

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
HELD AT THE IRISH CENTRE ON DECEMBER 10TH. 1982.

PRESENT

Mr.D.Egan, Mrs.D.Daly, Mr.P.Judge, Miss K.Fitzsimons, Fr.C.Malone, Fr.J.Butler, Mr.J.Troy, Miss M.Kenny, Mr.F.Aherne.

APOLOGIES

Fr.Fullam, Fr. Gordon, Fr. Ryan, Mr.T.Dunne, Mr.P.Keegan, Mr.D.Quinn, Mr. M.Moroney, and Canon Woods.

Minutes of the previous meeting amended and adopted. Proposed by Miss Kenny seconded by Mr. Troy.

MATTERS ARISING

Brochure;- Almost ready, some alterations to be made to photographs. Mr. Egan thought that we should try and get it out as soon as possible. Mr. Troy agreed as he felt we were losing a lot of business through lack of the brochure.

Social Club ; - Recruitment was very slow.

Bookings;- A long discussion took place re. bookings of the McNamara Hall. There seemed to be many cases of duplication of bookings. It was agreed to write to everyone who has a booking, to confirm their bookings. A sub-committee to meet on Sunday consisting of Mr.D.Egan, Fr. Malone and Mr.J.Troy to look into this problem.

Correspondence -; Letter from Fund-Raising firm offering their services. Fr. Malone to meet the writer on Wednesday next. Security man engaged for front door, seems to be satisfactory. Letter from London Borough of Camden saying they would be meeting in January to consider our application for grant aid for next year. Letter re. vending machine. This was thought to be more trouble than it was worth. The idea of putting a coffee bar with sandwiches and hot snacks was discussed. Fr. Malone thought that a full-time security man should be employed at the front door, i.e. a door man employed to check membership in particular between 7.p.m. and midnight every evening. Fr. Butler said he would be slow to commit himself to that type of operation. He said he was against unnecessary spending or employing extra people at the Centre.

Director's Report

Further work has to be done to the new entrance hall at a cost of £2,000 to £3,000. The flooring above the entrance was never covered in. Mr.D.Egan agreed to look over the work and then make an approach to the Architect.

Finance -; The cash flow situation is not as critical as what it was. A letter is going out to County Associations to ask them to settle their accounts promptly.

Fund-Raising -; Fr. Gordon is giving the proceeds of his Charles Kickham evenings to the fund. Mrs. Daly intended to bring a play into the Centre every Wednesday night but she felt that there was no room in the Centre for such a venture. There was very poor support from the Committee for the Charles Kickham evening.

A discussion took place re. the booking of the McNamara Hall for St. Patrick's Night. An approach has been made by the Council of Irish Counties Association to use the hall for that night. One member thought the hall should be kept for ourselves that night as that was the one night in the year that would show a nice profit for the Centre. The consensus was that the hall be given to the C.O.I.C. for March 17th.

Maintenance and Standards -; Miss Kenny said there was no towel in the Ladies in the Kennedy Hall. It was thought that the provision of a hot air machine would be the most suitable. A staff toilet in the McNamara Hall was without a towel and the staff do not have provision to dry their hands.

A discussion was held re. maintaining standards of cleanliness.

Miss Kenny reported a profit of £382.40 on the bazaar.

The Welfare office is going well. Always busy, it was felt that a further Welfare Officer could be used.

Fr. Butler made a point that the Paddy O'Connor Trust is always at the service of the Centre and had recent financial trouble. Fr. Butler gave a cheque of £400 towards the Trust from his fund-raising activities (Leitrim Association).

Culture-; Mr. Judge said that three or four weeks ago Comhaltas tried to do something for the Centre. They tried to get a hall but none was available. A visiting ceili band from Ireland played at another venue but this proved a disaster with a loss of £100.

Youth -; Miss Fitzsimons attended a meeting of 28th. September which was well attended with groups from all over the South of England.

Mr. Troy stated that in the New Year Bord Failte hoped to do something for the Youth.

Fr. Butler said that he would like it recorded, the amount that Comhaltas is doing for the Centre. He also said that he would very much appreciate if Mrs. Daly could make use of the Centre for her drama group. He said that the Centre should be made available for all cultural groups.

London Irish Festival -; The books are now with the Accountant, A sum of £35,000 has been invested after the last Festival.

The Grosvenor Rooms, Willesden has offered the use of one of their halls for a Thursday night for the benefit of the Centre.

Mr. Egan stated that Mr. Chris Kane is leaving to go back to Ireland shortly. He wondered if some form of presentation should be made to him. Mr. Troy said he has been dealing with Mr. Kane since he came to England four or five years ago. he stated that he had been a great friend of the Centre and the London Irish Festival in many ways. Mr. Judge proposed that a presentation should be made this was seconded by Mr. Troy.

Next Administrative Meeting, Tuesday January 11th. 1983 at 8.p.m.

Meeting closed at 11.18.p.m.
