

Arts, Culture, Recreation and Community SPC
Minutes of Meeting held on 9th November 2015
9:30 a.m., Council Chamber, City Hall

Attendance

Members:

Cllr. Rebecca Moynihan (Chair)
Cllr. Mary Freehill
Cllr. Vincent Jackson
Cllr. Emma Murphy
Cllr. Greg Kelly
Cllr. Jim O'Callaghan
Cllr. Seamás McGrattan
Cllr. Damien O'Farrell
Willie White, Dublin Theatre Festival
Elaina Ryan, Children's Books Ireland

Other Councillors Present:

Cllr. Mannix Flynn

Apologies:

Cllr. Claire Byrne
Cllr. Kate O'Connell
Cllr. John Lyons
Cllr. Sean Haughey
Gerry Kerr, National Council for the Blind
of Ireland

Officials present:

Brendan Kenny, Assistant Chief Executive
Leslie Moore, City Parks Superintendent
Barbara Dawson, Director, Dublin City
Gallery, The Hugh Lane
Brendan Teeling, Deputy City Librarian
Jim Beggan, Senior Executive Officer
Ray Yeates, City Arts Officer
Monica Murphy, Senior Executive Officer
Ruairí Ó Cuív, Public Art Manager
Oliver Hickey, Administrative Officer
Coilín O'Reilly, Administrative Officer
Mary Ann Harris, Senior Executive Parks
Superintendent
Shane Casey, Biodiversity Officer
Paula Ebbs, Senior Staff Officer

1. Minutes of meeting held on 14th September 2015

Action: Agreed

2. Presentation on Biodiversity Action Plan 2015-2020 – by Shane Casey, Biodiversity Officer

Members were informed that the Biodiversity Action Plan will go on public display for a period of three weeks. Following public display and any amendments it will come back to this committee for recommendation to go before the full City Council for adoption.

Action: Welcomed and noted.

3. Review of Street Performers Bye Laws 2015

The Street Performers Bye Laws were introduced in April 2015 and a commitment was made to review these after a 6 month period. Amendments proposed were circulated to members.

A discussion took place mainly regarding noise levels and the possibility of an overall ban on amplification.

Cllr Flynn proposed to include an overall ban on amplification into this report. A vote was taken on this proposal to which the majority voted against.

Action: Agreed to leave the four existing proposals in the report. Report to go to December City Council meeting to agree to go to public consultation for six weeks. Amended Bye Laws to go to SPC for final recommendation which will then go to full City Council for adoption.

Agreed.

4. Report on new Draft Cultural Strategy – Ray Yeates, City Arts Officer

Action: Accepted and recommended to go to full City Council for approval.

5. Report on Artist Space/infrastructure in the City – Ray Yeates, City Arts Officer

The Chair asked members to look at the brief of the Arts and Cultural Advisory Group which had a recommendation that practical actions are needed and a sub-group consisting of city officials from relevant departments such as Planning and Development and the arts group should be set up to have a look at artist spaces within the city.

Action: This recommendation was agreed and accepted. Report agreed.

6. Report on Bid on the European Capital of Culture 2020 – Ray Yeates, City Arts Officer.

Members were informed that the Bid was submitted on 17th October and an interview with the independent panel will take place Thursday 12th November along with the other cities. It is expected that 2 of the 4 cities will be shortlisted and will be announced on Friday 13th November.

Action: Report noted.

7. Report on the proposed new City Library at Parnell Square – Margaret Hayes, Dublin City Librarian

Management informed members of the ongoing works at Parnell Square. The sketch design is continuing and the consulting team for the EIS have completed their baseline study and initial consultation meetings have been held with DCC Planning Department. Contracts for ground investigation works have been tendered and engagement with residents and businesses are continuing.

Cllr Flynn queried if the €2m budget was philanthropy funding.

Management stated that there are funds in the budget but is earmarked for issues outside the project i.e. security issues around Colaiste Mhuire and the National Ballroom, which is separate from the philanthropy funding. It was further stated that Kennedy Wilson have put aside €2.5m for the design which will be ready for Part 8 in April 2016.

Action: Bring full financial report to the next meeting.

Have a presentation of the proposed design at a future SPC meeting.

After a discussion, management informed members that the Board is currently made up of 2 DCC officials and 2 representatives from Kennedy Wilson. A Chairperson has yet to be selected. The process of trying to identify an independent Chair is ongoing.

Action: It was agreed to wait for a formal invitation to become a member of this Board.

8. Management Update

Some members enquired at to the current situation on the Luke Kelly statue.

Ruairi O'Cuiv, Public Art Manager informed members that a 9 month process was complete and a sculpture has now been selected. There are ongoing discussions with the Kelly family. The proposed site is Luke Kelly Park, near the Convention Centre which is in the locality where Luke Kelly was born.

The poor condition of footpaths around Richmond Barracks was raised.

Management informed members that there is no funding in the grant from the Department but all efforts to ensure works are done will continue.

Cllr Flynn enquired if there was a proposal to create a Christmas market at Clearys.

Management stated there was no official application received to date.

Cllr Flynn asked the Manager to comment on the legalities of Temple Bar and the disposal of commercial properties.

The Chair informed Cllr Flynn the Manager would deal with this issue under A.O.B.

Action: Report Noted.

9. Dates for next year

Action: Agreed

10. Approved Minutes of the Arts and Cultural Advisory Group meeting held Monday 7th September 2015

Action: Agreed

11. Approved Minutes of Commemorations Sub-Committee meeting held 7th July 2015.

Action: Agreed

12. Approved Minutes of Commemorations Sub-Committee meeting held 16th September 2015.

Action: Agreed

13. Breviate of Commemorations Sub-Committee meeting held 21st October 2015.

Action: Agreed

14. Approved Minutes of Commemorative Naming Committee meeting held 9th June 2015

Action: Agreed

15. Approved Minutes of Commemorative Naming Committee meeting held 16th September 2015.

Action: Agreed

16. Breviate of Commemorative Naming Committee meeting held 21st October 2015.

Action: Agreed

17. A.O.B.

The Chair stated that an Emergency Motion in relation to Temple Bar and the disposal of commercial properties was discussed at the full November Council meeting. A proposal from the City Council that a sub-committee be set up to look at the issue of Temple Bar setting out the strategic priorities and vision for the cultural and commercial spaces was agreed.

The Manager informed the Committee that a report which set out the background and rationale behind the proposal by the TBCT to offer its commercial properties for sale was presented to the November meeting of the City Council. At that meeting Councillors unanimously agreed that the sale of such properties should not proceed.

The Manager stated that the Board have met and agreed that in line with the decision of Councillors that the properties in question will not now be placed on the open market for sale and that any future such proposal will only be considered if approved by City Councillors. However, the Trust was recommending that those existing commercial tenants who were given a "First Refusal" on the option to purchase their units should be allowed to proceed subject to them having the financial capacity to purchase at full market value.

Members agreed that legal advice for TBCT and DCC should be obtained. It was suggested that an in-camera briefing from the legal advisors may be the best way to proceed.

Action: Get advice from the Law Agent as to the best way to proceed.

**Cllr Rebecca Moynihan,
Chairperson.**