

Richard III Society Board Meeting 05-03-0

The meeting was opened at 4:10pm ET by Chairman Wayne Ingalls. Members present: Bonnie Battaglia, Pamela Butler, Diane Hoffman, Amber Mcveigh, William McVeigh, Maria Torres and Nita Musgrave.

MINUTES: The minutes were approved as written. Nita mentioned that since she was using Microsoft Works some people had had trouble opening previous minutes. Diane Hoffman stated that Rich Text Format was one which everyone should be able to open.

Nita had accessed the Members Only section of the Society website and found that no minutes had been posted since June '07.

Our new webmaster William McVeigh will post the minutes and Bonnie and Maria offered to check their files and let him have the back copies.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Diane needs names and account #'s of the funds in which we are invested . She states we need to reassess our investments and make some decisions about how to invest in the future. Wayne will get the information required. Diane will contact the funds to get the tax information. She has been in touch with Paul at the Medieval Academy and found out that the Schallek Fund is under the Medieval Academy's a/c # and so requires no filing by us. Diane also plans to file for an extension until all the information can be gathered together.

"Little Schallek fund" \$63,860.45

Checking account \$44,784.80

Later,(probably at the AGM) we can discuss how to invest the money, right now it is in bank savings and earning very little.

Diane says that some money market and mutual funds have large expense ratios (fees and expenses paid by the fund investors from the money they have invested in the fund) and carry loads (sales charges).

Our present funds have large expense ratios and carry loads, except for the Calvert money market fund which has no load but does have a large expense ratio. We should change to no-load funds with lower

expense ratios.

Larry Irwin and Diane Batch of the Michigan 2010 AGM committee were e mailed about their tax free account. They said it was not open in 2008 so Diane did not need to account for it on our IRS filing. Larry Irwin said that they would apply for their own tax ID # for their account. Diane also mentioned that although she knows money has been spent by their committee she has not yet received any bills. Their should be ample funds to cover 2009 AGM.

MEMBERSHIP; Amber reported that we have 507 members. 485 are paid memberships and the rest are comps. Only 2 members did not renew. Amber states she gets a notification from Paypal whenever a member pays dues.

NEW BUSINESS

There was discussion of having a second tier membership where members would receive no publications, but would be able to access them on line. Diane felt that this would probably be the preferred way to go in future. However the Board felt that with many older members who do not have computers this would not be feasible. No action was taken on this type of membership.

Wayne reported receiving an e mail from Phil Stone , he had heard there were problems in the Branch. Nita stated that she had seen Phil in England last week and told him that the reports of our demise were unfounded.

There was discussion of the fact that there is a move to make a film of the book “The Sunne in Splendour” It was felt that this might help with recruiting members for the Society.

THE REGISTER; The last issue of the Register is still not out however since Carole was not at the meeting we have no further information. Amber will send some back copies of the Register to Pam who needs to

send them to some new members.

OLD BUSINESS.

AGM: the Imperial Palace seems to be the best bargain. Pam explained that there are no good deals in Las Vegas for meetings since the hotels would rather rent the space to gamblers. Because of the food and drink minimum we need to have the banquet at the hotel. A suggestion was made that the visit to the Excalibur for the banquet and tournament could be an optional visit on Sunday evening.

On the subject of speakers, Nita suggested that as Phil Stone has expressed an interest in attending the AGM, we ask him to give a talk. Wayne will contact him.

Amber informed us that Retha Warnicke is on the faculty of University of Arizona and might agree to give a talk. She will contact her.

Sharon Michalove of University of Illinois has already agreed to give a talk.

There is a falconry club in Las Vegas and the weekend before our AGM there is a Ren. Faire. Pam will try to contact them and see if they have any interest in taking part.

There was a suggestion to put together a welcome kit to be given to people who give demonstrations etc to see if they might be interested in joining the Society.

An e mail was received from Joyce Tumea of the Illinois chapter offering to help by providing an original skit for the AGM or by organising a discussion group on the subject of gaining and retaining members. Wayne thought we should let Joyce know we are interested but at this point don't know where we would put the offerings and whether we would use one or both. Nita will contact Joyce and tell her to go ahead and we will contact her again at a later date.

NEXT MEETING will be on Sunday June 7th at 4pm ET. Please mark your calendars.

The meeting was closed at 4:30pm.

