

MINUTES OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 13.11.90

Present: Jim Myers, Vice chairman, Rev T. Scully O.M.I., Monseignor G. Stack V.G., Mary Allen, M. Mc Cormack, P. Finucane, M. Kenny, J. Kirby, T. Mangan, C. O'Connell, Maura Fitzsimons.

APOLOGIES: E. Mc Cormack, T. Dunne, J. Walsh, P. O Dwyer.

IN ATTENDANCE: John Cowley, Bob Buchanan. Local Residents Association. Paul Murphy.

Minutes of October meeting, having been circulated were taken as read, adopted on the proposal of Tom Mangan, Seconded by C. O'Connell.

Matters Arising: - none.

Chairman welcoming John Cowley and B. Buchanan. Local Residents Association - stated that Irish Centre management "want to be good neighbours".

Bob Buchanan - thanked chairman, had received a copy of rules and regulations - noted that stewards were not on the outside early A.M. to plead for quiet. One particular night, he and Mrs. Herbert had come over at 2.20 a.m, - due to excessive noise. T. Mangan stated that he and J. Davis were at the front door on the particular night - but inside. Residents association members would agree - that recently noise was not so bad. Chairman, replying assured that Irish Centre was aware of problems and would wish to co-operate and work together towards a solution.

Fr. Scully commented that there may be difficulty with stewards outside the premises. Jim Myers stated that comments would be passed to management, as he agrees children are also affected in the area, I look forward to amicable dialogue, as he thanked the members for their attendance.

Chairman queried whether we are fair to Joe Davies - A commissionaire would command authority. Organisers of functions should be more responsible - functions starting earlier on time and ending promptly.

HOSTELS REPORT - Presented by Fr. Scully. Hostels full. Fr Carolan has replaced Fr. Ryan at Kilburn - no problems. Misunderstanding recent Terrorist report - it was not Kilburn but Inisfree Housing Association.

DIRECTORS REPORT: Mac Namara Hall music and dance licence received, thanks to P. Keegan for his part in preparation of a difficult case.

Mary Allen & Jim Myers had represented Irish Centre thanks to them also.

Inaccurate report in local press.

Licence conditions not changed. Continued efforts to maintain good relations with our neighbours.

Kennedy Hall, licence to 12am. Saturday.

Computers - Paul Cullen Irish Embassy, Chairman of Dion discussing computerisation of Welfare. They will not finance it.

Cost 12,000 - 15,000 pounds. Application sent to Irish Youth Foundation - Jim Kirby noted there is a meeting next week, which he is attending. Computerisation of Accounts - as per previous meetings. Fr. Scully had been in touch with M. Hunt - his Recommendation, - on a monthly basis. Irish Centre and Hostels 13,000 a year. Fr. Scully recommendation to Paddy Keegan, employ a bookkeeper with computer skills - to keep the books, overseen by Paddy. Look after bills, invoices. Should we advertise for someone to work with Paddy. The overseer of computer instruction classes is coming in on Wednesday for discussion on computerisation.

Jim Kirby said that if getting the system for welfare - (35,000 names), two systems in one house would be very expensive. If getting a system from Irish Youth Foundation this would be sufficient - he would suggest one system. Modern equipment is user friendly. Fr. Scully & Jim Kirby to discuss when convenient.

People at Camden Council had congratulated the centre on presentation of case.

Catering manager Pat O Dwyer had been mugged and hospitalised for 10 days with head and facial injuries, get well wishes extended to him.

IRISH FESTIVAL:

Election of 4 members for working party from Irish Centre.

Jim Kirby proposed by M. Allen seconded Fr. Scully.

Paddy Keegan proposed by C. O Connell seconded M. Kenny.

John Walshe proposed by M. Fitzsimons seconded M. Allen.

objection to latter raised by J. Mangan as J. Walshe was not in attendance, - Fr. Scully stated John had expressed a wish, had been invited by him.

Objection withdrawn - nomination accepted.

Jim Myers proposed by P. Finucane, seconded by T. Mangan. Tom Mangan proposed by C. O Connell, seconded by P. Finucane, -prior to election T. Mangan opted out stating he had "worked for 16 years" and wished the new incoming members success.

