

Tania

LFMC EXECUTIVE MEETING 10/7/91
Minutes

Present: Sandy Weiland, Tony Marcus, Vicki Smith, Emina Kurtagic, Martin Lugg, Tania Syed, James Hutchinson, Anna Thew, John Tappenden, Karen Smith, Gina Czarnecki.
Non-exec: Tom Heslop, Philip Sanderson, Christian Anstice, Louise Duncan Reekie.
Apologies; Mark Sheehan, Orlagh Mulcachy
Chair: Martin Lugg
Minutes: Gina Czarnecki

Meeting commenced 7.30pm

1. Change of agenda. Building issue moved to first item.

Plans of the Kenfish Town building and supporting letter from RPM were viewed and discussed. RPM reiterate that space allocation not final and will be re-worked on signing the lease..

Debate showed that whilst this building had many advantages the cinema space presented problems. These were:

- a) Greatly reduced in size, seating capacity of 60-70 and not 105 as RPM predict.
- b) No stage or back of cinema sound room facilities.
- c) Inflexibility of raked seating.
- d) RPM have already stated that an additional area for installation/exhibition could be incoorporated within the scheme, but it was pointed out that events in this additional space would be restricted by low ceilings and supporting columbs.

Anna stated that the cinema and installation areas make this building unsuitable and requested a) All documentation given to RPM concerning our building requirements, b) Minutes of all BFI/LFMC meetings concerning the building issue and c) conditions laid down by the BFI in lieu of their funding this project. RPM worked from the practical arts document. No minutes available from BFI/LFMC meetings and we were informend that no conditions have been stipulated by the BFI, only that as our revenue grant increases we are expected to increase income.

Many suggestions were made as to how we could operate in this building, e.g, doubling up screenings, using outside venues for events not possible within the Kentish Town building. The latter was seen to contradict the fundamental reasons for the LFMC Cinema.

The general consensus was that, if structural alterations could be made to extend the cinema space to include those areas now ear-marked for toilets and LVA archive space (back screen on existing plan), we could agree on the building

Sandy advised that, whilst we could negotiate around existing space, it is

highly unlikely that the BFI would be supportive if we were to reject this building.

Architects and RPM to be asked for advice on the possibility of such structural alterations. Owners to be contacted regarding this.
Irene Whitehead and RPM to be invited to executive meeting 18/7/91 for further discussion.

Main reservations expressed by the executive were:

- 1) BFI's commitment to financing structural changes given that we will be taking on a 25 year lease.
- 2) The BFI's commitment to funding the LFMC. Taking on this building will increase the rent allocation of our revenue grant at least ten-fold and would make the LFMC more financially dependent on the BFI.
- 3) The BFI's commitment to continue providing the LFMC with the services of RPM should we decline this building
- 4) The BFI's commitment to continue revenue funding the LFMC should we decline this building.

As it was constantly advised that support would not be forthcoming should we reject this building, members felt that the LFMC was being forced into making a decision without real choice. Anna and Martin suggested that further buildings should be viewed, particularly in Clerkenwell where rent is considerable cheaper.

Building committee formed. Volunteers: Sandy, Tom, Tania, Martin, Karen. Ilias Pantos, Patrick Keiler (architects) and Cordelia Swan (ex-cinema organiser) to be asked for their participation. Martin Lugg volunteered as building committee co-ordinator.

Building Committee meeting with LVA to be arranged for Tuesday 16th 7.00pm
2nd viewing of building to be arranged for Tuesday 16th 6.00pm.
Karen Smith and Christian Anstice to work out 'real' seating capacity of cinema space.
Irene Whitehead to be presented with the LFMC's reservations and description of previous LFMC events that have proved both culturally and financially successful. Anna to draw up document.

8.55pm DISTRIBUTION /CINEMA ORGANISER POSTS.

All interested parties left room

Karen questioned the decision taken at the last executive meeting regarding the advertisement of the posts. A decision was taken not to re-advertise in national press but to target mailing to membership, other related organisations and by word of mouth. Karen stated that this, although not strictly contravening policies, was not in the spirit of equal opportunities. If this decision was taken on the basis of the cost of advertising in the Guardian, no alternative budget had been produced.

Half of those present at the meeting felt that by not advertising again nationally and targetting people removed from the LFMC or similar situation we would be propelling elitism. Others felt that because of the training nature of the consultancies and the limited number of jobs available within

the sector we should be making the jobs available to members and it is within our membership that we target open access and equal opportunities. Previous executive decision was not overturned.

Schedule re. Cinema and Distribution job advertising.

Mail-out to workshops etc 13-14/7/91

Closing date for applications Friday 2nd August.

Shortlisting to be finalized prior to executive meeting Tuesday 8th August.

Mail out for interviews Saturday 17th August.

Cinema Interim/LFF

Letter from Lucy Pantelli re-confirming her resignation was read.

Funding of £3,245 for the LFF has been received from ACGB. A reduction of £1,000 from original application (for service of fumeo projector)

Previous Cinema Organisers to be asked to run cinema for the interim period.

Michael Maziere, Cordelia Swan and Moira Sweeny to be contacted Monday 15th.

Many suggestions were made regarding the allocation of pay and duties between cinema organiser and programmers, cinema committee and selection panel. No conclusions could be drawn without the input of interim organiser and this will be established more clearly at executive meeting 18/7/90. Notice to members for their participation in LFF preparations to be put up.

A. O. B.

Gina Czarnecki submitted verbal notification of resignation from executive committee. Letter to follow.

Meeting closed 10.30pm.