

Longford RTA Meeting - March 9th, 2016

Longford RTA Meeting took place in the Courtyard Café, Longford on March 9th, 2016. There were 24 people in attendance. Apologies were received from the following: Mary Connolly, Olive Donohoe, Anne Corkery, Ita Murtagh, Sr. Mary Cassells and Carmel Fallon.

Chairperson, Leo, welcomed all to the meeting, extending a special welcome to those who were attending their first meeting. He offered condolences to Anne Corkery whose brother, Tony, had died earlier in the week.

Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of July 2nd, 2016 were read to the meeting - there were no matters arising

Annual Convention RTA, Ireland, March 8th, 2016

Secretary, Noeleen, attended the Annual Convention of RTA, Ireland which was held on March 8th, 2016 in Club na Múinteoirí, Parnell Square, Dublin. The Meeting was addressed by Ita Sweeney, President RTAI, Emma Dineen, President INTO, and Noel Ward, Deputy General Secretary INTO during the Public Session. Monica Haughey, Clinical Consultant and Counsellor from Care Call gave a presentation on Wellness and Resilience in Retirement. This service can be contacted on Freephone 1800411057 and details are on www.carecallwellbeing.ie. Newly appointed General Secretary, Billy Sheehan, addressed the meeting in the afternoon. He made the following points:

- Redesign of the RTAI website is a priority so that better communication with branches is facilitated
- A Branch Secretary's Conference will take place later in the year
- 2 delegates from each Branch will attend Annual Convention
- A 5 Year National Plan will be drawn up following consultation with Branches
- The funds in Branch accounts and disparity between Branches will be addressed -
- He thanked Secretary, Siobhan and the Delegates

All motions relating to Pensions and Medical Cards, Financial Grants and Solidarity Fund, USC and Election to NEC were passed. Those relating to Branch Allocation were withdrawn

Social Activities

The following activities were suggested for Spring/Summer Season:

- Gardening: Noeleen will contact Brendan Farrell or Kevin Kiernan with a view to organising a 1 Day course in Gardening
- Driving Miss Daisy: Date agreed - Saturday, May 14th for Matinee at 2.30. Noeleen to book tickets and book a restaurant for brunch/lunch
- Commemorating 1916: It was agreed to take the 'Beyond the Barricades' Bus Tour on a day in June
- Commemorating 1916, Longford: Kitty Hughes informed the Meeting that the main 1916 celebrations will take place in Longford from April 22nd-24th when the Remembrance Garden will be opened. She also distributed 1916 Commemoration Booklets
- Kitty also informed the meeting that Mary Carleton Reynolds will be enlisting our help for her 'Showcasing Irish Education for the past Century' - a project which will be undertaken in Autumn
- Eileen Moynihan invited all to Longford Library on the evening of Monday, March 21st for Readings
- Katherine Kennedy invited all to a 1916 Poetry and Music evening on Friday, March 18th in McGowan's, Newtownforbes
- Kitty Hughes reminded us of the Bealtaine events, encouraging us to get involved
- Pat Finnerty is the contact for 'Care to Drive' - Volunteer Driving Service for sick people
- Leo informed all about Lenten Lunch and sold some tickets
- Noeleen announced a Table Quiz in Golf Club and took names of interested parties
- 'Siúiligí' Walking Group will meet at 11.00 am in Clondra on Wednesday, March 30th and the last Wednesday of each month thereafter at venues to be decided

This conclude the business of the meeting

Leo Donlon (Chairperson)

Date

