

Sligo Public Participation Network

Secretariat Meeting

29 September 2020, Zoom Virtual Meeting Room at 7pm



Present:

Mr Michael Kirby	Environment College
Mr Gerry O'Connor	Community & Voluntary College
Mr Patrick Benson	Social Inclusion College
Ms Lisa Moore	Borough District of Sligo MD
Mr David Tuffy	Ballymote - Tubbercurry MD
Mr Michael Bell	Environment College

Absent:

Ms Ann Donegan	Social Inclusion College
Ms Ann Marie Snee	Community & Voluntary College
Mr Paul Tolan	Sligo Drumcliff MD

In Attendance:

Ms Sarah Wetherald	Sligo PPN
Ms Emer McGrath	Sligo County Council

1. Welcome

All members of the Secretariat welcomed by the Chair Gerry O'Connor.

2. Minutes of last meeting

Pat Benson proposed the minutes, seconded by Lisa Moore.

3. Matters Arising from Minutes

No Matters Arising.

4. Support Worker Role

Support worker contract is extended until middle of Jan 2021. DRCD have advised that they consider this funding is now a mainstream feature of the PPN and that the support worker role will continue to be funded as long as PPN are operating. There was an agreement from the Secretariat that these short term contracts make it very difficult for PPN to plan ahead and that level of continuity is now needed.

ACTION: Letter to be sent from Secretariat to Margaret McConnell asking for clarity on the support worker contract, opening discussion around the issues of short term contracts for the PPN and arranging a meeting with HR.

5. Elections

- Disability Consultative Committee- Voting open until Thursday 1st October. Two nominations were received. Results to be announced on Friday 2nd October.
- Sligo Leader Environment Rep- This election will only be open to the environment college and this is a new rep position. Nominations opened on Tuesday 29 Sept.

- There are a number of other elections upcoming including, NWRDATF, Heritage Forum. Place Names & Age Friendly Alliance. Secretariat agreed to stagger elections and not run elections all at the one time.
ACTION Sarah to send proposed timetable for elections to Secretariat
- Secretariat informed that the Chair of LCDC Election is also ongoing at the moment. There was two nominations received so ballot required. Only the 17 LCDC Members can vote.
ACTION: Sarah to send Secretariat list of current LCDC Members.

6. Update on Actions

- Environment Info Series- Was due to finish last week but Brian Kirwan had to cancel at the last minute. Emer is in the process of trying to reschedule his session. Sarah will look to see if other colleges want to do something similar. Info series was shared with National Advisory Group as good practise.
- Health & Wellbeing- Tender document is being finalised this week and will be sent to Secretariat for review. Ideally this will go out early next week.
- Needs Analysis- Copy of needs analysis has been sent to Secretariat. Main things that came out of survey were Social Media Training, Funding and GDPR & Governance. Information also sent to IT Sligo and SVC to look for collaboration.
- Eirgrid- They are looking to host a consultation with the PPN in the next month and we will support them running this.
- Step Up For Sligo- Push needed by Secretariat to get more stories in. A €500 voucher is now available to use for this campaign as they had initially been secured for awards event.
- Meeting with SPC Reps- Sarah has been meeting with SPC reps and there is still ongoing issues over reps not been contacted in time and the way they are getting information.
- National Advisory Group- They have requested a report on Community Call
- IT Sligo Survey- A value on the community effort under Covid-19. They received the required amount of responses necessary and are currently in the process of engaging with a PHD student to do up the findings.

7. Budget Discussion & Ideas from Secretariat

Sarah and Emer will be undertaking a full budget review this week and a copy of this will be sent on to Secretariat. There is still a surplus in figures. We can expect a circular from the Dept advising that they would encourage LAs to allow PPNs to carry over surplus funds as long as they are for specific planned events that were unable to take place in 2020.

- Online AGM- Possible running order- PPN will provide an update on PPN Activities, constitution element, invite council to discuss upcoming funding, featured speaker and update on health and wellbeing. We will need more content for the event. Suggestion made to get 2-3 groups to speak on the night that coped well throughout Covid 19 and share their experience.

AGM to be held in late November- possibly 26 November 2020

Community Group draw will still go ahead and we may be able to do more than two draws on the night depending on budget.

8. AOB.

GOC to send on copy of letter National PPN received from Roscommon Rep. Public Speaking training could be useful to groups who now have to use Zoom etc.

9. Next Meeting

The next secretariat meeting will take place on Monday 2nd November at 7pm. Lisa Moore to chair the next meeting.

Meeting Concluded: 20:00

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