

Toscaireacht Meeting

Minutes

Date: 25 November 2004

Time: 13.30

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

Present:

Seóirse Bodley

Clare Boylan

Cecily Brennan

Anthony Cronin

Theo Dorgan

Paul Durcan

Roger Doyle

In attendance: Paul Johnson (Registrar), Siân Cunningham (Artists' Services Officer, minutes).

Papers before the meeting

Minutes of meeting 8 November 2004

Correspondence from David Kavanagh, on behalf of Association of Irish Composers, Sculptors' Society of Ireland and Irish Playwrights and Screenwriters Guild.

Recommendation from Comptroller and Auditor General

1. Election of Chairperson

Theo Dorgan was nominated to chair for this meeting.

2. Apologies

Jennifer Johnston, Michael Kane, Alice Maher.

3. Registrar

The Chair formally congratulated the Registrar on his new post.

4. Minutes/Matters Arising

The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as an accurate record of the meeting, subject to one change: Paul Durcan left the meeting at 15.45.

5. Schedule for nominations for membership for 2005

The Registrar reported that the Arts Council met in plenary on Monday last and approved the recommendation for 10 additional places. For the next General Assembly in 2005 there will be 12 places (two created through attrition). The Council would like to issue a joint press release to reiterate their commitment to the individual artist and to acknowledge their ongoing investment in Aosdána.

Members can now nominate choreographers and architects.

The Registrar and Mary Cloake will draft a press release and circulate to the Toscairi.

Anthony Cronin proposed the motion that the Toscairi will approve the draft.

The motion was seconded by Paul Durcan.

Anthony Cronin suggested that Theo Dorgan would draft a letter that will be distributed with the press release. Theo Dorgan agreed to do this.

6. General Assembly

A discussion was held with regard to dates for the next General Assembly. It was agreed that the Assembly will take place in early May and the Dublin Castle is the preferred venue.

It was noted that the entire membership will act as a filter for architecture and choreography for the 2005.

A number of issues were discussed in relation to the General Assembly, including the issue of nominators not being available to speak at the Assembly.

The Registrar suggested that it was an opportune time to send a letter reminding members of their obligations regarding nominations, along with the other correspondence that was agreed on earlier in the meeting.

7. Correspondence

7.1. Recommendation from Comptroller and Auditor General

The Toscairi discussed the recommendation of the Comptroller and Auditor General.

It was agreed that the Registrar will find out if the Arts Council will be sending a general response to the Comptroller and Auditor General. He will report on this at the next meeting.

It was also agreed that the issue should be discussed at General Assembly.

7.2 Correspondence from David Kavanagh

Before the correspondence was discussed Cecily Brennan alerted the meeting to the fact that she is married to David Kavanagh and that she was not aware of this correspondence in advance of the meeting.

Cecily Brennan left the meeting at 15.05.

It was agreed to suggest that David Kavanagh (on behalf of the Sculptors Society of Ireland, Association of Irish Composers, and Irish Playwrights and Screenwriters Guild) contacts each Aosdána member individually as Aosdána is not a trade association and would not be able to give them its collective view and that should they wish to submit their document that those members who wish to comment will do so.

8. Review of election patterns

Anthony Cronin suggested that this item be deferred to the next meeting. A short discussion was held in order to inform the debate.

It was noted that this item was incorrectly flagged on the agenda. It should have been 'Review of election patterns in the music discipline'.

9. AOB

It was agreed that the next meeting will be held in the Arts Council on Thursday 20 January at 13.30, again commencing with sandwiches and tea/coffee.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded at 15.45.