



**Arts, Culture, Recreation and Community Strategic Policy Committee**

**Minutes of meeting of Commemorations Committee - Fochoiste na gCuimhneachán**

Wednesday 18th January 2017 at 2.00pm  
Richard O'Carroll Room, City Hall

<b>Councillors/Members Present</b>	<b>Officials Present</b>
Cllr Vincent Jackson (Chair) Cllr Nial Ring Cllr Pat McCartan Cllr Micheal MacDonncha Cllr Mannix Flynn	Brendan Teeling, Deputy City Librarian Margaret Hayes, Dublin City Librarian Tara Doyle, Dublin City Public Libraries

1. Minutes of the meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> November 2016 approved. Matters arising:
  - a. St. Patrick's Day Festival – It was noted that a written report was presented at the January meeting of the SPC. B Teeling reported that he had spoken to the CEO of the Festival who proposes to invite members of the SPC and Commemorations Committee to a briefing on the Festival.
  - b. Lamp post banners – T. Doyle reported that Civic Media had informed her that the majority of lamp posts in the North Inner city area not recommended for fixings with a few exceptions on Ballybough Road; new poles on Clonliffe Road now have fixings attached.
2. Apologies: Cllr. Cieran Perry
3. Correspondence
  - a. Letter of reply from Nessa Foley, Private Secretary to Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs re. Sale of P Pearse surrender letter.
4. 1916 Garrison plaques
  - a. It was reported that the Four Courts garrison plaque was unveiled on Church St by Lord Mayor Brendan Carr on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2016 and the RCSI Garrison plaque unveiled by Cllr. Dermot Lacey, deputising for the Lord Mayor, on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016, with many relatives in attendance at both unveilings. It was reported that the landlords of Clanwilliam House, the proposed site of Boland's Mills garrison plaque, are renovating the building and have requested a six-month delay until works have finished (circa mid-2017). The convenor of the Boland's Mills relatives group has been informed. B. Teeling reported that DCC plaques will be mapped in 2017. Cllr. Flynn suggested poster and badges of plaques. The officials will investigate and get costs for this.
5. 2017 Commemorations programme
  - a. Historians-in-residence programme: it was reported that a Contract for Service for the six Historians-in-Residence in DCC was advertised with closing date 25<sup>th</sup> January.

- b. The historians will work part-time for approximately nine months to continue community engagement with history across the city and build on the success of a similar programme in 2016.
- c. Events to be commemorated in 2017: it was reported that a number of anniversaries in 2017 will be marked including by-elections, Irish Convention, Thomas Ashe death, WWI events (Battles of Passchendaele, Messines Ridge, death of Francis Ledwidge), Russian revolution, Reformation, research on Representation of the People Act 1918 (women's suffrage).
- d. Lunch Time Lecture Series: It was reported that the luncheon lecture series in City Hall in April will be on the theme 'The Great War: Remembrance and Commemoration'. This will coincide with the *Assembly Memorial Chairs* travelling installation from *In Flanders Fields* Museum which commemorates war deaths and which will be in DCLA in March; City Hall in April, and Richmond Barracks in May. Cllr. MacDonncha suggested pipe band competition to commemorate Thomas Ashe's death. Cllr. Ring pointed out that 2017 is 150th anniversary of Fenian rising. He would like more consultation on the 2017 programme. The officials will look into a consultation mechanism for programme themes.

e. Motion from SPC:

“As part of the decade of Commemorations, Dublin City Council to organise a series of public talks, lectures, panel discussions and exhibitions in 2017 to mark the centenary of the Russian Revolution, an event of world historical importance, exploring not only its initial successes and ultimate failures, but exploring also the emancipator achievements of the revolution such as granting women the right to vote and contest elections, the legalisation of abortion and the repealing of laws outlawing homosexuality; and to explore also the political and cultural links between Revolutionary Russia and Revolutionary Ireland during the period beginning in 1917”

The motion was noted: the officials will look into a consultation mechanism for programme themes.

Exhibition celebrating the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Jonathan Swift: it was reported that the exhibition “Jonathan Swift and Dublin” will be on display in DCLA until the end of February. A travelling version of the exhibition will tour branch libraries in 2017.

- f. “Dublin Remembers: Stories from the Somme”: it was reported that a travelling version will tour branch libraries throughout 2017.

6. A.O.B.

- a. It was reported that on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2016, Dublin City Council won a Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government award for its 1916 commemorations programme “Dublin Remembers 1916/2016”
- b. Cllr. Flynn raised problem of inaccuracy of information delivered on some walking tours in the city and suggested official booklet/guidelines to be produced by DCC. The officials will look into this and report back.

7. Date for next meeting

Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 2.00pm in the Richard O'Carroll Room, City Hall.