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MINUTES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE HELD AT THE IRISH CENTRE ON TUESDAY 8TH MAY 1984.

PRESENT: Fr. Malone, O.M.I., Sister Anne-Marie, M. Kenny, D. Egan, F. Aherne, D. Quinn, T. Dunne.

APOLOGIES: P. Judge.

IN ATTENDANCE: D. Ambrose.

AMENDMENTS TO PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- (1) Under the heading "Social Club" on page three fourth paragraph : change "the way" to "a way".
- (2) The first line on page four should read Camden will be affected by Rate Capping.
- (3) Under Finance on page three in the second paragraph "has confirmed" should read "was concerned".

On a proposal by T. Dunne, seconded by Fr. Malone, the following was added to the second paragraph under the heading Finance "the Committee agreed to approve the Bank Letter provided Mr. Ambrose's concerns were resolved".

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

The minutes were adopted and a proposal by M. Kenny, seconded by Fr. Malone.

MATTERS ARISING:

DAY CARE CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY

Fr. Malone read out a letter he and Sister Joan had sent to Ken Livingstone regarding a breach of promise by the G.L.C. who had given a verbal promise to assist in the provision of a day care centre for the elderly and who subsequently withdrew support. Mr. Livingstone was asked to look into the matter. A short acknowledgement has been received. The unanimous approval of the committee members present was given to the issue of the letter to Mr. Livingstone.

EPISCOPAL CONGRESS ON EMIGRATION RECENTLY HELD IN IRELAND AND ATTEND BY FR. MALONE, CARDINAL HUME AND THE IRISH CHAPLAINS HERE.

There was a full representation from the Irish hierarchy.

Many tributes were paid to the work of the Irish Centre and Irish Centre Hostels. Fr. Malone was able to thank the hierarchy for its support especially for Fr. Butler's cycle ride. Fr. Ryan reported on the Hostels. The Chaplains in their reports also referred to the work of the Centre and Hostels. Our Welfare report has been getting good coverage in the Irish media. Fr. Malone commented that too many people were coming here from Ireland with no money and who had to be put up at public expense until they can be given a ticket home. We must advise people not to come from Ireland without money or work experience

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and if they must come they should be advised to plan their arrival.

An appropriate resolution will be proposed in the Centre's name at the forthcoming Federation Congress.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter from our Solicitors with a letter from a Mrs. Hancock, 6 Murray Mews, objecting to the renewal of the McNamara Hall licence on the grounds of noise after 12.00am. The Centre will have to insist on observing quietness rule after 12 midnight.

It was reported by one member that drinks had been served on a recent Sunday night at 11.30pm. - after closing hours. Fr. Malone will investigate.

D. Ambrose warned that adherence to licencing laws was not sufficient in itself. We needed to be mindful of nuisance laws.

Fr. Malone commented that opposition to the Centre from the neighbours is becoming more vociferous and organised.

Fr. Malone is to join the local residents association.

It was difficult to enforce a quietness and drinking up rules and continue at the same time to attract functions to the Centre.

#### FINANCE:

Fr. Malone read a letter from the Bank agreeing to give B 1% on monies kept in a special loan reduction accounts. This was an excellent rate of interest and would be credited only to monies lodged in permanent reduction of the loan. There is £30,000 in the account at the moment. The Committee thanks to the Bank was expressed.

A letter from the Bank of 1st May 1984, re-scheduling of debt, was referred to and Mr. Ambrose's concerns having been resolved, the letter is deemed approved by the Committee.

On a proposal by T. Dunne seconded by Mary Kenny the Chairman and Treasurer were authorised to sign the letter on the Committee's behalf.

#### SUNDRY MATTERS:

Fr. Malone and D. Egan are to meet officers of the Council of the Irish Counties at the latter's request to discuss the Irish Centre on Thursday 10th May, 1984.

As the constitution does not provide for a Committee quorum it was decided that the number for a quorum would be set by the passing of a bye-law and this will be done by resolution at the new Committee. On a proposal by T. Dunne seconded by D. Quinn it was resolved to recommend to the incoming committee that the quorum be set at seven.

#### MANAGEMENT:

Fr. Malone reported that the manager, T. O'Connor, has been dismissed from the Centre. The stock-take as at the 29th April, 1984, covering the previous five

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week period showed a short of £1,076.51. Fr. Malone showed the figures to the manager, who had expected a surplus.

Fr. Malone gave the manager 24 hours to provide an explanation. He made no attempt to explain the shortage and said he was being framed. He would not resign and said that he would talk to his solicitor. Thereupon Fr. Malone verbally dismissed him. Our solicitors advised Fr. Malone not to write to Mr. O'Connor or to talk to O'Connor's solicitor who rang to speak to Fr. Malone. *Shing*

A discussion took place in relation to the suitability of Mrs. D'Arcy as manager. For nine months up to last February she had proven her ability in keeping the stocks right and had ensured the smooth running of the house. Fr. Malone made it quite clear that he was not prepared to undertake the duties of a manager. Some members had reservations in relation to Mrs. D'Arcy's suitability. It was pointed out that management continuity was very important as was the marketing of the commercial operation. This would have to be taken into account in any new appointment.

Fr. Malone was asked to discuss with Mrs. D'Arcy her willingness or otherwise in relation to management of the Centre.

T. Dunne proposed and Fr. Malone seconded that the management sub-committee consisting of Fr. Malone, T. Dunne and D. Quinn meet on Tuesday 15th May, 1984 at 12 noon to discuss the management succession and to make recommendations to the next administrative committee meeting which is set for eight o'clock that evening.

Fr. Malone will ask Mrs. D'Arcy to act in the interim.

#### FUND RAISING:

No detailed report was given but Fr. Malone was confident that fund raising was going well.

#### CENTRE'S ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1983:

These were required to be ratified by the Committee at the meeting in Tuesday 15th May, 1984. That meeting will of course also ratify the sub-committee's recommendation in regard to the management succession.

#### MAYOR'S EVENING:

M. Kenny complained that Mr. and Mrs. Doyle were not invited to the function on 17th May, 1984. They are extremely loyal and hard-working supporters of the Centre. Fr. Malone confirmed that they would be invited.

#### NEXT MEETING:

The next Administrative Committee Meeting was set for 8.00pm on 15th May, 1984 to discuss the above matters and question of nominees for the in-coming committee. Sister Anne-Marie asked to be excused from that meeting and the meeting closed at 11.09 pm.