

MINUTES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE HELD AT THE IRISH CENTRE ON TUESDAY 10th
APRIL 1984.

PRESENT: Fr. Malone, O.M.I., Fr. Fullam, D. Egan, T. Dunne, F. Aherne,
D. Quinn, M. Kenny, D. Daly.

APOLOGIES: Canon Woods, Sr. Anne-Marie, M. Moroney, Fr. Gordon, P. Judge.

IN ATTENDANCE: Fr. Ryan, O.M.I., D. Ambrose.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Having been distributed were taken as read and were approved and signed (proposed by T. Dunne and seconded by Mary Kenny).

MATTERS ARISING:

None.

CORRESPONDENCE:

(a) A letter from John Jenkins, 13b Murray Street, was read complaining of noise late at night between 1.30 and 2.30am. Mr. Jenkins said he would take the complaint as high as he could. He is to meet Fr. Malone and the Manager. Fr. Malone felt that the noise complained of was one particular incident when the people involved were not customers of the Irish Centre.

(b) A notice was read out of the Federation of Irish Societies Eleventh Annual Congress to be held on the 12th May 1984 at Corby Irish Centre. Nominations were sought for Officers (D. Quinn proposed, T. Dunne seconded that the same panel of Officers be nominated).

It was agreed that Fr. Malone and D. Egan attend on behalf of the Centre.

(c) Fr. Malone advised that a T.V.S. Documentary on Irish Matters (The Irish - Using the Mickey) would be shown on the 2nd May 1984 at 6.00pm. Fr. Malone and Sr. Breda were taking part.

There was a report from the Sub-Committee which reviewed the make up of the Council of the Irish Centre. The Sub-Committee proposed that the Membership of the Council be extended by 29 extra votes made up of 25 Parish Organisations, and four G.A.A. Clubs. The procedure would be that the bodies would receive invitations to join the Council. Indications of interest would require the approval of the A.G.M.

D. Ambrose and D. Daly wondered why the bodies proposed should be given extra votes as they were chosen merely because they were hirers of the Centre's facilities.

The objective is to inject new blood.

D. Daly said that in franchiseing Parishes would give multiple votes to Counties who at present each have one vote.

D. Daly proposed that a correspondence of each Council member be identified as a point of contact with the Centre.

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On a proposal of Fr. Malone seconded by T. Dunne the motion to invite the 29 bodies to join the Council was carried by a vote of five to two.

It was unanimously decided to invite the following bodies to join the Council Quorum:

Irish Centre Youth,

Northern Ireland Tourist Board,

Irish Export Board,

Hibernian Insurance,

I.D.A.,

London Irish Rugby Club,

C.I.E.,

Insurance Corporation of Ireland,

The Irish Business-Mans Association,

on a proposal by D. Daly seconded by T. Dunne it was proposed to invite the members of the Ceili Group, the Irish Language Group and Irish Heritage to join the Centre's Cultural Sub-Committee.

HOSTELS - Fr. Ryan Reporting:

A handover will take place at Conway House on the 11th April increasing facilities of 30 bed spaces. The final portion of the development would be handed over in mid-May involving 39 spaces which will bring the total at Conway House to 99.

The monitoring report of the Housing Corporation has been issued. There is nothing over-critical and Fr. Malone said the report was excellent.

Both Hostels are full.

The A.G.M. of the Irish Centre Hostels was adjourned as the Audited Council were not available in proper form.

Occupationally Men's Hostel is 98% Irish and in the Girl's Hostel where there are 122 spaces accommodation is 50% Irish.

FINANCE:

The Centre's accounts are almost ready and copies will be sent by post.

D. Ambrose has read the Banks letter regarding the revised arrangements for the debt and has confirmed about the clauses regarding the approval of the letter by each incoming committee and about termination of arrangements.

The meeting with the Bank will be arranged.

MANAGEMENT:

The Manager, Mr. Tim O'Connor, is back from leave.

D. Quinn and T. Dunne proposed and seconded the vote of thanks to Mrs. D'Arcy for carrying out the duties of temporary Manager before the new Manager was appointed.

D. Daly objected the fact that the Centre had used Mrs. D'Arcy to work unsocialable hours and there were complaints about underaged children in the cloakrooms.

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Appropriate action has been taken in relation to an unfortunate incident that was reported at a recent Leitrim meeting.

FUND RAISING:

Progress was reported in relation to the Car Raffle, Half Penny Appeal and Bankers Orders group. A meeting of all groups has been arranged.

The Golf Day organised by T. Beatty was a great success and approximately £20,000 nett has been raised.

On a proposal by D. Quinn seconded by F. Aherne a vote of thanks was expressed to T. Beatty and a letter will be sent.

SOCIAL CLUB:

The A.G.M. of the Social Club is normally due within six weeks of the Centre's A.G.M.

The Social Club wishes its Officers term of office to run from January to December.

D. Egan wished that the Chairman of the Social Club to be a member of the Administrative Committee.

D. Ambrose said that the way to fall in with the Social Club Officers wishes was to hold the A.G.M. at the normal time but adjourn the meeting just before the election of Officers. The A.G.M. would be reconvened in January at which time the Officers would be elected. The A.G.M. would be deemed to have been held on the day it was adjourned.

WELFARE REPORT:

The Welfare Report was distributed. The Committee members are to read and discuss at the next meeting.

D. Daly said the report contained proposals to provide a Hostel for Homeless Elderly and said the proposals would meet local objections.

YOUTH:

Fr. Malone was unable to offer permanent premises for the Youth at the moment. The Discos would remain suspended until guarantees could be given to the Administrative Committee that they would be adequately supervised by adults.

DEVELOPMENT OF PREMISES FOR YOUTH AND DAY CARE CENTRE:

Fr. Malone reported a meeting with the G.L.C. As 75% of the G.L.C.'s Capital Grant had been turned down by the Government no money is available but the Irish Centre has been promised it will receive priority.

Revenue Monies are available under the Industry and Employment project of financial training for young unemployed.

Appropriate application has been submitted.

Camden Council has granted £34,200 for the salaries of the Social Workers.

The question of the Day Care Centre needs to be constantly reviewed and monitored.

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Camden will be had by Rate Capping but no essential services will be hit. Tory M.P. Mr. Finsberg said recently that the Irish Centre should be funded by the Irish Government. Camden's annual grant is at risk. The Irish Government gave £IR 11,000 last year. D. Ambrose said that it was very important that the jobs of people paid by Camden should be linked to the existence of the Camden Grant as there was a danger otherwise of having to made redundancy payments.

THE FESTIVAL:

The General Purposes Committee of the Festival met on 27th March and 5th April 1984.

The first meeting of the Festival A.G.M., S. Troy was elected Chairman, D. Egan Vice-Chairman, Fr. Malone Secretary, T. Dack Treasurer.

The General Purposes Committee is the governing body of the Irish Festival Limited.

The Committee is making progress despite getting of the ground later than usual.

Sealink have decided to participate generally.

The running of the Car Park is to be let out to an approved Charity and the Centre is to be given first option.

MISCELLANEOUS:

D. Daly advised that she had been invited to a Barn Dance in the Kennedy Hall held by the Womens Committee in aid of Abortion Groups in Spain and Italy and Fr. Malone explained that the function was not booked as such.

DATE OF THE MAYOR'S BANQUET: 17th May 1984. It was suggested that a Buffet meal be available and an evening of Irish Culture and Music.

NEXT MEETING: 8th May 1984 at 8.00pm mainly to decide nominees for the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 11.10pm. IRISH CENTRE A.G.M. 21st May.