

Trinity Retirement Association

The second meeting of the Executive Committee of the Trinity Retirement Association was held on 25th April 2014 in the Arts Building Coffee Dock.

Present: Ruth Potterton (chair), Mary Coffey, Vivien Jenkins (Secretary), Mike Jones, Norah Kelso, Kay O'Neill

Apologies: Tommy Murtagh, Gay Duffy

1. Minutes of the meeting of 11th April 2014

The minutes were agreed subject to the replacement of 'Trinity Foundation' with 'TCD Association and Trust' in Minute 7.

2. Matters arising

(a) *Trinity Foundation:* NK sought clarification on a number of issues regarding this application and agreed to consult further with Michael McKeown. It was also agreed that the Secretary should write formally to the Director of the Foundation thanking him for supporting the Inaugural Meeting of the Association by providing coffee and lunch on 8th April 2014.

(b) *Website:* The Chairperson reported that she had had an initial conversation with a colleague from the Library and asked for his assistance with the further development of the Association's website. He was considering the matter and it was hoped to have a response shortly.

(c) *Accommodation for the TRA:* The Secretary agreed to write to the relevant College authorities to enquire when the room that had been earmarked for the Association in the Biosciences Building would become available.

3. 'Taster Events'

(a) *Coffee Morning 22nd April:* Committee members who had attended the Coffee Morning thought that it had gone well, despite low numbers attending. The tour of the exhibition was also enjoyable. It was suggested that we might run another coffee morning in the Science Gallery when the next exhibition is launched during the summer months.

(b) *Guided tour of Botanic Gardens:* Sixteen people had signed up so far for this tour. The Secretary agreed to send out a reminder to members about a week before the event. It was agreed to make a contribution of €50 to the Botanic Gardens as a thank-you to the Director for providing the tour.

(c) *Other events:* The Secretary stated that new members were emailing the Association requesting information on upcoming events. She said that in her view, there was a need to schedule some more activities after the tour of College buildings on 10th June. There was a brief discussion of other tours or activities that the Association might consider arranging which included

- Dail Eireann
- Aras an Uachtarain
- Dublin Castle
- Airfield, Dundrum
- Royal Hospital Kilmainham
- Titanic exhibition, Belfast
- Marsh's Library
- Russborough House, Blessington
- Marley Park – Sunday morning walk/run and markets

It was agreed to return to this item at the next meeting. A link to the Events section on www.tcd.ie should also be explored.

4. Membership Applications

The Secretary advised that she had received a membership application from an individual who had provided sessional teaching in College and she sought direction from the Executive as to how such applications should be processed. The Constitution states that ‘...membership shall, at the absolute discretion of the Executive Committee, be extended ... where it can be demonstrated that the applicant had a substantive and meaningful connection with the College during their career’.

It was agreed that a reasonably flexible approach should be adopted, particularly at this early stage in the Association’s development.

5. Travel

There was a brief discussion of possibilities for travel abroad in September-November 2014. MC agreed to make initial enquiries with www.thetraveldepartment.ie and to report back.

6. Correspondence

(a) *RelAte Project* The committee noted the circulated information on this project and agreed that the Association should facilitate publication of this project on its website.

(b) *Theatre sub-group:* An email from one of the Association’s members, RK, had been circulated concerning the establishment of a theatre sub-group. RK also expressed an interest in a performance and acting/script writing group. The committee agreed to invite RK to the next meeting to elaborate on how such a sub-group might operate. It agreed not to proceed with her offer regarding performance script writing at this stage.

(c) *Death Notices:* The Secretary sought clarification on the process for dealing with death notices of former colleagues or current staff. It was agreed

- the email notice received on the trinityretirementassociation@gmail.com address from College authorities should be forwarded via email to Association members
- if the death notice relates to a member of the Association, his/her name should be removed immediately from the database
- a notice should not be put on the Association’s website (as committee members did not have the ability to update the website)
- a postal notice should not be sent because of the delay involved
- when an Association Newsletter is established, information on deaths of former colleagues and/or Association members should be included.

7. Headed Paper and Association logo

MC agreed to explore with others the possibilities regarding design / development of headed paper for the Association.

8. Any Other Business

(a) *Payments to the Association:* It was suggested that consideration be given in the future to facilitating direct debit payment by members of their annual subscriptions and that the Treasurer should explore this further.

(b) *Woodcarving 2-day course in Trinity Botanic Gardens, Dartry:* It was agreed that the Secretary should circulate information on the above course to Association members. MJ suggested that consideration might be given to offering a concession rate to members wishing to participate, the balance to be made up from TRA funds.

(c) *Lectures in Michaelmas Term:* It was proposed that the committee should consider organising a number of lectures by current or retired staff from Trinity.

(d) *Mobile Phone for Association:* The Secretary suggested that consideration be given to getting a mobile phone number for the Association. At present, members of the committee were

using their own mobile phones to receive calls on Association business. One possibility was to get a SIM only contract for an existing phone which was no longer in use.

NEXT MEETING Friday 9th May 2014, 11.15, Arts Building Coffee Dock