



Report to Arts, Culture, Recreation and Community SPC

9th February 2015

Item No. 7

Commemorative Naming Committee Minutes of Meeting held on 4th November 2014 2.00 p.m. Members Room, City Hall

Attendance

Members:

Cllr. Micheál MacDonncha
Cllr. Nial Ring
Cllr. Seamas McGrattan
Cllr. Paddy McCartan

Officials Present:

Margaret Hayes, City Librarian
Coilín O'Reilly, Administrative Officer
Ruairi O'Cuiv, Public Art Manager
Charles Duggan, City Heritage Officer
Paula Ebbs, Senior Staff Officer

Apologies: Cllr. Frank Kennedy
Brendan Teeling, Deputy City Librarian

1. Election of Chairperson

Action: Cllr. McGrattan proposed Cllr. Micheál MacDonncha as Chairperson. Cllr. Ring seconded this proposal. Cllr. MacDonncha took the Chair.

2. Minutes of Meeting held on 12th March 2014.

Action: Agreed.

3. Terms of Reference (Policy Document)

Action: Circulated to all members for information purposes.

4. Dublin City Plaque Scheme – Update

Coilin O'Reilly gave an overview of the Dublin City Plaque Scheme and updated members on the current status of the Scheme. Issues had arisen in relation to materials used for the manufacture of the new city plaque. Terrazzo stone had proved to be too difficult to work with. It has been agreed that Granite stone is more suitable. A deadline date of 1st December 2014 was agreed with the graphic designers and manufacturers to have a prototype in place.

Action: Prototypes to be brought to the next meeting.

5. Plaques/Monuments Proposals:

➤ **Beavers Row Footbridge – Joe Doyle – update**

Action: A plaque to be erected on the wall of Beavers Row Footbridge to commemorate Joe Doyle.

➤ **Arthur Guinness Family Home 250th Anniversary – update**

Action: A plaque to be erected in Catherine McAuley Park to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of Arthur Guinness family home.

➤ **Shelbourne F.C. Supporters Development Group – update**

Action: A plaque to be erected on the wall of Beggars Bush Barracks on the corner of Haddington Road facing into Bath Avenue to commemorate the 120th anniversary of the founding of their club.

➤ **Edward Dowden (1843 – 1913) – Poet, Critic and Professor at Trinity College, Dublin**

The members discussed this proposal. While it was agreed in principle to erect a plaque to commemorate Edward Dowden, proof of effort in trying to obtain the consent of a living relative is required.

Margaret Hayes, City Librarian asked if it was possible to incorporate the UNESCO logo on plaques commemorating literary figures.

Action: An update to be brought to the next meeting.

➤ **Leo Whelan RHA (1892 – 1956) Artist and Portrait Painter**

The committee agreed that Leo Whelan was one of the most talented prolific and successful Irish painters in the first half of the 20th century. His application complied with all criteria set out in the policy document.

Action: Agreed to proceed with this proposal.

6. Motion from Councillor Ruairi McGinley (Referred from the South East Area Committee)

“That the City Council erects a “blue Plaque” on 90 Beechwood Avenue Lower, Ranelagh in memory of author Paddy Finnegan who died on 16th July 2014”.

The Public Art Manager replied to this motion at the South East Area Committee on 13th October 2014

Reply:-

The Commemorative Naming Policy passed by Dublin City Council in 2013 states that:-

“proposals to commemorate living persons will not be considered. Nominees will have to have died at least 20 years previously or have passed the centenary of their birth, whichever is earlier”.

As the death of Paddy Finnegan occurred in 2014, this condition is not fulfilled and therefore the installation of a Dublin Commemorative Plaque is not appropriate at this time.

Action: Agreed to adhere to the terms and conditions of the policy document which was approved by Dublin City Council.

7. A.O.B.

Cllr Ring requested an application for the erection of a monument in O’Connell Street commemorating Tom Clarke be brought to this meeting. Following discussions with the Public Art Manager and the Heritage Officer, it was stated that O’Connell Street was an unsuitable location due to the Luas works. It was further stated that there are no suitable sites for additional public art anywhere on O’Connell Street due to the existing underground services associated with the Luas. All members agreed with this proposal in principle but needs to be explored further.

Action: Refer to the Commemorations Sub-Committee. The 1916 - 1921 Club to come back with a new proposed location and a formal proposal to the Arts and Cultural Advisory Group and Commemorative Naming Committee.

The Public Art Manager agreed to help identify suitable artists and monitor quality control and manage the commission if the Arts and Cultural Advisory Group approves the proposal.

An e-mail from Cllr. Bríd Smith requesting a plaque be placed in Henry Street to commemorate the Dunnes Stores strikers against apartheid was brought to the attention of the committee. Following discussions, Cllr. MacDonncha, Chair, suggested that he speak to Cllr. Smith directly to discuss her request further.

Action: Cllr. MacDonncha, Chair, to update the members at the next meeting.

Next meeting will take place on Tuesday 13th January 2015 at 2.00 p.m., Members Room, City Hall, Dublin 2.

Cllr. Micheál MacDonncha
Chairperson