

## Emerson Society Business Meeting Minutes

Friday, May 24, 2013

Parliament Room, Westin Copley Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts

President Robert Habich called the meeting called to order 12:45 pm. About 20 members were in attendance.

- 1) 2012 Minutes approved
- 2) 2013 treasurer's report approved. Bob thanked Todd Richardson for his work as Secretary/Treasurer

### Announcements and updates

- 1) Annual award winners
  - a. Ruth Martin has received the graduate student paper award. Leslie Eckel presented her with a check for \$750.
  - b. Bob recognizes the 2013 Packer Fellowship award recipient, Derek Pacheco of Purdue University, as well as the 2012 recipient, James Finley of the University of New Hampshire.
  - c. Bob announces that the Distinguished Achievement Award goes to Professor Dieter Schultz of Heidelberg University.
- 2) Collected Works volume 10, *Uncollected Prose Writings*, is now available; a celebration for the completion of CW will be held at the Houghton Library this evening, 5:30-7:00. Emerson Society dinner follows.
- 3) Status of IRS tax-exemption refiling. Professor Habich especially thanks Jane von Frank for her hard work in completing and filing a 58-page form. The membership also thanks Professor Habich. The IRS acknowledged as received on 12 Feb 2013. We were to be notified of the decision within 90 days. We are past that now.
- 4) Other reports or announcements? Ron Bosco discussed his and Joel Myerson's plans to publish Emerson's account books electronically. The account books take up ten full ledgers.
- 5) Bob thanks outgoing board members Sandy Petrulionis and Dieter Schultz for their service. He also thanks Jessie Bray and Bonnie O'Neill for screening award applicants, Sandy and Len Gougeon for serving on the DAA committee, members of the Packer Fellowship committee, Todd and Sue Dunston for wise advice, Bonnie and Leslie Eckel for managing our Facebook page, Jennifer Gurley for taking editorship of ESP, Amy Earhart for managing our web pages, and Leslie and David Dowling for arranging two excellent sessions here and another to come at the Thoreau Society AG In July.

### Business

- 1) Election of two new board members: Martin Kervorkian and Jan Stievermann
- 2) Bonnie O'Neill elected as Secretary/Treasurer, Todd Richardson elected as President Elect.

- 3) Progress report on last year's initiatives.
  - a. Paypal. 2013 was the first year we have offered a PayPal service option. Todd reports that approximately thirty members have paid their 2013 membership via PayPal.
  - b. ESP delivered electronically. Todd and Jennifer report that approximately 15% of the membership elected to receive ESP electronically. Professor Gurley will email electronic copies to the entire membership.
  - c. ESP update. Jennifer Gurley discusses an initiative to reach out to non-academic readers of ESP with a "My Emerson" column. Discussion of how to thank student workers on ESP with "honoraria" as opposed to payments. Discussion also on increasing membership in academic libraries.
  - d. Dues. Bob notes the necessity of increasing dues to reflect actual expenses of the Society.
  - e. Web site. Bob thanks Amy Earhardt, web master, for her fine work updating the society web page. There have been a number of improvements including easier navigation of the page.
  - f. Leslie and Bonnie give an update on the new FaceBook page. There are now about one hundred members of the page.
  - g. Recruitment: Bob presents the possibility of cooperating with the Poe and Hawthorne Societies in mutually beneficial ways. The membership believes that reciprocal ad space and web links would be appropriate. The membership does not support the sharing of email mailing lists.
- 4) Bob presents the idea of a conference in Heidelberg, Germany, in 2018. Professor Stievermann has expressed a willingness to help as an on-site board member in Heidelberg. Ongoing discussion with Poe and Hawthorne societies about joining.
- 5) Next meeting: ALA in Washington, D.C. in 2014.
- 6) Other business:
  - a. The membership thanks Bob Habich for two years as president of the Emerson Society.
  - b. Ron Bosco recommends seeking out grant opportunities for the Heidelberg conference.

Meeting adjourned, 1:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd H. Richardson  
Emerson Society Secretary/Treasurer