

MINUTES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE HELD AT THE IRISH CENTRE

ON TUESDAY 13th MARCH 1984.

PRESENT: D. Egan, Fr. Malone, M. Kenny, M. Moroney, F. Aherne, Sr. Anne-Marie, P. Judge.

APOLOGIES: Fr. Gordan, Fr. Fullam, D. Quinn, J. Troy, T. Dunne, D. Daly.

IN ATTENDANCE: P. J. Keegan, Fr. Ryan.

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MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

Having been distributed were taken as read and were approved and signed. (Proposed by Fr. Malone and seconded by M. Kenny).

MATTERS ARISING.

1. In relation to the G.L.C. Ethnic Minorities Consultative Conference some members expressed reservations about our involvement in such a movement. Many other Irish Organisations had expressed the opinion that it was or could be a waste of our time. The matter was discussed for some time. A decision was made by the Committee to continue to be involved.
2. The feeling of the meeting was that the Irish Centre should have a place on the Cultural Commisson if this was possible. The Centre is already represented on the Welfare Commisson.
3. The Chairman reported that he had written to Mrs. Doris Daly as instructed at the last meeting. A copy of his letter was read to the meeting. His letter underlined Mrs. Daly's inferred acceptance that the allegations referred to in the previous minutes were without foundation.
4. The question of reviewing the Council of the Irish Centre was discussed. A sub-committee consisting of the Chairman, the Director and Mr. Moróney was appointed to make recommendations to the meeting concerning the review.

FUND RAISING.

The Director reported that many of the groups have had meetings and had their various projects organised. Fr. Malone agreed to bring together the leaders of the various groups and to draw up a progress report.

It was reported that the Sponsored Golf Day, organiser Mr. Tony Beatty, has already banked almost £9,000. The Golf Day will take place on April 4th. The Dinner will be held here at the Irish Centre on that evening. Members were informed that they would have to apply to Mr. Beatty if they wished to attend.

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

A document has been received from the Bank of Ireland setting out the conditions and terms of the new deal offered to the Centre. Our Accountants are discussing with the Bank the paragraph referring to the Brewery Loans. It would seem that the time factor involved in coming to a new agreement with the Breweries would hold up the signing of the agreement. The Committee expressed its approval of the general terms of the agreement and awaited the amended agreement for their formal approval.

A letter had been received from Mr. D. O'Riordan proffering his resignation as a Trustee of the Irish Centre. This was accepted and a letter of thanks is to be sent for the years of service given by Mr. O'Riordan.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT.

### Youth:

The Director gave a report to the meeting about a disturbance at a Disco which was held at the Kennedy Hall on Saturday March 3rd 1984. As this resulted in a disturbance on the street many complaints were received including complaints from the Police. Fr. Malone had been informed that some of the young people had inferred to the Police that they had bought drink at the Centre. This allegation was denied by Fr. Malone. Fr. Malone had also received complaints from neighbours. The Director had sought an appointment with the Chief Superintendant, (who had come to the Centre the evening of the trouble), to discuss the matter. This meeting had taken place and a full report of what was said was given to the Committee.

## DECISION.

The Committee endorsed the decision of the Director cancelling all Discos until further notice. A letter is to be sent to the groups who have made bookings informing them of this decision. (A letter was sent next day to the Irish Centre Youth informing them of the cancellation of their bookings).

The Irish Centre Youth Group handed in a copy of a letter written by their Chair Person which she had sent to the Irish Post for publication. The letter was read to the Committee. While recognising the right of free speech, the Committee expressed disapproval of this letter and wished that in future such letters be presented to a member of the Committee before being issued. Miss K. Fitzsimons (Youth Leader) is to be invited to the next meeting. The above resolutions were proposed by Mr. P. Judge and seconded by Miss M. Kenny and approved by the meeting.

## FESTIVAL.

A meeting of the "Festival Council" - "General Purposes Committee" to be held 27th inst. to elect officers<sup>same</sup>. A letter from our Solicitors was read concerning the responsibility of the G.P.C.

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## HOSTELS.

Fr. Ryan reported that the Hostels A.G.M. would take place on Monday March 26th. In his report he told the meeting that both Hostels were full to capacity. He reported that an increasing number of young people were coming to London from Ireland. The handover of the Conway House Development is expected on May 9th. This will give a total of nin-ty nine bed spaces at Conway House.

The Hostels had a "monotering visit" from the Housing Corporation recently. It went well and the written report is awaited. It will be brought to this Committee.

## PRESENTATION OF DRAFT ACCOUNT.

Mr. P. J. Keegan, the Honoury Accountant, presented the draft accounts for the year 1983. Mr. Keegan talked through the accounts with the Committee giving the necessary explanations and answering the queries. The Fund-Raising from the Cycle-Ride - the deed of compromise with Murphy's - and the proposed deal with the Bank of Ireland made a significant differences to last year's account. A special note would be added in the final account explaining the amount of interest which had been dropped from the 1983 account. Mr. Keegan recommended that the presentation of accounts should be altered. This would help to reflect accurately our recent financial position. The Committee endorsed this recommendation and agreed that Mr. Keegan seek approval from the Auditors for this. A very special word of thanks was given through the Chairman.

## WELFARE.

A temporary Welfare Officer is working at the Centre for the last two months. A new Welfare Officer, Mr. Seamus Taylor, has been appointed and will commence work on April 2nd. Sr. Anne-Marie, the representative of the Administrative Committee on the Welfare Sub-Committee, reported that the Sub-Committee were actively engaged in the monitoring and planning of the work at 50 Camden Square. We await the decision from the G.L.C. on the grant application that has been made in relation to the Day Care Centre for the Elderly. A grant application has also been submitted for an "Outreach Officer" to help find employment.

The meeting came to a close at 10.40pm. The date of the next meeting Tuesday April 10th at 8.00pm.

