



**Arts and Cultural Advisory Group
Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 28th September 2017, 9.30 a.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall**

Present: Cllr Áine Clancy (Chair), Ray Yeates, Elaina Ryan, Ruairí Ó Cuív, Gerry Kerr, Elaina Ryan, Iseult Byrne, Maoliosa Boyle

Apologies: Cllr Claire Byrne, Willie White, Barbara Dawson, Hugh Fahey, Brendan Teeling

In Attendance: Jonathan Ekwe

1. Minutes of previous meeting held on 28th June 2017

The minutes were approved, proposed by Ray Yeates, seconded by Ruairí Ó Cuív

2. Matters Arising

No matters arising.

3. City Arts Officer Report

The City Arts Officer presented the report on the Arts Office activities. Outlining the Children's Art in Libraries Summer Programme 2017, the programme included a development commission in partnership with Theatre Lovett. Jane Groves ran a residency in Raheny to create Secret Garden sculptures using found and natural resources inside and outside of the library.

The City Arts Office was successful in working with the EU Lab at Dublin Culture Connects to secure Erasmus funding for a project to build on the Visual Thinking Strategies project developed with schools local to the LAB and working in partnership with the LAB, Dublin City Galley the Hugh Lane and the National Council for Curriculum Assessment.

The LAB exhibition *Future Proof*, Future Proof brings together artists (Brian Duggan - Sofie Loscher - Lucy McKenna - Siobhan McGibbon - Maria McKinney - Emer O Boyle - Meadhbh O'Connor - Matt Parker - David Stalling) who work in scientific and technological contexts to contribute additional perspectives, re-frame debates, and create paths for new thinking to emerge. Future Proof runs from 14th September to 14th December 2017.

4. Public Art Report

The Public Art Manager presented his report on ongoing commissions under the Public Art Programme. He also gave verbal updates on the work of the Luke Kelly Working Group and the Liam Mellows Working Group. He also gave an update on progress regarding the permanent sculpture to mark the role which women played in the foundation of the state, a commission which is being funded by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

Permanent Art

Cairn Homes through the Parks and Landscape Services consulted with the Public Art Manager about commissioning a sculpture for a new housing scheme Parkside near Balgriffin, North Dublin. The selected artist is Eileen MacDonagh who is recognised for the quality of her artwork. Cairn Housing is paying for the sculpture with a contribution toward artist's fees from the Parks and Landscape Services. The sculpture will be handed over to Dublin City Council when the public areas are taken in charge by the City Council.

Proposals for Temporary Art

PACE Sculpture in Finglas

The proposal from PACE is to devise and fabricate a sculpture of about 2.5 metres in height which will represent the transition of areas such as Cabra, Finglas and Ballymun from green space to housing estates. PACE Training Services provides training and support aimed towards assisting ex-offenders and ex-prisoners to discover their talents and unlock their potential. The Group was very supportive of the work which PACE undertakes and discussed issues arising from the proposal and in particular issues relating to the identification of a suitable location for the work.

Recommendation

In light of the unresolved issues relating to a location for the sculpture, the Arts and Cultural Advisory Group recommended to defer a decision on this matter until the next meeting of the Group.

Hope Flies - First Fortnight in the Civic Offices

First Fortnight is a charity that challenges mental health prejudice through arts and cultural action. They have made a proposal to present three large artworks in the form of birds from the glass ceiling in the Atrium of the Civic Offices. DCC Facilities Management has offered to assist with the installation of the artworks.

Recommendation

The Arts and Cultural Advisory Group gave approval for project for the first fortnight in January 2018 as the temporary display of these large artworks in the Civic Offices will have the combined objective of highlighting the cause of First Fortnight while demonstrating the potential for excellent temporary art projects within the offices.

Solomon Gallery – Sculpture by Patrick O'Reilly

Solomon Gallery and Patrick O'Reilly have requested to temporarily display the sculpture of a bear by the artist on the corner of Balfe Street, Swan Yard and Harry Street for the duration of the road works in the area which is estimated at four to five weeks commencing in October. This public display of the sculpture is to coincide with the temporary exhibition of work by the artist in the Westbury Hotel Car Park. The Solomon Gallery has offered to cover all costs relating to the public display of the work including installation and removal and to provide appropriate insurances, method statements, risk assessment, etc, and to maintain the work during its exhibition.

Recommendation

To permit the temporary display of the sculpture by Patrick O'Reilly subject to consultation with the Local Area Office, Planning Department, Roads and Traffic Department and officials engaged in the Grafton Street Project.

The Group emphasised that the display of this sculpture should be strictly on a temporary basis and that mechanisms should be explored to ensure that this is implemented.

Decommissioning

Trace by Grace Weir

The remaining elements of the sculpture *Trace by Grace Weir* commissioned in 1988 and located on St Stephens Green have been removed to safe storage. The artist continues to be satisfied at the final outcome, with her request that the work be finally decommissioned. She is of the opinion that the context and paving around the original sculpture was as important as the work itself and that the proposed relocation did not work.

Recommendation

That agreement is given for the final decommissioning of *Trace by Grace Weir*.

Temporary removal of the Statue of Philip Lynott

The Arts and Cultural Advisory Group gave agreement to the temporary removal of the statue of Philip Lynott to facilitate the repaving works on Harry Street, Balfe street, Chatham Street, etc.

Mr Screen by Vincent Browne

The Public Art Manager reported that he was attempting to follow up on matters relating to the removal of the sculpture *Mr Screen* by Vincent Brown to the foyer of the Savoy Cinema and the contention that this work is part owned by Dublin City Council and should be returned to display in the public realm.

5. Dublin Culture Connects Report

Iseult Byrne presented the Dublin Culture Connects report.

It covered the many projects that are being carried out, including Community Engagement programmes, Tea & Chats, Culture Club, Engage the City, The National Neighbourhood, EU Lab, The Cultural Map, Fundraising Fellowship Dublin, Dublin City Council's sections currently planning projects with Dublin's Culture Connects, The National Neighbourhood are:

The Area Offices, Dublin City Gallery, The Hugh Lane, Dublin City Public Libraries and Archives, Dublin City Arts Office

A publication by Dermot Bolger 'Bang Bang & Other Dublin stories' is in progress, 4 monologues on characters and histories in Dublin commissioned by Dublin's Culture Connects will be published in partnership with New Island Books.

The National Neighbourhood, The Fundraising Fellowship Dublin, The Cultural Audit and Map, The EU Lab and the Culture Club.

An Introduction to Fundraising for Community Groups and Arts Organisations will take place on Tuesday 14 November at Wood Quay Venue from 6.00pm - 9.00pm

6. A.O.B.

- Next meeting will take place on Tuesday 19th December 2017