



**Arts and Cultural Advisory Group
Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 3rd September 2018, 9.30 a.m.
Dublin City Council Arts Office, The LAB, Foley Street**

Present: Cllr Áine Clancy (Chair), Cllr John Lyons, Ray Yeates, Paula Murphy, Ruairí Ó Cuív, Charles Duggan, Sarah Costigan, Paula Murphy, Maolíosa Boyle, Gerry Kerr, Hugh Fahey, Willie White, Shane deBlacam,

Apologies: Cllr Claire Byrne, Barbara Dawson, Cllr Rebecca Moynihan, Jenny Murray, Tara Robertson, Brendan Teeling, Elaina Ryan

In Attendance: Maura Carty

1. Minutes of previous meeting held on 30th May 2018

The minutes were approved.

2. Matters Arising

The poor attendance at ACAG meetings by Councillors was noted by Gerry Kerr. He requested that advance notice of meetings be given and an attendance grid be set up, whereby, members who do not attend regularly should be removed from the Group so opportunities maybe given to others who may wish to join.

3. City Arts Officer report

The City Arts Officer presented his report.

Artist Housing & Workspaces - The City Arts Officer said two sites had been identified and a funding application for €10 million was due to be sent into the Urban Rural Development Fund by 28th September 2018 for the development of the two sites. One of the funding criteria's for the project was that funding has to be matched by other income sources.

A discussion took place regarding the lack of incentive for the market to develop artist spaces and that artists space development needs both to be philanthropic and Local Government led. The City Arts Officer pointed out the difficulty of claiming sites in the city as there are many vested interests involved. The proposed sites would be used to create a large creative hub that would be used by artists and the community, with some residential spaces provided. The City Arts Officer suggested that there should be more debate at an SPC level regarding lack of housing accommodation for artists.

Willie White pointed out that Dublin needs a large multipurpose performance space of 400-500 audience capacity. He stated that in comparison with other cities the provision of cultural infrastructure space in Dublin is poor. Charles Duggan said there are two vacant theatre spaces and that he will liaise with Willie White to arrange access to the *Rupert Guinness* space

Culture Night The City Arts Officer pointed out that Culture Night can be a burden on certain organisations as they continue to provide special programmes free of charge. The RTÉ concert is being moved from Dublin Castle to Collins Barrack to facilitate crowd control. A discussion took place as to whether Culture Night is attracting new people to the Arts and that some scientific evidence is needed to show who the people are attending on Culture Night. It was suggested that Culture Night could organise for the various centres opening to conduct a survey on the night as to who is attending. The group welcomed the idea of a short/simple survey to be conducted on the night.

Erasmus VTS Gerry Kerr if there was any chance of this method of teaching moving into the main curriculum. City Arts Office pointed out how VTS is in use UCC medical training course and how one of the key partners in the project is the National Council for Curriculum Assessment (NCCA).

4. Public Art

Public Art Manager presented his report

The Street Art Forum will take place on the afternoon of the 12th October 2018. He explained that this Forum was a response to the SPC motion proposed by Cllr Rebecca Moynihan and that the intention was to have as representative a cross section of those with an interest in street art present as well as relevant officials from Dublin City Council.

Luke Kelly The Public Art Manager provided an update on the progress of the Luke Kelly sculpture by Vera Klute. He explained that there might be some slippage on the proposed time for unveiling the sculpture in November due to hold up with the stone work. Most important was the fact that the sculpture was completed properly. The City Arts Officer reported that the plan was to have a simultaneous opening on the same day, whereby the two sculptures were launched together.

Liam Mellows Discussion took place around the progress of this project. Cllr Áine Clancy stated that while the project was up and running it was on hold momentarily until funding is secured for the next stage, the commissioning of the statue.

Liffey Swim The Public Art Manager said that the Arts Office role in this commission is a developmental one. Appointed in an advisory capacity is curator Annette Moloney along with two artists who are also avid swimmers. The two artists currently involved in the project would resign if they had any interest in competing for the commission.

Women of the Foundation of the State The Public Art Manager reported that the search for possible sites had been honed down to three. These included a possible site on O'Connell Street between the Daniel O'Connell & William Smith O'Brien statues where there was a present a ventilation structure for the Luas.

