



February 11, 2021 5:15 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.

Zoom: <https://cambridgema.zoom.us/j/92461748993>

Summary of Conversation Topics

- Language Justice Working Group Update
- Cambridge Youth Council Updates
- Cortico

Present:

Co-Chairs: Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui and Neal Michaels

Members: Tina Alu, Branville Bard, Ron Benham, Ben Clark, Hiba Eddaif, Luba Feigenberg, Michelle Godfrey, Irene Hill, Liz Hill, Claude Jacob, Mike Johnston, David Kale, Michelle Lower, Alanna Mallon, Maria McCauley, Geeta Pradhan, Bridget Rodriguez, Ellen Semonoff, Tagesech Wabeto

Executive Director: Nancy Tauber

Notetaker: Sydney Down

Find It Manager: Andrew Liedtka

Cambridge Youth Council (CYC) Coordinator: Tina Johnson

CYC Members: Kaliab Kabede, Jonathan Akbari, Miranda Santiago, Mohammad Jihad, Routh Derege, Ahmed Bengomari, Elijah Lee, Atqiya Fairouz,

Guests: Rohan Kundargi, Crystal Rosa, Annie Leavitt, Carl Nagy-Koechlin, Matt Nelson, Rabeya Akther

Cortico - Jess Weaver, Parisa Parsa, Mathias Lemos Castillo, Colleen Butler, Fenny Lin, T.Marie,

5:15 Meeting Starts

❖ Welcome & Agenda Overview

❖ Family Policy Council Business

- Introductions
- Adoption of Minutes (January 11, 2021)
- Public Comment
- Announcements
 - Baby University is in the recruitment phase, spots open for children under the age of 4
 - Cambridge Community Foundation grants are available

❖ Cambridge Youth Council Updates

- CYC & BSU Fundraising Challenge: MLK Fundraiser -- The fund is currently just over \$10,384 and ends on Sunday. We have been canvassing on 2 different occasions, not only in west cambridge but this year in neighborhood 9 dropping off our flyers with information about the fund, where to donate and a QR code. And finally today CYC put out a video with BSU in a collaborative effort to create it and it is now posted on our social media and you can all see it today.
 - <https://cambridgecf.networkforgood.com/projects/121606-2021-mlk-fundraising-challenge>
 - Thank you video -<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mVbFNs4Q-3Rf3MyY-bGOSjrWY89Z5cBx/view?usp=sharing>
- RAW- creating a Jubilee discussion space in order to foster conversation with opposing/ different views with young people in the community.
- Guidance -- Subcommittee meets bi-weekly, in communication with the guidance department at Rindge and Lynn Williams, head of the department in order to begin a relationship with them.
- Vote-16 -- Have meetings in subcommittee groups once a month. Have been going to City Council meetings. Working to connect with other cities in the process of passing voting age at state level. Put out

a survey in the past week to get feedback from young people about their attitudes towards voting.

- Mental Health and Racism -- Had one open youth forum in the past month for students to have the space to talk about their experiences/ for CYC to get feedback. Will be holding another forum in the near future.

❖ Language Justice Working Group Updates

- Since the last meeting, the working group has been working on finalizing a survey to send to city departments/divisions, Cambridge Public Schools, and community partners
- Plan is to send the survey this week and beginning of next week
- Survey will close on March 8 so we will have preliminary results ready for our next Family Policy Council meeting
- The Working Group is continuing to research what other communities are doing.

❖ Presentations and Discussion: Cortico

- *Presentation: Parisa Parsa and Jess Weaver,*
- [https://urldefense.com/v3/https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kQsy11hEsINhtv34sc8OTk7hAUV4MDf/view?usp=drive_web;!!GolqDdAAPFHvrrz0!L8GpILTR5wrn3CTUDaPqXCEgqzWLkCEETIVKsziJs9m6Q9eSyCUPfEDbAf5cyPnKXF8XA\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kQsy11hEsINhtv34sc8OTk7hAUV4MDf/view?usp=drive_web;!!GolqDdAAPFHvrrz0!L8GpILTR5wrn3CTUDaPqXCEgqzWLkCEETIVKsziJs9m6Q9eSyCUPfEDbAf5cyPnKXF8XA$)
- *Cortico provides technology and consultation for organizations engaged in conversation-driven learning and decision-making, and they will be helping us with our Language Justice Discovery Phase.*
- *Cortico's process begins with authentic conversations rooted in personal experience and a commitment to listening. Conversations are recorded and uploaded to Cortico's technology platform, which transcribes each conversation into a searchable format that is indexed by speaker and keyword. From their dashboard, partners can click on topics and play back conversation highlights. Highlights can then be pulled out of the system and used to illustrate themes and perspectives in media stories, public reports, public awareness campaigns and other visibility efforts.*

- Cortico's [Local Voices Network \(LVN\)](#) serves as a community of practice for organizations seeking to amplify under-heard voices to inform public understanding, policy development and decision-making. Whether through LVN or stand-alone projects, Cortico works with partners across the U.S., in sectors that include governmental agencies, traditional and new media, researchers and community-based nonprofits.
- Values in public dialogue, authentic voices, diverse perspectives, community first approach, transparent process.
- Report compilation -- highlights, analysis of conversation initiatives, links to the actual voices within a conversation .
- Cortico will help facilitate conversations at the Community Engagement Team/Family Policy Council conversations to be facilitated at an event in April (TBD)
- How does censoring what people say for recordings work? -- Things can and have been edited out or some conversations can not be disclosed/ happened privately if need be
- Conversations in other languages besides English? -- Spanish conversations can be facilitated, aim is full language reciprocity with translations and transcription.
- [Partner Highlights >](#)

❖ Breakouts

- Conversations
- Debrief Conversations and Cortico
 - Being able to have a good facilitator, essential
 - How will this work with having a translator, in a setting where dominant language is not English? We have held a multitude of multilingual events, having the translations/ interpretations.
 - Have conversations been shared with each other across language lines? -- Yes, mix of hearing and reading conversation in Spanish/ English

❖ Next Steps

- Next Meeting is March 18

❖ Adjourn @7:15