

Meeting of the Expert Advisory Group on Commemorations

Monday, 28th May 2018, 1.15 pm
Room 301, Department of the Taoiseach
Minutes

Attendees:

Dr Maurice Manning (*Chair*)
Dr Martin Mansergh (*Vice Chair*)
Dr Sandra Collins
Professor Mary Daly
Professor Diarmaid Ferriter
Professor Patrick Geoghegan
Dr Mary Harris
Dr. Leeann Lane
Comdt. Stephen MacEoin
Ms Sinead McCooile
Professor Eunan O'Halpin
Dr Éamon Phoenix
Mr Feargal Ó Coigligh *D/CHG*
Mr Kevin Lonergan *D/CHG*

Ms Orlaith Lochrin *D/CHG*
Mr Rónán Whelan *D/CHG*

Guest Attendees:

Dr Peter Crooks, *Beyond 2022*
Professor Séamus Lawless, *Beyond 2022*
Dr Ciarán Wallace, *Beyond 2022*

Apologies:

Mr Francis Devine
Mr Gabriel Doherty
Mr Jerry Kelleher *D/Taoiseach*

Key Points:

The minutes of the previous meeting (23rd April) were agreed and there were no issues arising.

Three representatives from the '*Beyond 2022: Ireland's Virtual Record Treasury*' project made a presentation to the Advisory Group -

- Dr Peter Crooks, Principal Investigator
- Professor Séamus Lawless, Co-Principal Investigator for Computer Science
- Dr Ciarán Wallace, Deputy Director

The presentation provided a detailed overview of the project's potential as an ambitious and significant legacy initiative for the Decade of Centenaries. It outlined the collaborative nature of the project; the underlying principles; the technical elements; and the anticipated positive outcomes, particularly around the project's potential to enhance relationships on the island of Ireland and abroad. The Advisory Group agreed to endorse this project as a meaningful and lasting legacy project which supports the democratic access to archival records.

Arising from discussions at its previous meeting, the Advisory Group continued to consider the guidance that it will provide to inform the Government's approach to the remembrance of significant historical events and themes over the remainder of the Decade. Members were invited to send further amendments to the draft text for consideration, following this meeting.

The Chair advised the Group that his objective is to finalise the report and present it to the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Josepha Madigan T.D. prior to the summer recess.

No issues were raised under A.O.B.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Advisory Group will take place in the Autumn, date to be confirmed.

Ends.