

**Arts, Culture, Recreation and Community SPC**  
**Minutes of Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2015**  
**9:30 a.m., Council Chamber, City Hall**

## **Attendance**

### **Members:**

Cllr. Mary Freehill (Chair)  
Cllr. Mannix Flynn  
Cllr. Jim O'Callaghan  
Cllr. Vincent Jackson  
Cllr. Claire Byrne  
Cllr. Seán Haughey  
Cllr. Emma Murphy  
Cllr. Aine Clancy  
Cllr. Greg Kelly  
Cllr John Lyons  
Cllr. Damian O'Farrell  
Willie White, Dublin Theatre Festival  
Simon O'Connor, The Little Museum of Dublin  
Gerry Kerr, National Council for the Blind of Ireland  
Kristina McElroy, Dublin City Community Forum  
Elaina Ryan, Children's Books Ireland

### **Officials present:**

Brendan Kenny, Assistant Chief Executive  
Margaret Hayes, Dublin City Librarian  
Barbara Dawson, Director, Dublin City Gallery, The Hugh Lane  
Brendan Teeling, Deputy City Librarian  
Leslie Moore, City Parks Superintendent  
Jim Beggan, Senior Executive Officer  
Ray Yeates, City Arts Officer  
Maryann Harris, Senior Executive Parks Superintendent  
Ruairí O Cuív, Public Art Manager  
Coilín O'Reilly, Administrative Officer  
Paula Ebbs, Senior Staff Officer

### **Apologies:**

Cllr Séamas McGrattan  
Cllr Rebecca Moynihan  
Maurice Ahern, Irish Sports Council

#### **1. Minutes of meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2014**

**Action:** Agreed

#### **2. Minutes of special meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015 regarding Street Performers Bye Laws (Draft)**

**Action:** Agreed

### **3. Presentation by Kristina McElroy, Chairperson of Arts Focus Group**

The presentation looked at deficiencies in community arts provision in the city and how local arts can be developed to ensure equal access.

From the Arts Focus Group / DCC Community Forum seminars, it was identified that it would be very helpful to have a named person within DCC Arts Office with responsibility for creating a listing of spaces available for workshops, classes, meeting spaces etc. and to champion participatory arts. It also suggested that a named person be provided to manage “Dublin Me Arts” listing (currently on Dublin.ie) as a starting point to update information for interested citizens and community groups in order to cut social isolation and ensure that citizens of Dublin have a chance to get involved in participatory arts.

**ACTION:** Noted. Ray Yeates, City Arts Officer will prepare a comprehensive response to this presentation and bring it to a future SPC meeting.

### **4. Presentation by Maryann Harris, Senior Executive Parks Superintendent / Shane Casey, Biodiversity Officer – Biodiversity Update**

#### **UNESCO biosphere for Dublin Bay – Maryann Harris**

The key theme of this presentation was to propose a UNESCO Biosphere designation for all of Dublin Bay. North Bull Island already has this designation and a periodic review was undertaken over the past year to keep the designation but also to modernise it. A formal reporting procedure to UNESCO is underway. A draft report was submitted and received favourably but didn't meet UNESCO criteria for what biospheres need to be doing, so needs re-examining.

**ACTION:** Welcomed and noted. Complete periodic review process following UNESCO evaluation report in order to move forward and also establish the role of Biosphere Co-Coordinator and a strategic plan.

#### **Biodiversity Update – Preparation of a second Biodiversity Action Plan for Dublin City 2015 – 2019 - Shane Casey**

A brief overview showing our nature designated sites where there are a number of protected and non protected wildlife species including many animals, plants, terrestrial and rain species.

Also discussed was legislative and policy changes, survey and mapping of habitats/species, new guidance and best practice and increased training.

**ACTION:** Welcomed and noted. Preparation of a consultation document, which has the overall aim of conservation and biodiversity in Dublin City. The consultation document will give guidance as to how to approach consultation in a number of different areas i.e. stakeholders, communities/local knowledge and the general public. The consultation will be used as an opportunity to raise awareness of Dublin City's biodiversity.

## 5. Management Update

In reply to a query regarding the redevelopment of Richmond Barracks, the Manager stated that it is expected to announce the design team this week and then to seek Part 8 planning permission. The builder is expected to be on site before September and the project will be finished and open before Easter Sunday 2016. Funding is in place for this project.

The proposal to rename the Dublin Writers Festival to **International Literature Festival Dublin** was queried, and a proposal to bring Dublin to the forefront and rename it **Dublin International Literature Festival** was suggested.

Cllr Jackson commended the work undertaken in the Orchard Centre in Cherry Orchard and the dedicated play space that was created in memory of our former colleague and Play Development Officer, Anne O'Brien.

It was felt that in order to dedicate more time to the Management Update report that it be prioritised i.e. it should be dealt with before any presentations.

**ACTION:** Prioritise the Management Update report and also include contact telephone numbers with each business unit.

## 6. Motion submitted by Cllr Mannix Flynn

*"That this SPC call on the City Manager to immediately initiate the process to appoint a number of Dublin City Councillors to the board of the Parnell Square Foundation. This company was set up by DCC with the primary purpose of assisting in the creation of the new library at Parnell Square. This company has been in existence for over a year without the knowledge of Dublin City Councillors who are entitled to be appointed to its board.*

*It is unacceptable that this company and other registered companies associated with the Parnell Square initiative were not brought before the City Council or this committee (Arts SPC) or any sub-committee, given that public lands and public monies are involved and at stake here.*

*It is imperative that good governance and accountability prevail here. I attach the two companies that were set up with regards the Parnell Square Project".*

**ACTION:** Following a comprehensive response from the Assistant Chief Executive and a detailed discussion the members of the Committee unanimously agreed to recommend the motion to the full City Council. Cllr. Freehill also recommended the issue of councillors as directors of companies be brought to the Protocol Committee.

**7. Approved Minutes of Commemorative Naming Committee held 4<sup>th</sup> November 2014.**

**ACTION:** Noted.

**8. Approved Minutes of Commemorations Sub-Committee held 12<sup>th</sup> November 2014.**

**ACTION:** Noted.

**9. Approved Minutes of Commemorations Sub-Committee held 17<sup>th</sup> December 2014.**

**ACTION:** Noted.

**10. Approved Minutes of Arts and Cultural Advisory Group held 28<sup>th</sup> November 2014.**

**ACTION:** Noted

**Appointment of external public art experts**

The Manager stated that the Arts and Cultural Advisory Group were proposing that the following external experts to become members of the advisory group,

The following nominations were proposed:

John Tuomey – nominated by Aosdána

Cecily Brennan – nominated by Visual Artists Ireland

Paula Murphy – nominated by UCD

**ACTION:** Agreed

**11. Minutes of Markets and Trading in the Public Domain Committee meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014.**

The Manager stated that no minutes were circulated as no quorum was present at this meeting.

The Manager also suggested that we examine all sub-committees / SPC meetings and consider how we could conduct our business in a more effective manner.

**ACTION:** Include on the April Agenda proposals on how best to conduct business with regard to the workings of sub-committees / SPC meetings.

**12. Visit to Temple Bar Gallery (immediately after meeting).**

**13. A.O.B.**

There were no items under A.O.B.

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**Councillor Mary Freehill  
Chairperson**

**Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_