

Toscaireacht Meeting

Draft Minutes

Date: 17 January 2006

Time: 14.15

Venue: The Arts Council, 70 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

Present:

Cecily Brennan

Theo Dorgan

Roger Doyle

Michael Kane

Alice Maher

In attendance:

Paul Johnson (Registrar)

Siân Cunningham (Artists' Services Officer, minutes)

Papers before the meeting

Agenda

Minutes of meeting, 29 November 2005

Draft FAQ

1. Election of Chairperson

Cecily Brennan was nominated to chair for this meeting.

2. Apologies

Seoirse Bodley, Clare Boylan, Anthony Cronin, Paul Durcan, Jennifer Johnston.

3. Minutes/Matters Arising

3.1 Minutes

The minutes were adopted as an accurate record of the meeting.

3.2 Matters Arising/New Members' Reception

The Registrar explained to the meeting that it has been proving very difficult to arrange a date between now and the General Assembly in February for the new members' reception. He confirmed that there will be a joint reception for the '05 and '06 new members after the General Assembly in February.

3.3 Matters Arising/Rule

Cecily Brennan asked if a hand out will be available at the Assembly on voting procedures.

Theo Dorgan agreed that this would be very useful.

It was agreed that this item will be discussed under item 4 on the agenda.

3.4 Matters Arising/Rule Change (nomination procedure/CVs)

A discussion was held about this rule change.

The Registrar suggested that the rule change – that nomination letters and CVs must be submitted to the Arts Council at the same time – be put forward to the General Assembly.

It was agreed that this will be put to the members at the Assembly.

3.5 Matters Arising/Information sheet for nomination process

It was agreed that an information sheet is to be made available for all members providing information on how to nominate a new member. It was agreed that this will be distributed at the General Assembly and that it will be an item for the agenda.

3.6 Matters Arising/Abbey Theatre

The Toscairí enquired if a response has been received in relation to their nomination of Thomas Kilroy for the Abbey Theatre board. The Registrar confirmed that he had received a response from Thomas Kilroy and that he was very happy to accept the nomination. He has not yet heard back from Abbey Theatre in relation to the matter to date.

4. Procedures for the General Assembly/Structure of the meeting

It was agreed that if possible a square configuration should be used for the room on the day of the Assembly. Last year it was difficult to see the persons speaking and the Toscairí are keen to avoid that situation happening again.

It was agreed that the Registrar should investigate the possibility of having a lectern for speakers on the day.

A lengthy discussion was held on the length of time to be allotted to each speaker on the day. It was agreed that 5 minutes will be allocated to each speaker. It was also agreed that a bell would be used to signal the end of the speaking time. The 5 minute time frame will have to be adhered to strictly by all speakers due to the overall time constraints of the meeting.

Due to the high number of nominations and time constraints it was agreed to commence the meeting at 10 am sharp. Coffee will be served from 9.15 to 9.45am.

It was agreed that the Registrar will oversee the elections.

Michael Kane left the meeting at 15.30.

It was agreed to have a drinks reception at 5pm.

5. General Assembly Attendance Figures

A list of attendance figures was distributed. Members expressed concern at the low levels of attendance. It was agreed that this item will be discussed at the Assembly.

6. General Assembly Motions

No motions were received.

7. Aosdána Events and Toscaireacht Meetings for 2006

The Toscairí agreed that this item be deferred to the next meeting.

8. Aosdána FAQ

The Toscairí discussed the draft FAQ which had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

It was agreed that items of relevance to the present and future of Aosdána should be discussed at Toscaireacht meetings. It was agreed that time should be allocated for a

discussion period at each meeting. The Toscairí agreed that items for discussion must be sent to the Registrar in advance and they are to be included on the agenda for the meeting.

There being no business the meeting concluded at 17.00.

ENDS