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CAMBRIDGE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

831 Massachusetts Avenue, 2nd Fl., Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139 CAMBRIDGE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Telephone: 617 349 4683 Fax: 617 349 3116 TTY: 617 349 6112
E-mail: histcomm@cambridgema.gov URL: http://www.cambridgema.gov/Historic

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE

- 1. The undersigned hereby applies to the Cambridge Historical Commission for a Certificate of (check one box): [X] Appropriateness, [ ] Nonapplicability, or [ ] Hardship, in accordance with Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws and/or Chapter 2.78 of the Municipal Code.
2. Address of property: Cambridge Common, Cambridge, Massachusetts
3. Describe the proposed alteration(s), construction or demolition in the space provided below: (An additional page can be attached, if necessary).

Common Exchange is a presentation of a series of temporary public artworks on and around the Cambridge Common from May-September 2017. As part of the exhibition, we are applying for a Certificate of Appropriateness for the display of Kelly Sherman's project, We Were Here.

Details:

- Project requires light pole access for mounting 17 banners.
- Locations: Banners will be hung on posts indicated with numbers on the map on page 3. Specific pole numbers are 9, 11, 19, 20, 21, 23, 25, 35, 37, 41, 43, 44, 56, 68, and 70 (Two additional poles had no visible numbers, and are marked with "no number" on the map).
- Standard vinyl banners and metal banner brackets will be used.
- Each banner will be 2 x 2 ft.
- The banners will display verse that was composed from collected stories and memories from the community about their experiences on the Common. (Please see pages 4-5 for examples of the text displayed on the banners.)
- The banners will be fabricated and installed by Heritage Flags based in Boston.

I certify that the information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. The undersigned also attests that he/she has read the statements printed on the reverse.

Name of Property Owner of Record: City of Cambridge
Mailing Address: 344 Broadway, 2nd Fl. Cambridge, MA 02139
Telephone/Fax: 617-349-4388 E-mail: hzelson@cambridgema.gov
Signature of Property Owner of Record: Hilary Jelson
Name of proponent, if not record owner: Cambridge Arts Council (City Department)
Mailing Address: 344 Broadway, 2nd Fl. Cambridge, MA 02139
Telephone/Fax: 617-349-4388 E-mail: hzelson@cambridgema.gov

(for office use only):
Date Application Received: 3/15/17 Case Number: 3762 Hearing Date: 4/6/17
Type of Certificate Issued: Date Issued:

**Instructions for Completing this Application:**

An application must be filed with the Cambridge Historical Commission before work begins. Twelve copies of the application should be accompanied by twelve copies of supplementary material such as sketches, scale drawings, site plans, specifications, or photographs sufficient to enable the Commission to understand the details of the work proposed and to make a determination on the application. Plans no larger than 11" x 17" are preferred. Please submit reduced copies of plans if originals are of a larger dimension. See our website or call the office for a list of meeting dates and application deadlines. Owners are urged to appear before the Commission in person or to designate an agent to act for them. The Commission will deem the agent to be authorized by the owner to make decisions regarding the extension or waiver of the period within which the Commission is otherwise required to make a determination on the application. All meetings are open to the public.

The Commission staff welcomes advance inquiries for interpretations or advice. Please call 617/349-4683. An application is considered incomplete without accompanying plans and drawings. **INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED TO THE APPLICANT AND WILL NOT BE SCHEDULED FOR COMMISSION REVIEW.**

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**Administration of Historic Districts, Landmarks, and Protected Properties:**

The administration of historic districts and landmarks is guided by the provisions of Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws and by Chapter 2.78 of the Code of the City Of Cambridge. Other properties may also be subject to Commission jurisdiction including properties with conditional variances and properties governed by individual preservation restrictions.

Any new construction, alteration of exterior architectural features, or demolition within an historic district or on the premises of a protected property or a designated landmark must be reviewed by the Cambridge Historical Commission. No building permit for such work on a protected property, designated landmark, or property within a historic district may be issued by the Inspectional Services Department until a certificate has been issued by the Commission. The Commission must approve the alteration or construction of all structures, including signs, fences, walls, terraces, walks, driveways, light fixtures and the like, which are "open to view from a public street, public way, public park or public body of water," whether or not a building permit is required, and must approve changes in exterior color for properties within a historic district or as otherwise agreed.

Prior to each hearing, the staff of the Historical Commission will take slides or digital photographs of the subject property in daylight with ordinary camera equipment for the purpose of documenting the publicly visible conditions of buildings and exterior architectural features for the Commission and the public to view at the hearing. More information can be provided on request.

