

## Mary Mulvihill Association

### AGM 26 November 2020 (ONLINE - ZOOM)

**Attendance:** Anne Mulvihill, Liam Ryam, Nóirín Mulvihill, Brendan Delany, Carmel Hennessey, Aileen McGrath, Margaret Kelleher, Fionnuala Murphy, Catherine Coxon, Deirdre Ni Dhuillearga, Jim Turner, Brian Dolan, Joe Murray, Jane Grimson, Brian Trench, Mary Coghlan, Rebecca O'Neill, Ena Prosser, Frank Miller, Therese Caherty, Anne FitzGerald

**Apologies:** Cormac Sheridan, Nigel Monaghan

#### 1. Co-Chairperson's address (by Nóirín Mulvihill)

Nóirín welcomed the attendees to the fifth AGM of the Mary Mulvihill Association and the first one online. She reflected on the past year and began by reminding the attendees why they were here. She shared that the association was set up five years ago when a group of Mary's friends and colleagues, saw to remember Mary in the best possible way, by reflecting her work. So initially some of aims seemed very ambitious from reprinting Ingenious Ireland to collating and finding a suitable home for her archive. Nóirín expressed that she believed Mary would be overwhelmed and honoured by what has been achieved so far and the hard work and support of all involved.

She noted that a number of the main objectives of the association were achieved in the previous year and the relevant sub-committees were wound down – The archive was moved to DCU and with the financial support from DCU, Dublin Port and Dias, and the hard work of our previous chair Margaret Kelleher, Ingenious Ireland was reprinted in October 2019 in conjunction with Four Courts Press. Nóirín also mentioned that the launch at EPIC was a wonderful event and one that we are all glad to have been part of.

She continued by thanking Patrick and David Green, the Directors of Epic, for their generous support, and noted that, with thanks to DIAS, there is now a copy of the book in every county library in the country. Both projects honoured Mary and her work.

She then brought up the Mary Mulvihill Award, which was first set up in 2015. She thanked both Cormac Sheridan and Brian Trench for their hard work from the beginning and the judges, both past and present, for their time and expertise.

She thanked the previous Officers, Margaret Kelleher, Anne Fitzgerald, and Ena Prosser for their trojan work which laid a solid foundation from which to build. She singled out Ann and Margaret particular for their guidance to herself and Therese during the past year. She thanked the other members of the committee for their hard work throughout the year.

She paid tribute to Ena Prosser, who stepped down as treasurer at the AGM  
"Her vision and dedication have never wavered. Her support has been constant, her knowledge of the Governing Instrument invaluable. But above all, she has done this with a willing heart and has never forgotten her friendship with Mary. I know she thinks of her fondly as she views the diving well from her office window. Ena, we owe you a great debt of gratitude for all this hard work."

She concluded by noting the remaining committee had big boots to fill.

Therese Caherty thanked Nóirín for her address and stated that it was very moving and agreed that it was important to look at where the association started and came from. She said that we were inclined to forget where we come from at times. And it was important to be reminded of what has already been achieved

#### 2. Election of tellers (if necessary)

The meeting agreed that as it was unlikely that tellers would be required none would be appointed.

#### 3. Adoption of minutes of AGM held on 27 November 2019

The minutes of the AGM held on 27 November 2019 were approved and signed with the following amendments proposed by the former secretary, Anne Fitzgerald:

- Proposal to amend item four - Election of Officers.
  - (i) The minute be corrected from “Chair Therese Caherty” to “Therese Caherty and Nóirín Mulvihill, proposed by Brian Dolan and seconded by Ann Fitzgerald, as co-chairs”
- Proposal to delete the paragraph underneath the section on secretary
  - (i) In recording the election of the three Officers, the meeting noted that the in-coming committee may consider designating one of the Ordinary committee members as a Co-Chair to assist Therese in her role.
- Proposal to amend item 8 - Election of Ordinary Members of the Executive
  - (i) Remove Nóirín as Ordinary Officer

All proposals were accepted

#### 4. Election of Officers

The following were elected as Officers for 2020/21:

- Chair: **Therese Caherty & Nóirín Mulvihill**
- Proposed by Ena Prosser & seconded by Fionnuala Murphy
- Treasurer: **Aileen McGrath**
- Proposed by Nóirín Mulvihill and seconded by Ena Prosser
- Secretary: **Fionnuala Murphy**
- Proposed by Therese Caherty and seconded by Nóirín Mulvihill
- Membership Secretary: **Carmel Hennessey**
- Proposed by Ena Prosser and seconded by Therese Caherty

#### 5. Secretary’s Report including reports from sub-groups

The Secretary’s Report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, was taken as read and adopted.

