



Spanish-Irish Business Network Annual General Meeting 2020

22nd October 2020

Virtual event

Agenda

Time	Item	Responsible
19:00	Welcome	President
19:10	Presentation of attendees	Secretary All
19:20	Year in review 2019/2020	President Vice-president
19:30	Association structure	President
19:40	Q&A	All
20:00	Priorities for 2020/2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Events - management- Opportunities - Extension outside Madrid- Ball 2021	President
20:10	Outgoing committee	Vice-president
20:20	Call for nominations	Secretary
20:25	Voting of new committee members	Secretary
20:30	Closing	President

Minutes

40 Attendees

Welcome

- The President thanked all members for their attendance.
- 2020 has been a crisis year for all, we have learned to adapt to what is the new normal.
- Delighted to be able to join members from other areas outside Madrid.
- Agenda was approved.



Presentation of attendees

- All attendees present were able to present themselves in the chat.

Year in review

In the past year, the committee rapidly progress from the AGM onto the ball planning as there were only four months for arranging the fundraising event. However, two events were held before March:

- James Joyce Christmas event in December
- Scaling event with Paul Tighe interviewed by Joe Haslam with around 50 attendees

The main focus was placed on the organisation of the ball: a wonderful Ball committee was quickly set up; great sponsors came on board for the support of two worthy charities: Menudos Corazones and Heart Children Ireland.

St Patrick's Day Charity Ball was set to be a success with 350 tickets sold in a few weeks. Unfortunately, the Ball committee had to postpone the event only three days in advance due to the coronavirus pandemic and Government restrictions. A new date in autumn was agreed with the Hotel but, as the situation developed, it had to be rescheduled. A new date has now been agreed with the Westin Palace, as communicated to SIBN members and guests. The Ball committee is looking forward to the next 6th March for this celebration. The charities still appreciate the ongoing support provided by the Ball Committee.

Association structure

A clarification on the difference between the two associations, both managed by volunteers without any financial support:

- SIBN is a business network, founded in 2011. Saw an opportunity as a NFP run by volunteers to promote business links between Ireland and Spain.
- The Asociación Madrileña del Día de San Patricio is a separate entity that is set up solely for the management of the charitable funds raised for the organisation of the St. Patrick's Day Ball every two years.
- Both one-pagers on each association will be available for review on the SIBN website shortly.

Priorities

Events

- The next event will be held in early November with an exceptional guest, the CIO of Zoom, Harry Moseley.
- We will have a more proactive approach to events with the Committee putting more focus and individual attention to event topics and organisation. Events will be quarterly, will include some of them in Spanish language.
- All members are invited to suggest ideas to admin@sibn.es



Ball 2021

- Ball will be set for the 6th March. The date was set by the Westin Palace, eventual capacity is currently unclear as restrictions are currently in place.
- The goal is still to ensure to raise on the amount generated for the charities in previous editions but the Committee acknowledges that this could be difficult due to the pandemic.

Network extension

- We would like to extend our networks through virtual means to be able to extend our activities across Spain and include our sister organisations in Ireland.
- There is a strong group of Irish people in Valencia, around 12 years ago there was an initial start, now there is a great will to row in behind the activity in Madrid and when COVID is over to have a regional event in Valencia.
- The Irish in Barcelona is an active community that is willing to engage in the SIBN activities.
- The Zoom CIO event can be an opportunity for this. The Committee will request support from the Embassy to reach all networks across Spain.

New committee members

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Secunder	Appointed
President	Elizabeth Aston	Brendan Rowan	Gearoid Dunne	Yes
Vice-President	Nuria Luguera	Brendan Rowan	Robyn Mullan	Yes
Secretary	Brendan Rowan	Rory Geraghty	Nuria Luguera	Yes
Treasurer	Paul Tighe	Brendan Rowan	Gearóid Dunne	Yes
Communications	Jorge Acevedo	Brendan Rowan	Gearóid Dunne	Yes
Marketing & Social Media	Marta Ponte	Brendan Rowan	Robyn Mullen	Yes
Vocal 1	Robyn Mullen	Brendan Rowan	Emma Naismith	Yes
Vocal 2	José Luis Brey	Brendan Rowan	Robyn Mullen	Yes
Vocal 3	Malachy Murphy	Brendan Rowan	Brendan Hayes	Yes
Vocal 4	Rory Geraghty	Brendan Rowan	Nuria Luguera	Yes
Vocal 5	Raul Marigorta	Brendan Rowan	Marta Ponte	Yes



AOB

A thank you to Gigas.com for the continued support the Association in providing hosting and communication tools.