

Toscaireacht Meeting

Minutes

Date: 22 February 2007

Time: 1pm

Venue: The Arts Council, 70 Merrion Square

Present:

Anthony Cronin

Michael Kane

Seoirse Bodley

Theo Dorgan

Alice Maher

In attendance

Diego Fasciati (Acting Deputy Registrar)

Ciara Timlin (Artists' Services Officer, minutes)

Niamh McCabe (Awards' Assistant)

Papers before the meeting

Agenda

Minutes of meeting

1. Election of Chairperson

Anthony Cronin was nominated to chair the meeting.

2. Apologies

Jennifer Johnston, Roger Doyle, Paul Durcan, Cecily Brennan.

3. Minutes/Matters Arising

Minutes

Subject to agreed changes, the minutes were adopted as an accurate record of the meeting.

Matters Arising

The Acting Deputy Registrar confirmed that a letter was written to Theatre forum as directed and they had replied to state they would contact The Arts Council as advised by the Toscaireacht.

In relation to reviewing the pension scheme, the Toscaireacht agreed this should be professionally evaluated by an external consultant.

4. Outcome of the Discipline Ballot

The Toscaireacht was presented with the result of the Discipline ballot. 13 of the 20 nominations were successful. Including the carried forward nominations, there are 25 nominations to be presented at the General Assembly.

Tony Cronin proposed a change to the rule regarding calculating the quota for the discipline ballot count. The proposed change which will be presented at the General Assembly is: '50% plus 1 of ballots received in their discipline is the quota necessary to go forward to the General Assembly.'

The Toscaireacht agreed the ballot paper for the discipline ballot should be changed to a single sheet with all nominations listed on it rather than individual ballot sheets.

General Assembly Ballots

The Toscaireacht proposed the following change to the rule regarding calculating the quota necessary for election at the General Assembly; 'To secure election, a candidate must receive at least 50% plus 1 votes of those voting and then successful candidates are elected to the available vacant places in descending order to the number of votes cast.'

5. Agenda for General Assembly

The Toscaireacht agreed the two motions relating to changes in the voting procedures for the Discipline ballot and General Assembly will be included in the Agenda.

Alice Maher's motion to increase the number of Saoithe from 5 to 7 in line with the increased membership numbers of Aosdána is also to be included in the agenda.

The Acting Deputy Registrar suggested the Toscaireacht's proposal to the Arts Council to have the level of the Cnuas and the income threshold raised, should be raised at the General Assembly.

6. AOB

Toscaireacht report

Diego Fasciati agreed to compile the Toscaireacht's report.

The Toscaireacht agreed to stay in term until the administration of Aosdána internally at the Arts Council has been formalised.

AOB

Tony Cronin agreed to chair the General Assembly.

Michael Kane raised the issue of nominees canvassing members of Aosdána for votes. The Acting Deputy Registrar confirmed the rule on this matter states, that nominations should be cognisant of the potential detrimental effect of personal canvassing.

The Acting Deputy Registrar presented the Toscaireacht with a Saoi nomination for Patrick Scott. It was agreed the postal ballot process for Saoi nomination would begin without delay.

The Toscaireacht agreed the Chair of the Council should be invited to Lunch on the day of the General Assembly.