**Secretariat minutes 15 November 2022**

Present: Deirdre (facilitator), Mick, Gerry, John, Steven, (Ruth).

Apologies: Gavan, Rachel, Catherine

**Minutes: represent, educate, network**

1.  Minutes from October meeting proposed by Gerry and seconded by Mick. The October minutes are on the website [here](https://dublincityppn.ie/secretariat/).

**2. Updates from the Resource Worker**

Rachel Merriman joined the PPN on 14 November as the new support worker, and Eva McCarthy also joined the PPN on 14 November for work experience as part of her MA in sustainable development with TU Dublin. Plans for the November Plenary are all in order, with the documents regarding the new constitution/vision for community wellbeing and workplan for 2023 going up onto the website by 18 November at the latest. The Secretariat agreed to buy 2023 PPN Diaries for people coming to the Plenary, from Badly Made Books. The tender for a consultant facilitator is open until 21 November, and Ellenora Lynch is working on the “How to” manual for reps/secretariat. The 2022 budget is almost spent, with some allocated to “Volunteer Recognition” for a Christmas thank you present to all Representatives and Secretariat. In 2021 people received hampers, but the Secretariat asked if the PPN could send All4One vouchers this year. Ruth to follow up with DRCD to see if this is acceptable, after a recent financial controls circular issued to all PPNs vis-à-vis gift giving.

**3. Updates from the Secretariat**

The Secretariat thanked Ruth for her ongoing work, and welcomed Rachel, Eva and the new consultant facilitator onto the team.

Gerry noted that DC PPN was going from strength to strength, and had seen its success noted at the NAG meetings. He welcomed recent Wheel supports to the PPN, but also felt that the real growth and development of a PPN would be from the inside out, rather than top down. He supports the staff of the PPNs, and hopes to support them more in 2023.

John was very happy that the draft Vision for Community Wellbeing was in progress and had very much enjoyed the session with Claire O’Connor. He found this an excellent opportunity to think about the benefits of the community and our members, and was also pleased with the improvements in DC PPN in 2022.

Mick enjoyed the National Conference in Portlaoise, and thanked the organisers, however, he wondered how to raise a motion at this type of conference and get the views and voices of the disability community heard more. He noted that other PPNs had a lot of literature and flyers with them, and he hoped DC PPN would be able to take more information in 2023.

(an aside discussion took place about sustainability of paper products/and the importance of the DC PPN website over producing paper – perhaps, in the future, the DC PPN could have some recycled paper/**and** the website being shown on a screen at the National Conference).

Deirdre wondered if Eva McCarthy could look at the SDGs and make sure our 2023 Workplan was in alignment with the goals. And also asked if the PPN would be live streaming the November Plenary and having its first hybrid event. Deirdre asked if Ruth could follow up before the November Plenary as this would be important for those people who couldn’t attend in person.

**AOB**

5.  Date of the next meeting (Tuesday 10 January, from 6.30pm – 8.30pm)

***New Facilitator to be chosen at the meeting.***

6.  Close