

Minutes of the Board of Governors Meeting of Thursday 30th April 2020

- Present:** D. Jennings [Chair]
- Also:** J. Carty, D. Conroy, T. Corcoran, L. Doherty, L. Hennessy,
I. Fox, D. Kelleher, R. Keary, A. Lenny, C. McGrath, J. Murray,
D. O'Donnell, C. O'hAodáin.
- In Attendance:** K. Kelleher [Secretary]
- Apologies:** L. Cearr, D. McDonagh,

1. Minutes of the Board of Governors Meeting of 30th January 2020

The meeting approved the minutes.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising not covered in the agenda.

3. Covid-19 Impact on RIAM

The Director gave a slide presentation on the covid-19 impact on the Academy including areas of RIAM activity (tuition, exams, publications, extra murals, performance), financial projections & risks and mitigation of financial risk through cutbacks and savings.

The Board congratulated the Director and all staff for acting so swiftly and positively in protecting the business during the covid restrictions.

4. Director's Report

The Director presented her Quarterly report under the headings of:-

1. Covid-19 response: covered above.
2. RIAM Re-development – Programme Timeline:
The site is being cleared in anticipation of handover to the contractor on 5th May.
3. RIAM Re-development – Funding update:
€19m has been raised or pledged for the development works, which are now costed at €21.3 million, with a further €1 million for the fit-out of the Library and one teaching floor. This excludes the bank facility approved.
4. Management Focus – RIAM 175 work streams:
The RIAM 175 Change Programme has 24 work streams and each stream is aligned to the '5 enabling initiatives' - Curriculum review, Human resources, Process reform, ICT and Campus development.
5. Management Focus – Erasmus+ partnership bid:
Stakeholders Assembly on Power Relations in Higher Music Education (PRIhME)

5. Summary of the Finance Committee meeting of 28th April 2020, incorporating Qtr 1 Management Accounts summary.

A number of points were raised with respect to the Academy's strategy for the building works, project funding and educational services in the event that the covid-19 impacts and restrictions are prolonged. The RIAM Strategy is to be circulated to the Board for consideration at a special meeting.

The Board noted the summary of results and commentary for the Quarter ended 31st March 2020.

6. 2019 Draft Annual Report and Financial Statements,

The Board approved the 2019 Accounts for submission to the C&AG for audit.

7. Audit & Risk Committee Annual Report 2019.

T. Corcoran presented the 2019 audit committee report. He undertook that the committee would update the risk register specifically with reference to covid-19, which carries significant financial risk for the Academy.

The committee will undergo self-evaluation when the Governance committee has finalised the template.

8. Audit & Risk committee update.

T. Corcoran summarised the minutes of the Audit & Risk committee meeting held on Wednesday 29th April including

- the C&AG 2018 Management letter
- 2019 Financial Statements
- the PAYE internal audit report
- the 2020 audit plan and
- the academy risk register.

9. Governance Committee Update

The Chair summarised the meeting of the Governance committee held on Wednesday 29th April including:

- Director's review and performance objectives for 2020
- RIAM Board committee membership & Board skills
- review of the Board of Studies terms of reference (a review of the changed terms to be undertaken after one year to gauge success or otherwise)
- feedback on latest RIAM constitution draft
- RIAM committee self evaluation

The Board noted that D. Jennings would be stepping down as Chair from a number of committees and would be replaced by Lena Hennessy (Finance committee), Declan McDonagh (Governance committee) and Roger Latham (ICT committee).

10. Re-development Steering committee update.

T. Corcoran gave a summary of the Steering committee meeting held on Tuesday 28th April noting Jan Van Dijk's assessment that RIAM was very lucky that the building work had not started before covid-19 restrictions were imposed and that the level of funding that had been committed to date for the project was exemplary.

11. Board Self-evaluation

The summary evaluation report was circulated and the Chair undertook to speak with each Governor to get their thoughts and to address areas of concern.

12. Minutes of the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th Board of Studies meetings for academic year 2019-2020.

The Board noted the minutes and that there was nothing of particular concern to the Governors.

13. Director's Contract

The memorandum of understanding between the Director and the Board has been signed and the Director's contract process is now completed.

14. AOB

There was no other business discussed.

Signed

Date