Richard III Society Board Meeting – January 24, 2016

Present: Jonathan, Bob, Mary, Charlie, Wayne, Dawn, Joan, Lisa, Nita

Jonathan called the meeting to order at 1:05PM PST.

Charlie asked to speak first about the sales office. He said has encountered difficulty in getting volunteers to help with sales and wanted to know if the board wanted to keep sales going or sell off the current inventory and then close down the sales office. Nita asked if advertising more for help would be helpful. Charlie said that his personal life had been taking up more of his time and he needed help, but if the board wanted to keep the sales office going he would try harder to find volunteers. Nita asked if it would be helpful for Joan to put an advertisement in the Register asking for volunteers. Joan said that she could do that, and also in the Chronicle. She could publish a link to the sales webpage. The consensus of the board was to continue the sales office. Joan asked if it would be possible to advertise and sell to non-members. Charlie said he had been told that there were tax implications if we sold items to non-members. Jonathan mentioned that he had heard about the tax problem as well and Susan Troxell was concerned about not charging sales tax from the people who purchased books from the library. Joan suggested creating a webpage for sales that would be members only. Jonathan said the society needed to be more active in getting volunteers to help Charlie. Bob mentioned that he had placed orders on the website. Charlie said that most activity came after special notices had been sent out. It was decided to ask Sally to send out notices.

A motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting was made by Nita and seconded by Wayne. The board voted to approve the minutes.

There was a discussion of the proposed amendments to the bylaws. Jonathan said that he would incorporate Nita and Sally's suggestions and send a proposal to Joan to put in the Register. A motion to approve this was made by Lisa and seconded by Joan. The board voted to approve the motion.

The plans for the General Membership Meeting in Colorado were discussed. Jonathan said he has signed the contract for the hotel. Dawn said she would get a notice about the GMM to Joan to be published in the Register. Joan said that she did not have a registration form yet but that she would see that one was published in the June Register. Nita mentioned that it was customary to pay bills related to the GMM after the event. Jonathan brought up the need to pay for Dominic Smee and his mother to come. The board discussed how this should be done, would there need to be a contract? Dawn mentioned that there could be visa issues for Dominic and his mother if there was a contract. Jonathan mentioned that he had been in another group that had brought over a speaker from Ireland and there was a hold up because of visa problems. Dawn said that she would find out more details about what would be the best way to pay for Dominic and his mother. It was mentioned that Dominic's mother is going to be the speaker at the Sunday morning fundraiser. Nita said that they would be sharing a room. Lisa told Dawn that is she needed any money for this, she should send Lisa an email. Jonathan said he was concerned about publicity for the GMM and getting people to attend. Joan said that it would be advertised in the June Register because people need to make plans in advance. Jonathan suggested putting a "Save the Date" notice in the next Register. Joan said it was also in the December Chronicle. It was mentioned that Ian Churchwood and his wife would be attending and paying their own way. They would be bringing their instruments to play for us. It was discussed that they should get an honorarium. Nita suggested that we pay their registration fee. Bob said that he had already bought 20 of their CD's to sell with the proceeds going to the GMM costs. The hotel in Colorado is nice and has good transportation to and from the airport. It also has a shuttle to the train station.

Jonathan mentioned the upcoming board elections. Mary will not be running for reelection for secretary and we will also need a new vice chair. Joan asked to be sent an email about the elections so she could put the information in the Register and invite people to nominate themselves. Nita asked who was the chair of the nominating committee. Wayne said that it was the past chair.

The Dickon Award was discussed. It was mentioned that someone who had been a large donor to the society had been mooted as a candidate. Jonathan said he thought the Dickon Award should go to someone who had worked hard for the branch and that a separate award could be established to recognize donors. He said he thought it was wise to keep the number of awards down as this would make them more meaningful.

Jonathan mentioned an email he has received about the English Speaking Union. Getting the word out about this group was discussed.

Bob asked if Jonathan had heard from Mary Nickle. Jonathan said he had emailed her on the 20th. Joan said she was having problems with her emails bouncing back and thought it was caused by a link she had put in her signature. Nita also mentioned she was having trouble sending emails to Lisa and Wayne. Wayne said he had been having problems sending emails to Lisa. Jonathan said he had heard from Joyce Tumca was no longer interested in being the Public Relations person and her name should be taken out of the Register. Wayne volunteered to become the Public Relations person.

The next board meeting is to be held on April 10, 2016. The meeting was adjourned at 1:58PM PST.