SOCIAL CLUB REPORT - Report being compiled, Jim Myers hoped for unity working together. P. Finucane felt drinks were expensive. Tom Mangan, asked why social club chairman could not attend this meeting.

WELFARE REPORT: Presented by Paul Murphy, copies including statistics circulated.

Misinterpretation of Analysis old clients 1989.

Increase in repeat callers significant, new arrivals decrease. Old Clients requesting employment rather than accommodation. Repainting of Department held up due to labour problems. Annual report 1989 - more statistics a better write up needed.

A meeting was held with M. Hunt re computerisation. A meeting with Paul Cullen Dion Chairman disclosed difficulties listing through 36,000 clients, who have been through the service, wrong names. etc. - dept not able to give precise details. Too early to computerise, would need another year to collate details.

Jobstart - Paul has been elected to a working party, stemming from a research project organised by Safe-start, following a centres survey.

First meeting 6th December - report for submission 15th March 1991.

Committee members agreed that Paul should participate in said working party.

Tom Mangan queried the problem with John Coote. Fr. Scully had spoken to John Coote. He would agree he is not strong in diplomacy to staff, and had advised Paul that the situation would be resolved. There will be a new Director 1991 and a new administrator would be required shortly.

Chairman noted that John Coote is an advisor on business terms. Tom Mangan. Paul is engaged as a welfare co-ordinator, - such decisions should be taken by him his understanding was that "John Coote was helping Tommy Dunne" not a member of the administrative committee - Fr. Scully replied that Mr Coote was investigating the feasibility of computers.

Tom Mangan commented that "there is underhand work within the executive".

Jim Myers concluded that the situation was now rectified with Paul, - grievance resolved.

Tom Mangan - asked who is replacing Fr. Scully who is leaving the Centre. Fr. Scully stated that Fr. Denis Curran had been appointed Chaplain. Assistants not yet known.

Mary Allen - or Deahall of Jim Kirby, who had left the meeting, due to a further commitment - asked whether any progress on appointment of a P.O. for the Irish Centre.

Peter O'Leary had been asked to make enquiries, Fr. Scully to follow up.

Date of next meeting 12th December 1990 - 8p-9p.

Meeting Closed.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Fr. Scully referring to minutes of 1989 A.G.M. following a query by Tom Mangan, whether Una Cooper had been elected or co-opted on to admin: Committee; reported that Una - was not officially on the committee - entry in subsequent minutes would read "in attendance" Una reports on the day care centre for which she works voluntarily giving considerable time.

Tom Mangan expressed concern, re lack of senior personnel one Saturday night. He and Jim Myers were on the premises. Pat O Dwyer ill. Bar manager not on duty. A relative stranger had over all control. He felt that Maeve should have held keys.

Fr. Scully replying - said that the Bar manager had asked permission to attend his retirement presentation at Guinness's, had discussed this with bar man, and apologised for his absence, which was unavoidable, in the circumstances.

Tom Mangan, said that Pat O Dwyer attended October's meeting, presented a report. No representative at this meeting. Chairman said, the manager had worked hard and consistently in Pat's absence and was entitled to a night off.

Mary Allen, - speaking for the manager and his wife said, at Waterford's dinner dance on Saturday 10th food, service was excellent, they had received high praise from all guests in attendance. Mary continued that we are all very critical of shortcomings, but when things go right, - praise is well deserved.

Tom Mangan - stated there are several complaints about the Bar Manager. Jim Myers said that the manager looked tired. Fr. Scully said that prior to Pat O Dwyer's accident, communication had improved, catering manager responsible for bookings, informs Bar Manager, responsible for Bar Staff. Bar takings increased.

Mary Kenny, reported that a group of set dancers were coming 1st Sunday Monthly 12 noon - 3p.m.

Chairman reported that a new chairman for Comhaltas would be elected next week. It is important to maintain Irish Culture in the centre.

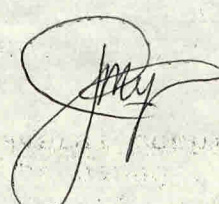
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Peter o Dwyer had been asked to make enquiries, Fr. Scully to follow up.

Date of next meeting 11th December 1990 - 8p.m..

Meeting Closed.

A handwritten signature, possibly 'Jim', is written in dark ink. It is a stylized, cursive signature with a large loop at the end.