Cllr Vincent Jackson Proposal re Countess Markievicz A discussion took place regarding Cllr Vincent Jackson's proposal for the erection of a statue of Countess Markievicz on O'Connell Street. Paula Murphy pointed out that three sculptures of Countess Markievicz already existed in Dublin, one in Townsend Street, one in St Stephens Green and the third in Leinster House. The Public Art Manager stated that there is no suitable space on O'Connell Street for the statue and that the only possible site for a significant statue was in the location also selected for the proposed monument to commemorate the role of women in the foundation of the state. It was agreed that moving the statue of Countess Markievicz from

Townsend Street would not be appropriate as its scale would be dwarfed by the existing statues on O'Connell Street dedicated to men. Gerry Kerr had reservations about commemorating Countess Markievicz and thought the idea of the monument to the Women of the Foundation of the State more appropriate. Cllr John Lyons enquired if it was possible to rotate statues on O'Connell Street. The Heritage Officer, Charles Duggan said there is enormous complexity around moving statues. Willie White asked if any de-commissioning of statues had taken place in O'Connell Street and in response Charles Duggan stated there had been no permanent de-commissioning of statues on O'Connell Street.

Launch of Christina Kubisch Voices of Memory CDs The Public Art Manager reported on the very successful launch and that between 40-50 of the volunteer readers had attended the launch. The Public Art Manager gave copies of the CD's to the Group.

Proposed commission by Cllr John Lyons Discussion took place regarding the proposal from Cllr John Lyons to undertake a commission to honour the struggle for LGBTQ rights. The City Arts Officer said that there as a big difference between commemorating an individual victim and the struggle for the rights of a community. Cllr John Lyons thought there could be a widening out of the brief. It was agreed that the next steps was to work towards setting up a Steering Group to define the terms of reference and the approach to the commission. It was also proposed that a forum be created where the voices of different members of the LGBTQI community could be listened to in regards to this proposal.

Garden to remember the victims of Abuse

Gerry Kerr raised the idea of the city developing a garden to remember all those who have suffered abuse in institutions.

Love Dublin Installation The Public Art Manager said that he did not believe that this proposal came under the remit of the Advisory Group. However, the Group felt Public Art Manager should be available to comment on the aesthetics of any design that may come about. The City Arts Officer said other future projects such as *Euro Football 2020* will bring up similar issues.

Proposals for Temporary Art

AVIVA and Iarnód Éireann Street Art Proposal The Public Art Manager introduced the proposal from the Aviva Stadium to commission a street art installation along the length of the railway track at the Aviva Stadium, Landsdowne Road. The proposal has been developed in consultation with artist and curator Olan O'Brien who has devised the artwork with other street artists. The Arts and Cultural Advisory Group support the proposed artwork for the following reasons that:

- The Artwork(s) devised by curator Olan O'Brien has considered the scale and location for the paintings and also the fact that most of the artwork will be viewed within the 'tunnel' from trains moving at speed.
- Dublin City Council is supportive of Street Art and especially where collaborative processes have been devised.
- There is no branding, logos or commercial content in the artwork.
- This area is already the focus for unsanctioned tagging and painting and the installation of this Street Art might reduce this problem..
- There is provision for Aviva and Iarnród Éireann to change the artwork and that any new design proposals should be brought to the Arts and Cultural Advisory Group for an opinion.

Temporary Decommissioning of *Let's Dance* by Redmond Herrity – The Memorial to the Miami Showband *Let's Dance* by Redmond Herrity is a memorial to the members of the Miami Showband injured and killed on the 31st of July 1975. The memorial will have to be removed to facilitate the development of the Parnell Square Cultural Quarter which includes the new Central Library. The Public Art Manager reported that he has liaised with the Justice for the Forgotten Group and the artist and that a meeting had taken place on the 24th of August with the Acting City Librarian, the Justice for the Forgotten Group, Redmond Herrity (artist), and architect from Shaffrey Architects; at which the issue of removing the memorial and reinstating it on Parnell Square after the works are completed in a re-imagined format was discussed.

The Arts and Cultural Advisory Group agreed to the recommendation that the memorial *Let's Dance* by Redmond Herrity be Temporarily Decommissioned to facilitate the development of the Parnell Square Cultural Quarter. The Group requested that the application cover be reworked to emphasise the Temporary nature of the request for decommissioning. The Group approved the commitment that a memorial would be reinstated on site but understood the design complexities involved in this. However, for the moment it was believed best to concentrate on the temporary decommissioning process while discussions continued with the Justice for the Forgotten Group, relatives of the victims of the atrocity and the artist regarding the 're-imaging' of the memorial.

5 City Libraries Report

In the absence of the Acting City Librarian, the report City Libraries Report was circulated.

6 Hugh Lane Report

In the absence of the Hugh Lane Director the Hugh Lane Report was circulated.

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Gerry Kerr wanted to know if a consultation process was in place for the New City Library in relation to the needs of the disabled as he did not feel recent DCC developments adequately represented the needs of disabled communities. Cllr John Lyons said these concerns should be motioned to the Planning SPC via the ACAG group.

The City Arts Officer proposed that future ACAG meetings take place three weeks before SPC so that minutes can be forwarded in time for meetings.

Future dates to be forward to committee.