

Minutes of the meeting of the Toscaireacht

Date: 15 October 2012
Time: 13.00 – 17.00
Venue: Offices of the Arts Council, 70 Merrion Square, Dublin 2

Present

Seóirse Bodley, Anthony Cronin, Theo Dorgan, Mary FitzGerald, Alice Hanratty, Brian Maguire, Shelley McNamara, Jane O'Leary.

In attendance

Toby Dennett (Registrar), Catherine Boothman, 60th Anniversary Project and Artists' Supports Officer

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Previous minutes and matters arising
3. New member nominations
4. General Assembly – (including EU Presidency aspect)
5. Streamlining relationship with Arts Council and reviewing rules and procedures
6. Nominations for co-opting a new member of Toscaireacht
7. Request from Dublin City Council re nomination to public art panel
8. Letter from Higher Education Authority requesting meeting
9. AOB

1. Apologies

Apologies were given to the meeting on behalf of Mary O'Malley.

2. Previous minutes and matters arising

The minutes of the Toscaireacht meeting held on 5 July 2012 were reviewed and approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

There were no matters arising

3. New member nominations

Nominations were reviewed; a number of letters were indentified where amendments would be required. The nominations were all approved subject to a number of minor amendments in some instances.

4. General Assembly (including EU Presidency aspect).

It was confirmed that IMMA had been secured as a venue for the General Assembly on 19 April 2013. The chair explained that the previous proposal put forward by the Toscaireacht had not received support from the Arts Council for a number of reasons. A further briefing document prepared by Catherine Boothman restating the wider context of the cultural programme for the Presidency and setting out a number of possible options of how Aosdána might incorporate an issue relevant to the presidency into the assembly (and setting out the parameters within which the

Arts Council would be able to assist Aosdána in this work) was circulated to members. It was agreed that the General Assembly would incorporate some form of European dimension to coincide with Ireland's Presidency. It was agreed that the Registrar would compile and distribute information responding to the queries on Creative Europe. It was agreed that members of the Toscaireacht would forward any responses or ideas to the Arts Council and that these would be compiled and redistributed. It was agreed that a further meeting would be needed to move matters forward.

5. Streamlining relationship with Arts Council and reviewing rules and procedures

Mary and Theo reported on their deliberations in regard to the nomination and election process, taking into consideration the feedback that had been received, and made a number of suggestions for how the system could be amended. There was an extended discussion on the matter and a number of other proposals were also considered. It was agreed that further thinking would need to be given to the matter. It was agreed that the Toscaireacht would need to be in a position to make clear recommendations to the General Assembly in order that any new system could be implemented in time for the 2013/14 nomination and election process.

6. Nominations for co-opting a new member of Toscaireacht

The Chair reminded members that there was the option available to co-opt an additional member on to the Toscaireacht. After discussion a name was agreed and the Registrar was instructed to make an approach.

7. Request from Dublin City Council re nomination to public art panel.

The chair informed members that an invitation had been received from Dublin City Council to nominate names to its public art panel. The members agreed a number of names in line with the relevant criteria and instructed the Registrar to ascertain their interest availability and inform DCC accordingly.

8. Letter from Higher Education Authority requesting meeting

The chair reported that Aosdána had been invited to send a representative to attend a consultative meeting with the HEA.

9. AOB