

Sligo Public Participation Network

Secretariat Meeting

18 August 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 Paul Tolan	Sligo Drumcliff MD
Mr David Tuffy	Ballymote - Tubbercurry MD

Absent:

Ms Ann Donegan	Social Inclusion College
Mr Michael Bell	Environment College
Ms Ann Marie Snee	Community & Voluntary College

In Attendance:

Ms Sarah Wetherald	Sligo PPN
Ms Emer McGrath	Sligo County Council

1. Welcome

All members of the Secretariat welcomed by the Chair Paul Tolan.

2. Minutes of last meeting

David Tuffy proposed the minutes, seconded by Paul Tolan.

3. Matters Arising from Minutes

No Matters Arising.

4. Social Inclusion Booklet

Final draft of the Social Inclusion Booklet is now available and will be circulated to Secretariat members for review and feedback. The Social Inclusion Engagement booklet will also be going up on Sligo PPN Website in an e-reader format and worksheets will also be available. We still have to decide a launch date given current Covid restrictions, but at least if it is ready to go we can launch quickly when we are ready.

5. Sligo County Council Disability Consultative Committee

John Moran of Sligo County Council contacted PPN looking for PPN Secretariat to nominate one person to sit on the Disability Consultative Committee. This election will follow the online process like was done for the SPC Election and voting will be done online. Nomination process open to all three colleges. If alternative nomination methods are needed to ensure nobody is excluded we will deal with these on a case by case basis. Secretariat gave go ahead to open nominations as soon as possible. This committee will be looking at invisible disabilities and mental health, along with physical disabilities. It will also look at the inclusion side of things.

6. Arts Advisory Board

Approach made from the coordinator of the recently established 'Invitation to Collaboration' project awarded to Sligo Arts Office by the Arts Council. They have requested that Sarah represent the PPN in terms of liaising with them with regard to ensuring community diversity in the arts. It was agreed that Sarah be the point of contact until more information is available.

7. Support Worker Role

Support Worker Contract is being extended. Length of contract extension is still under review and await HR contract. Agreed that Secretariat will review when contract is produced as the overarching concern here is the lack on continuity and the fact that these short term contracts are not conducive to sustainability and long term planning for the PPN.

8. Budget Discussion

The Department is looking for an update from each PPN on how they plan to spend their remaining budget. If the dept allow a carryover of this year's budget into 2021, all remaining budget must be spent by the end of 2021.

A request will be going in to SCC to rollover the budget for a series of planned events that could not go ahead in 2020 including the PPN Awards, Environment Seminar and Community conference. The call from PPN staff is for Secretariat members to identify projects for the allocation of the remainder.

- Kids Own Proposal- Discussion on whether Secretariat is giving ahead on this project. Cost of project is approx €6000. SW added that there is a big gap in the PPN and there is a need to connect with kids and make sure the views of children are captured. Vote was taken and it was agreed that we proceed with the project as long as it is confirmed that the initiative is across the whole county and not just Sligo town based and also that it is identified as a PPN project, not that we are a sponsoring body. SW will confirm these two elements.
- Possibility of hosting a virtual AGM discussed. This would involve engaging a professional to run the event as we do not have the technical experience. SW and EM to review and ask for proposals.
- Possibility of engaging with someone to complete the final phase of the Health & Wellbeing Vision. Initially IT Sligo was due to work in conjunction with PPN on this but due to Covid 19, this is now unlikely. We need someone to pull together everything we have so far and into a vision document. They could also format the information in a way that will support future submissions. This will need to go out to tender for procurement purposes. The alternative to this would be the Secretariat and PPN staff producing the piece themselves. It was decided to get a tender price and then a decision will be made about whether to proceed or not.
- PB proposed we could use of the remaining budget to promote Sligo PPN throughout the county. This would be done by visuals in the community or road signs.
- GOC proposed we give some money back to the community groups- possibly at virtual AGM if it takes place.
- Online Seminars/talks were proposed. We would need high profile speakers. This to be looked into.

- Suggestion of Text Alert System was discussed. We have a text system on Salesforce already.
- Other suggestions included online concert for those groups who signed up to the Covid-19 Emergency Response Group, purchase of a camera, lighting and speaker phone for members, work with local artists whose income has been affected from Covid-19.

ACTION: Sarah to put a call out to other PPN's to see what projects/proposals they have and see if they have any interesting ideas.

9. AOB.

Step Up For Sligo- stories are slow coming in. Sligo Champion is looking to partner with us on the project and put a keep sake publication in the paper in possibly October. Agreed to proceed and reach out to active groups and encourage them to send in stories.

10. Next Meeting

The next secretariat meeting will take place on Tuesday 15th September at 7pm.

Meeting Concluded: 21:00