

Richard III Society Board Meeting (American Branch) Saturday May 14th, 2011

Present: J. Bloomquist, J. Hayes, A. McVey, D. Hoffman, J. Szechtman,
N. Musgrave

The meeting was opened at 4:03pm ET by Chairman J. Bloomquist.

Minutes: Following revisions requested by Diane the minutes were approved as revised. Diane believes she heard that the Hogarths are now deceased. She will investigate, in case there is a chance of obtaining any original documents. Jacqueline will try to contact Bonnie Battaglia to see if she or her mother has any information about the Hogarths.

The archives which had been kept in New Orleans by Carole Rike have been sent to Wayne Ingalls by Rike Services. An invoice was received from them which has already been paid by Diane.

Nita brought up the subject of keeping track of the Board's minutes. She proposed a flash drive to contain all the minutes at the end of her term to be passed on to the next secretary. William McVey joined the meeting briefly to tell us that after he has completed some other revisions to the website he hopes to get up to date with posting the minutes. We may have to decide how many years of minutes we want to archive on the website.

AGM Brochures Joan has not yet received any feedback from Sun Graphics on cost of printing and distributing the brochures. In order to utilize the non-profit postage we need to have our documents filed with the Post Office in Ohio. Amber needs to know whether to send the membership file.

Toronto AGM: We have been asked whether we need a separate room for our business meeting. We believe it would be better to have one.

Joan explained that the advertising rates in the Register have been reduced because of the reduction in size of the publication. Joan also wanted us to consider having some fiction published in the Register. In the UK publication in 2009, Brian Wainwright put in a fiction piece based on a Graham Turner picture, "The Arrival". It was decided to do it once, maybe in Fall or Winter and see how it is received. Maybe Brian Wainwright will make a submission? The next Register is planned for

June, so far Joan only has two articles.

There was discussion of the Society sponsoring conferences and the fact that we are still listed as a sponsor of a session at the Medieval Conference in Kalamazoo. Candace Gregory Abbot is listed as the session organizer and although it is believed a previous Board gave permission some years ago, no further contact has been received from Ms. Abbot. It is our feeling that if we are listed as sponsoring the session we should be notified ahead of time of the speakers and topics.

It was noted that every time the Board changes, the e-mail address used to contact us changes. Amber thinks she may be able to organize a solution to this.

Discussion on making the membership anniversary date October 2nd, by which date all members should have renewed. It may be necessary to change the bylaws if we go with the new renewal date. Changing all renewals to Oct. 2nd would make it easier to comply with the UK society's new membership regulations. Using our system of people renewing on different dates makes it difficult to come up with a membership number as of Oct. 2nd. For the 2010/2011 year we declared 400 memberships but only ordered 340 Bulletins for the March 11th edition. Previously we have discussed moving to all renewals on Oct. 2nd but ultimately it was thought members may not like that arrangement. We will stay with the current system for now and try to come up with more accurate ways to estimate membership numbers. It was suggested that we keep such estimates on the low side to avoid paying for more than we need. There was also discussion of putting a notice in the Register informing members of the new rules and rates for the UK society.

The last shipment of 340 packages arrived in good condition although the packaging was bad. We are informed that Stephen York has taken over as business manager from Diana Lee. We understand that future shipments will be sent via Fedex. Jonathan pointed out that it is the printer who packs the books not the shipper. We believe the UK society should check the strength of the boxes. For now we will wait and see what happens.

It has been suggested that Eileen Prinsen is no longer the Chapter Advisor. Nita will check all chapter contacts to see if their information is correct and also contact Eileen to see if she is interested in staying on.

The meeting was closed after the next meeting was set for Sunday, June 26th at 4pm ET.

