**Friendly Sons of St. Patrick**

**Spring 2013 Members: Pres. Bob O'Hern, Treas. Tim Schuck, Vice Pres. Mike O'Connell, Secretary Ed Kelly,**

**Bill McCarthy, Mike Murphy, Jim O'Donnell, Tony Schmid, Bree Young**

**FSOSP Board Meeting for Mon., Mar. 25, 2013**

**Location** Mickle Center, 1620 Pleasant, Des Moines, IA, 50314 (515) 277-SONS

**Call to Order**  6:03 p.m. **Roll Call** A quorum was present. Missing: none

**Treasurer's Report**  Approved...overall balance $34,518

Many bills from the parade are unpaid, but the city is finally paid off. Revenue from the Marriott and Exile Brew is unknown at this time.

**Members Input/Forum** Former Pres. Modglin gave a recap of the parade's success/results/expenses.

**Discussion & Reports**

1. Parade observations and pluses/minuses were recounted:

+ City meeting coming soon and they should be impressed with the increased "control" of the crowd

+ Seemed faster without street crossing delays (103 entries vs. 130 last year & 1:45 hrs. vs. 2.5 before)

+ Carts were parked and volunteers roamed the blocks on foot & that was better

+ Fencing allowed staked-out spots for kids with no hassles or "turf wars"

+ Generally a good allocation of police this year

- Too crowded at ending spot...need police presence to nip it in the bud

- Breaks needed in fence to allow crossing the street (one per block?)

- Bike police were bunched & hanging at intersections & not roaming individually

- 15th St. had too many parked vehicles (extend the meter bagging)

- 17 raffle books unsold (need tighter regulation)

\*Related suggestions for 2014:

Should design a Sons float for use in other parades, as well as this one

More sponsors needed, perhaps with advertising on the fence

More pylons needed (increase to 6 ft. intervals... at 50 cents each, it's no problem)

Volunteers need zip-tie kits to repair fencing sections

Need list of reception materials for pick-up: banners, sashes, raffle bowl, car signs

Modglin suggested 2014 planning begin next month

2. General, pleased lip-smacking over McCarthy's smoked corned beef and the Dunkel beer ensued

3. O'Connell was charged with getting info on the planning underway for this year's 5K/10K to be held April 7.

Contact Leonhart (possibly dealing with medical situation), emailing members seeking volunteers (for timers, water, entry desk work, and pylons), completing the choice of two scholarship winners.

Kelly will contact Dan Crew, Leonhart's assistant.

4. Kelly proposed starting an annual trip to the August Iowa Irish Fest in Waterloo. Approximate costs of $330 (each van), $150 (gas for each van), $10 (admission) could allow for an $80/couple charge, with club support for any additional expenses. Info will be published in the Blarney and a sign-up sheet placed out at the next meeting.

If it's successful this year, an attempt will be made to change the conflicting disc golf outing date.

5. IA Cubs contacted Kelly about scheduling outings. Board opinion was that this would be valuable as a way to provide fun experiences for our donees and children connected to various charities we deal with. We will look into sponsoring seats at an afternoon game or two this summer.

6. O'Hern led discussion of our need to support other Irish groups in the area like the CMA. McCarthy bristled at mention of the Irish Clan, but maybe could have been gas from the corned beef.

7. O'Hern thanked all for the recent donation to the up-coming Best Buddies Walk and explained the nature of the Challenger and Miracle Leagues. Blarney info will encourage members to email O'Hern if they wish to volunteer at the outing on April 14.

**Action Items**

1. Planning for the April 7 5K/10K.

2. Prepare for meeting with the city street-use committee next month.

**Adjournment** 8:02 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** Mon., April 29, 2013