Cavan Public Participation Network Secretariat Meeting Minutes – 20.02.24



Present: Fiachra Keogh, Evija Nwaneri, Sridevi Balan, Jet Calders, Rafaela Radulescu, Finian McNamara, Adrian Drought, Daniel Downey.

Apologies: Gabriella Evans and Seamus McGrath.

Minutes & Matters Arising: No matters arising. Minutes proposed by Rafaela, seconded by Sridevi.

Staff Report: Daniel read the staff report from the pack and a short discussion was had.

Finance Report: Finances outlined by Finian. First quarterly payment from Cavan County Council is delayed due to requirement for certificate from Revenue. Staff continuing to work on resolving same. Proposed by Evija Seconded by Rafaela.

2024 Calendar of Work: The staff calendar was adopted unanimously by the Secretariat as a good method of keeping track of the work of the workplan and what is needed on a monthly basis to be done. Sub-committees and secretariat members should meet to work on these points.

Elections: July for Secretariat rotations, possibly September for SPC elections. Fiachra proposed getting pledges of support for the PPN from political candidates to show their support for community in the county. Daniel to look into whether this infringes the political neutrality clause. A flier is to be developed, as part of the workplan, to send all community groups to ask pertinent community focused questions before the election campaigns start. Secretariat to liaise on this and touch base with staff for printing etc.

Subgroups Review: With Seamus standing down, Rafaela volunteered to become the new Staff Liaison Officer, being on the HR/Staff Sub Committee. Proposed by Evija, Seconded by Sridevi. With Seamus standing down, Fiachra volunteered to attend the quarterly PPN Oversight Committee meetings if no one else was forthcoming. Proposed by Evija. Seconded by Sridevi.

Use of Group Emails On Website: A general discussion was had but no decision arrived at in regard to putting groups details on the website, due to data issues.

2025: There was a general discussion around the need for a sub-committee to devise the 2025 workplan and budget in anticipation of an Autumn consultation and scoring of same. Subcommittee was established unanimously; members are to come forward between now and the next meeting.

AOB: The next meeting is to be a day trip and linking in with LeitrimPPN, replicating the MeathPPN link-in and trip to Kells last year. Staff agreed to organize.

The issue of the cost of the newsletter was broached and how some Plenary members desired we develop an Opt/In system to begin screening out the physical newsletter by the end of the year for all but those who actually request it but it will still be in libraries, council etc.

Meeting closed.