrington for Noel McManus Stillings *in absentia*)

- Noel provided detailed list of her contributions to present for PR. It looks like she's been busy!
- Noel asks for a reminder for everyone "Like" on Facebook and get people interested

By-Laws (Sean Ferrell)

- Still working on By-laws. There are an additional ten pages that are missing. Board needs to look at new bylaws again. Hoping to have old and new versions of bylaws on a CD for Don Harrington by next meeting.

St. Patrick's Day Festival (John Doherty)

- Next meeting will be soon (tentatively May 12).
- Sean Glynn will reach out to Maureen Hickey to join committee

Old Business

- Vacant Board positions

-Sean Harrington: lots of calls made; Joe McManus said he will stay doing the newsletter; Noel said she would stay doing the social media; Anne McShane said no thanks; approached a lot of people but no one wants to come on board.

- Delinquent membership dues - 24 people still outstanding. Don Harrington would like copy of list of outstanding members.

New Business

- **The Residences of United Home Care** - New ALF built near Baptist west Kendall Hospital. Board discussed and determined this was only a benefit for them. We are not interested in helping this group.

Adjournment by 8:15 PM (Hopefully!)

- Motion to adjourn by s. Ferrell at 8:33. Second by B. Brogan. Motion carries.

Next meeting: Thursday, June 4, 2015 - 6:45 PM Miami Yacht Club