

Minutes of the meeting of the Toscaireacht, 2.00pm 20th January at the Arts Council, 70 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

Present: Mary FitzGerald (Chair), Seóirse Bodley, Rhona Clarke, Michael Holohan, Brian Lynch, Shelley McNamara, Éilís Ní Dhuibhne.

Apologies: Jane O'Leary, Vivienne Roche.

In attendance: Audrey Keane, Registrar

The Toscaireacht took a moment to reflect on the recent loss of Anthony Cronin who was the founder of Aosdána. The setting up of Aosdána was an inspiring moment and they expressed appreciation on behalf of all Irish artists.

Previous minutes and matters arising

The minutes were proposed by ENiD and seconded by MH as an accurate reflection of the meeting.

Letters of condolence have been sent on behalf of members to relatives of Leland Bardwell, Basil Blackshaw and Louis Stewart.

Condolences

MH is working on a tribute text for Louis Stewart. BL has written a short text which can be posted on the website in the meantime. MF will send letters of condolence to the families of John Montague and Anthony Cronin. AK will check if any other tributes are outstanding for members who recently passed away.

BL joined the meeting at 2.40pm.

General Assembly 2017

(i) Review of nominations

Papers for six new nominations were reviewed. One item was identified where follow up with the nominator is required. AK will follow up. It was confirmed that all six nominations would go to the membership for consideration at the discipline stage. A further 11 nominations will be carried over from the previous General Assembly.

AK to confirm the process for discipline ballot for nominations in choreography.

(ii) Date of General Assembly 2017

The date has been confirmed as Monday 24th April 2017.

(iii) Planning and agenda

Call for motions and agenda items will be sent out week beginning 20th February.

Members will consider ideas for the afternoon session of the GA 2017 and bring to the next meeting. Any invitations to possible speakers should be issued not later than mid-February.

(iv) Matters arising from GA 2016

MF has sent letters in follow up to motions passed at GA 2016 as outlined in the minutes of Toscaireacht meeting of 21st September 2016 in addition to thank you letters to all of those who presented for the afternoon session.

MF will follow up with Philip Casey regarding the setting up of an Aosdána email address with a provider that does not use advertisements.

(v) Minutes of GA 2016

AK will edit the minutes down as they are too long and will circulate for the next Toscaireacht meeting.

A.O.B.

SMcN raised the issue of the difficulties regarding the completion of the Picture Palace cinema in Galway. The building which is designed by architect and Aosdána member Tom dePaor is an exemplary piece of architecture. SMcN signalled that the fellow architect members of Aosdána intend to write a letter in support of the completion of building.

Date of next meeting

AK will circulate a doodle poll with 8th, 9th and 10th February as the suggested dates for the next meeting.