Fionnuala mentioned that there had been progress in commissioning a plaque in Mary’s honour and thanked Rebecca O’Neill and Brian Dolan for their work on that. She also noted that there were a number of committee members who had been on the committee since the beginning and will be stepping down at the 2021 AGM.

She thanked the committee for their assistance in the course of her first year as Secretary. She also thanked the members of the sub-committees for their hard work during a turbulent year.

#### 6. Treasurer’s Report and Accounts for year ended 31 August 2020 (to be tabled)

Ena invited attention to her Treasurer’s Report and Accounts for year ended 30 August 2020 which had been tabled.

She started by noting the financial year is the end of the financial year is the 30<sup>th</sup>, August of every year. And as such there is always a lag between the end of the financial year and the AGM. The Treasurer’s report runs from August to August.

We have two bank accounts. A business banking account, which is important if we’re doing any vendor qualification - this is the anti-money laundering element of the organisation. When we book venues such as Epic, they require that we have these, this level of governance now from an anti-money laundering perspective. While they’re expensive and administratively a bit more complex, they are necessary.

She noted that, in preparing the accounts, professional financial and legal advice had been provided by Quaestor Management Services Ltd and Alice Murphy from Mason Hayes Curran respectively. Ena advised that the Association’s Auditor, Sarah-Jane Larkin of Quaestor Management Services Ltd. had audited and signed the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ireland. The meeting noted that the auditing fee for this work was €100 + VAT for which the meeting expressed its appreciation.

She noted that our income was down for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup>, August 2020. This was a reflection of the previous year’s higher income. In addition, the organisation had more expenses including the republication of Ingenious Ireland. There was one anonymous donation of €50 which could not be traced to a membership application. She stated that there is a provision for the Plaque project in 2021. The Ingenious reprint invoice

received was for €4,000 and has been paid. There were significant banking charges and some legal fees (~€600) as a result of changing the governing instruments.

She stated that the Closing Balance was €32 121.34, which included a substantial donation of €1,400 from the royalties on Ingenious Ireland, which was donated by Mary's nephew, Oren and a further €5,000 donated by Brian Dolan. There is a small balance on the working account of the organisation of around €441.

The committee expressed their appreciation for the generous donation from Oren and Brian.

## **7. Election of Ordinary members of the Executive**

The following were elected as Ordinary Members of the Executive Committee for 2020/21:

**Anne Mulvihill:** proposed by Brian Dolan and seconded by Anne FitzGerald

**Brian Trench:** proposed by Brian Dolan and seconded by Anne FitzGerald

**Ena Prosser:** proposed by Brian Dolan and seconded by Anne FitzGerald

**Catherine Coxon:** proposed by Brian Dolan and seconded by Anne FitzGerald

**Cormac Sheridan:** proposed by Brian Dolan and seconded by Anne FitzGerald

**Liam Ryan:** proposed by Brian Dolan and seconded by Anne FitzGerald

**Nigel Monaghan:** proposed by Brian Dolan and seconded by Anne FitzGerald

**Rebecca O'Neill:** proposed by Brian Dolan and seconded by Anne FitzGerald

**Deirdre Ní Dhuillearga:** proposed by Brian Dolan and seconded by Anne FitzGerald

## **8. Proposed Amendments to the Governing Instrument**

The proposed amendments, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, were proposed formally by Fionnuala Murphy and seconded by Nigel Monaghan. They were adopted by the association and will be incorporated into the governing instrument.

## **9. Election of Auditors and setting audit fee**

The meeting approved an Auditor and proposed provision for fees as follows:

C O Sullivan & Co, Chartered Accountants

Quaestor Management Services Ltd

50 Fortfield Park, Terenure

Dublin 6W

€100 + VAT for account preparation and TAX registration for 2018/19.

## **10. AOB**

No AOB proposed

## **11. Chairperson's closing comments**

Therese closed the meeting with a few remarks, noting that the AGM is really an important part of the committee's work because it gives the committee an opportunity to meet the members. It is one of the few opportunities during the year that we have to do that. She said that while unfortunately this year the meeting is by zoom it has nevertheless meant that the association has been able to meet up. In addition, it fulfils a condition of our governing instrument and allows the association to formalise any changes brought before it.

She thanked everyone for attending and said that all had contributed to a good night's work. She hoped that the 2021 AGM could be in person.