

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE**  
**HELD AT THE IRISH CENTRE ON 9th JULY, 1985**

**PRESENT:** T. Dunne, Fr. C. Malone, O.M.I., Miss M. Kenny, A. Coyle, J. Davis,  
T. Mangan, J. Myers, F. Swan, S. Troy, G. O'Flynn.

**APOLOGIES:** Fr. J. Smith, Mrs. E. Kehoe, P. McAuley, M. Sills.

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**MINUTES**

The minutes of the previous meeting having been circulated were taken as read and adopted on a proposal by A. Coyle, seconded by T. Mangan.

**MATTERS ARISING**

With regard to the question of Secretary of the London Irish Festival Working Committee, S. Troy said that the constitution which was quoted at the previous meeting was now superseded by the Memorandum and Articles of Association of London Irish Festival Ltd which says that members of the Committee must be shareholders in the Company. Mr. Troy was requested to consult our Solicitor on this matter.

**HOSTELS AND WELFARE**

There was no changes effecting the hostels. Both are filled to capacity and numbers of applicants for accommodation are still very high.

Sr. Anthony is now back to work in St. Louise's. A Sister of Charity from the Local Province has replaced Sr. Una who has returned to her convent in Ireland. A letter of appreciation has been sent to her.

There is no change regarding the unused portion of the Irish Centre. Any request for aid to Camden Council must be sent via Barbara Beck.

The Action Group for Irish Youth (AGIY) on which the Centre is represented has prepared a draft report in preparation for presentation in final form at a special conference in September. A grant of £10,000 towards the expenses of the group has been received by it from the Youth Employment Office in Dublin.

The Dublin Youth Employment Office has misused the information contained in the Irish Centre Annual Report and has particularly questioned the accuracy of figures for increases in the number of new applicants. Welfare Organisations here strongly resent the insinuations and are taking the matter up with the Youth Employment Office.

The new Social Worker, Miss Breege Brandon, has commenced work in the Welfare Department which will give monthly reports including the number of second-time (or more) applicants for help.

The Missing Persons Group meet for two hours five days per week and are doing a lot of valuable work. Brian Duggan is very helpful.



## MANAGEMENT

The Management Sub-Committee meets weekly and has been examining the general structure of the Irish Centre. In reply to a query it was confirmed that the Sub-Committee membership quoted in the minutes of the June meeting supersedes that quoted in the minutes of the March meeting.

Mrs. D'Arcy has been given the normal Contract of Employment.

Complaints were made about the condition of tables in the McNamara Hall on the previous Sunday, and again about the floor in the Kennedy Hall. It was stated that the Kennedy Hall needed a new parquet floor but the cost is prohibitive. The leads to the amplifiers are not satisfactory and need replacing. The basement in 12 Murray Street is very damp. It is felt that the services of a handyman full-time or part-time are essential to attend to all complaints about plumbing, carpentry, glazing, electrical services etc.

Complaints should be reported to Fr. Malone or Mrs. D'Arcy and brought to the attention of the Management Sub-Committee who should report to the Administrative Committee on the action taken to rectify the faults.

The Finance Sub-Committee will meet at 6.00 p.m. on 31st July. P. Keegan will present a financial report to the next Administrative Committee.

## LONDON IRISH FESTIVAL

It was agreed that the Festival was a success overall. The Car Raffle profit to date is £12,200 with some ticket money still to come. The location of the Irish Centre marquee was satisfactory. In reply to a query by A. Coyle about publicity, it was agreed that we slipped up in not having a feature in the Irish Post prior to the Festival. It was suggested that security around the stages should be stepped up towards the end of the day to counteract actions of inebriated members of the public.

Distribution of the proceeds of the 1984 Festival will be made in the next few weeks with £15,000 going to each of the beneficiaries.

## FUND RAISING

Several new ventures are being planned. Brendan O'Dowda has agreed to stage his Percy Trench Show in October, possibly in the Dominion Theatre.

Susan McCann has been asked to repeat her show of last year in a larger venue, again possibly in the Dominion Theatre. It was agreed that the National Club would not be a suitable venue. Barry McGuigan will be invited to draw the tickets in the accompanying raffle.

Efforts are being made to get an increase in Covenants and Standing Orders. The PRO is busily engaged in selling the Irish Centre facilities, particularly for day-time trade.

J. Davis said that Michael Coyle, London County Board delegate to Central Council for GAA is to propose that the GAA adds 50p to the cost of entrance tickets to the 1986 All Ireland Finals, this to come to the Irish Centre. Fr. Malone will write to the London County Board who will support the motion at Central Council level. Members were asked to canvass the help of their home county GAA officers.

Continuation Sheet 3.

Fund Raising Contd.

J. Myers said Cómhaltas (North London) will arrange a function shortly.

Seamus Troy said that County Associations would be more enthusiastic if they had a specific target to aim at e.g. a new floor for the Kennedy Hall.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnoise visited the Centre and was met by the Chairman and P. Keegan. He was obviously impressed and showed a keen interest in the work being done at the Centre.

Fr. Bobby Gilmore of the Irish Chaplaincy Scheme was congratulated on receiving a B & I Irish Post Community Award.

The Irish Centre Youth Group under Miss K. Fitzsimons are planning to clean down the outside of the building, and also to clean out the old kitchen basement. About ten 15-16 year old youths will be involved. It was pointed out that they must be properly supervised and regard must be had to safety and conditions governing employment of young persons.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

10th September, 1985 at Conway House, Quex Road.

J. S.H. → 1985  
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