

**Minutes of the Board of Governors Meeting of Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

**Present:** J. Woodworth [Chair]

**Also:** M. Carey, J. Carty, D. Conroy, T. Corcoran, T. Doyle, T. Fahy, O. Gilhooly-Miles, L. Hennessy, D. Kelleher, A. Lenny, H. McCormack, D. McDonagh, S. Quinn, D. Tiernan.

**In Attendance:** K. Kelleher [Secretary], Brendan Breslin [RIAM Connect]

**Apology:** J. Murray

**1. Conflicts of Interest**

No conflicts of interest confirmed.

**2. Election of Chair for 2023-2024**

The Secretary called for nominations for Chair of the Governing Body, for a two-year period. The Director nominated Judith Woodworth and J. Carty seconded the nomination. J. Woodworth was deemed elected by acclamation as no other nominations were tabled.

**3. Welcome to new Governors**

The incoming chair spoke of her honour in taking on the role at such a prestigious period in the Academy's history. She applauded the significant role of Dennis Jennings - outgoing Chair; the strong stewardship of the Director; and the contribution of the Board, Staff, Students and Alumni for many years of diligent hard work in bringing the Academy to its current status.

The Chair welcomed three new Governors to their first meeting - Declan Tiernan, Sarah Quinn and Helen McCormack. All those present gave brief introductions to the meeting.

**4. Minutes of the Board of Governors Meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

The meeting approved the minutes by acclamation.

**5. Matters Arising/Outstanding Actions**

No matters arising not being covered on the agenda.

**6. RIAM Connect Presentation 2023**

Brendan Breslin, Head of RIAM Connect, joined the meeting and gave a presentation on RIAM's outward facing division. He reviewed the year 2022 and looked ahead to 2023 focussing on Exams, digital, theory and applications; International exams; Diplomas; Publications; Adult Division and Outreach programmes. The Chairperson commended his presentation.

**7. Director's Report**

**7a.** The Director tabled her report and summarised that 2023 is a year in which we intend to raise RIAM's profile as a national conservatoire for music with an emerging international profile and distinct and thriving streams of education and appreciation. Her report included reflections on:

- RIAM's positioning statement for 2023
- key institutional marketing highlights across the year
- a note on ambitions for Government relations this year and

- a reflection on how RIAM will get closer the music industry in Ireland and to what end

**7b.** The Director's report on the RIAM's re-development included an update on the construction programme, the latest known project costs and the income streams available to fund the project.

**8. RIAM Diversity, Equality, Accessibility and Inclusion (DEAI)**

This topic was covered where relevant in the presentations tabled above.

**9. Finance Committee Report**

The committee considered the management accounts for 2022, noting the strong surplus achieved in the year. The meeting also reviewed the latest cashflows, funding streams and projected costs for the Capital Development project.

The 2023 final budget was noted, having previously been approved subject to confirmation of the Government Grant allocation for 2023 which was reasonably in line with expectations.

**10. Statement on Internal Control (SIC)**

The Governing Body reviewed the Statement on Internal Control for 2022 and on the proposal of T. Corcoran and seconded by D. McDonagh, approved it by acclamation.

**11. Audit & Risk Committee**

- The Board noted the minutes of the committee meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022, which outlined the 2023 internal audit plan and three topics chosen for audit: - Risk Management, Cyber and IT security and Data Protection.

**12. Governance Committee**

- The Board noted the minutes of the meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022

**13. Board of Studies**

The Governors noted the minutes of the meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> November

**14. Pension Trustee Matters**

The Governors noted the minutes of the Trustee meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2022 including the discussion on proposed pension pay increases.

**15. ICT Steering Committee meeting**

No update

**16. AOB**

No other business tabled

Signed .....

Date .....