

Minutes of Cork County Public Participation Network Autumn Plenary 26/11/2024

Attendees: Pauline O Dwyer (Chair), Liam McCarthy, Jose Ospina, Morrin Drislane (Cork County PPN Coordinator), Noelle Nally (Cork County PPN Support Worker), Claire Cullinane (Aura IT support), Breda McGuigan (Aura IT support), Raffaella Valenti, Bob Seward, Jonh Fuller, Alan Clayton, Greg O Keeffe, Doug Lucey, Carol Harpur, Donal Kissane, Nina Orteu Pons, Mary O Leary, Christine Lane, Tom Howard, Neal Doran, Nikki Bray, Bernadette Connolly, Steven Kelly, Ena Howell, Eoin O Callaghan, John Hennessy, Maggie McColgan, John Lyons, JJ Hayes, Marie O Connell, Christian Kostner, Amanda Connell, Brid Coakley

1. Welcome address by Chairperson

2. Housekeeping Duties, Health, and Safety

3. Adopting Plenary Standing Orders

4. Approval of Minutes of last Plenary and Matters Arising: Proposed by Liam McCarthy, seconded by Tom Howard

5. PPN Activity Report by Coordinator and Support and Development Worker Morrin Drislane extended congratulations to Pauline O Dwyer on her appointment to Chair. MD reviewed Programme of Work for 2024, including extra funding awarded to the PPNs nationally, and noting new Cork County Council CEO M. Murrell is willing to meet with us. Morrin Drislane reviewed Workplan for 2025.

A. Coleman queried why local Councillors do not lead their PPNs, and L. McCarthy & M. Drislane clarified that PPNs are apolitical.

Noelle Nally gave support worker update on ongoing training, newsletters published and social media.

6. Finance and Budget Update Morrin Drislane reviewed End of Year Financial Report, and Budget for 2025.

Christine Lane suggested that increased monies be ring-fenced for MD Plenary meetings, and there was discussion around same.

Suggestion by Jose Ospina that a date be set for submissions around increased monies, for a truly democratic process, and these suggestions to go to either Secretariat or Spring Plenary.

Budget proposed by Jose Ospina and seconded by Greg O Keeffe.

7. Notification of Election to fill any Vacancies arising on the Secretariat and Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

Current Secretariat vacancies advertised and noted that East Cork seat is not as actual available, error in powerpoint presentation.

Eoin O Callaghan queried deadline for LCDC applications, MD clarified it will be in the New Year at the earliest

8. Social Policy Committee Election Results and Announcements

- Appointments to Community & Voluntary pillar proposed by John Fuller, seconded by Raffaella Valenti
- Appointments to Social Inclusion pillar proposed by Carol Harpur, seconded by John Fuller
- Appointments to Environment pillar proposed by Bernadette Connolly, seconded by Eoin O Callaghan

M.D. explained technical issue with Arts, Culture & Language election, needs to be redone, and whoever wins will be ratified at Spring Plenary

Environment Pillar – call out re vacancies, and L. McCarthy encouraged the seats to be filled lest the Council take them from us.

M.D explained that Cork County Council will be in touch with new SPC reps, and training will be provided

Request that full list of Reps be put in next Newsletter.

Noelle Nally to share how people can apply for vacancies, as per request.

9. Chairperson Closing Remarks

M.D issued her thanks to those in attendance, and her congratulations to the new SPC reps.

Pauline O Dwyer (Chair) issued her thanks to Morrin Drislane, Noelle Nally, and all those in attendance