The Commission issues three types of certificates. A Certificate of Appropriateness will be issued when the Commission has determined that the construction or alteration will be appropriate for or compatible with the preservation or protection of the historic district, designated landmark, or other protected property. A Certificate of Nonapplicability may be issued when an application does not involve an exterior feature, or when the exterior feature is not then subject to Commission review. A Certificate of Hardship may be issued when failure to approve an otherwise inappropriate project would involve substantial hardship to the applicant and the Commission determines that the project can be accomplished without substantial detriment to the purposes of the district, preservation restriction, or landmark designation.

The Commission considers each application on its own merits, and does not apply specific architectural guidelines. Landscaping with plant materials is not subject to Commission review unless it is planned in conjunction with alterations or new construction. The Commission must approve projects that are not incongruous with the historic aspects or the architectural characteristics of the protected property, landmark, or historic district.

## Burks, Sarah

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**From:** Hsu, Lillian  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 22, 2017 9:16 PM  
**To:** DePasquale, Louie; Peterson, Lisa  
**Cc:** Weeks, Jason; Burks, Sarah; Sullivan, Charles M.; Lenkauskas, Steve; Nardone, John  
**Subject:** Cambridge Common public art project  
**Attachments:** Arts Council Banner App 3-16-2017.pdf; KellySherman\_CHCpermit\_Smallsize.pdf

Louie and Lisa,

I wanted to let you know that we have been planning a series of temporary public art projects, entitled *Common Exchange*, to take place this spring-summer. The project is being presented to the public in honor of the recent renovations and to prompt conversation about the meaning of civic space, specifically this historic public space.

I have been collaborating with curator Dina Deitsch, who is a current member of our Public Art Commission. There are several components to *Common Exchange*. There will be three temporary installations on the Common and a schedule of performances May-September by a total of 10 artists. There will also be a special edition 4-issue newspaper that is being produced by students in the Community Design Studio at Lesley University College of Art and Design. Lastly, we will have 3 related exhibitions in our Gallery 344. In addition to LUCAD, we are partnering with the First Church Cambridge, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, and Carpenter Center.

We are funding the project with a combination of the City public art funds tied to the renovation, plus grants we secured from the following: National Endowment for the Arts; VIA Art Fund; Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation; Elizabeth Firestone Graham Foundation; Massachusetts Cultural Council; Cambridge/Agassiz/Harvard Community, Culture, and Recreation Fund.

I attach two permits for one of the projects incorporating banners on selected light poles. The banners contain poetry composed from the contributions from members of the public about personal memories about the Common. The Historical Commission will review our request for Certificate of Appropriateness at their April 6 meeting. We will present the necessary support materials to the City Clerk in time for the City Council to review for approval during their April 24 meeting.

Let me know if you have any questions or would like more information.

Thanks,  
Lillian

Lillian Hsu, Director of Public Art and Exhibitions

Cambridge Arts

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[www.cambridgeartscouncil.org](http://www.cambridgeartscouncil.org)

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## Cambridge Arts - City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

[www.cambridgeartscouncil.org](http://www.cambridgeartscouncil.org)

Active since 1974, Cambridge Arts is one of the most dynamic local arts agencies in the country. The Cambridge Arts Council exists to ensure that the arts remain vital for people living, working and visiting Cambridge, MA.

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**CAMBRIDGE** | **PUBLIC**  
**ARTS** | **ART**

**Banner Locations:**

Refer only to the poles on the map marked with a number.  
(or, when no number on the pole was visible, there is a notation that states "no number")



**A MEAGER  
TABLE  
FINELY ADORNED  
PRIEST  
HOMELESS  
MEN  
MASS  
A MEAL**

**TREES  
LIT UP  
AT NIGHT  
LIGHT  
SHINING DOWN  
NEWBORN  
AND COULD NOT SLEEP**

**MY  
FAVORITE TIMES  
ALL SIX OF US  
SADLY  
SUDDENLY  
TRAGICALLY  
CHERISH THOSE  
WE CARE ABOUT**

**WHEN I WAS  
FUTURISTIC  
ROCK  
&  
ROLL  
RETRO  
SILVER PAINTED HAIR  
WILD THING  
TEENAGER**

**SUMMER  
SATURDAY  
MORNINGS  
A SWIM  
MEMORIAL POOL  
CLIMB THE HIGHEST  
STATUE  
EAT LUNCH**

**IT SNOWS  
CROSS COUNTRY TRACKS  
I SKI  
ONE OTHER PERSON  
MIGHT JOIN ME  
AND  
MAKE MORE TRACKS**

**IT'S A MOMENT  
I  
FIRST  
MET  
THE BEAUTIFUL  
MY DEAR  
I WILL NEVER FORGET**

Example of the banner style that will be displayed in the Common:

