

**CAMBRIDGE ARTS COUNCIL**  
**MEETING: January 8, 2013**

**BEGIN:** 6:15 PM  
**END:** 7:40 PM

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:15pm.

**MINUTES**

Given the absence of the Secretary for the January meeting, Jason agreed to distribute a digital version of the December meeting minutes for review, edits and a virtual vote to approve.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Lori asked Jason to introduce our two newest Cambridge Arts Council appointed officials: Luis Edgardo Cotto and Stella Aguirre McGregor. Jason introduced both and discussed how he had come to meet both Luis and Stella. He also identified any prior connections or work that the new members had specifically related to CAC. For instance, Stella's prior service as a member of the city's Public Art Commission and the connection to Luis via former Arts Council employee Elizabeth White.

Following, each member provided brief introductions and biographical information and invited Luis and Stella to do the same, which they did.

Lori and Jason welcomed them both enthusiastically to the group and Council.

**GUEST VISIT**

Lori introduced Liora Beer, Director of ARTMorpheus, an organization created to provide support and resources to individual artists and the arts and culture sector broadly in the Boston/Cambridge region. Liora was welcomed by the group and thanked them for the opportunity to be present and discuss the work of ARTMorpheus. She also identified Jason as one of the Inaugural Board of Directors for ARTMorpheus and thanked Jason and the group for the support that had been given in developing the organization mission and structure.

Following, Jason explained about his experiences with Liora, her past work with the city of Boston and introduced the new project, **New Art Love/ + ! <3**, and let the members know that he, Julie and Liora were in discussions about developing a mobile application for use as part of way finding and audience development during Cambridge Open Studios. Jason also suggested that there were practical applications here for the Public Art Tour and other initiatives at the Arts Council.

Diana L. suggested that it would be good to invite local luminaries in the arts/culture sector to serve as "Guest Curators" to develop tours as part of COS, public art collections, etc... She also suggested that this might be an excellent forum for on-line interviews about artwork, the work of CAC and would serve as an opportunity to increase public feedback related to the local sector and work of CAC.

The members agreed that it makes sense to use the best possible images and that we might be able to bring on a professional photographer for artists who do not have that expertise. This would also aid in streamlining the experience of the brochures and thumbnail images that occur in that and similar publications. Jason explained that CAC does hire professional photographers frequently for our produced events and programs, but do not have the resources to do this for all interested artists in the community. However, he did think it would be possible and a good idea for CAC to have resource

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information and materials on local photographers and photographic resources for use by those in the community who are interested.

Following the presentation on **New Art Love**, Liora indicated that she would continue working with Jason and Julie to make this resource available at a reasonable cost. Especially given that CAC would really help to launch the tool in a bold and professional manner.

Lori and Jason thanked Liora for her time and for sharing the very interesting information on **New Art Love**.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Jason shared with members that Cambridge had been selected by ArtPlace to be one of the cities in their first-ever list of 'America's Top ArtPlaces'. In particular, this designation had to do with the successful combination of 'art, artists, creative independent businesses, retail shops and restaurants and walkability'. Jason also let the members know he had shared this information and designation with the City Manager, City Council and distributed an update via the newsletter published through the city's Public Information Office.

Next, Jason discussed the city budget status and process with the membership. He indicated the timeline for the overall process and how things work related to planning and negotiations for General Fund, Capital Budget and via the CAC Fund, Inc., a 501c3 public corporation that supports the work of the Arts Council. Jason let members know he was meeting currently with representatives of the Budget Office and would meet directly with the City Manager and the Capital Committee in early February and could report back in more specific terms and to discuss results of those meetings at the March CAC meeting.

Jason also provided a status update on the vacancy with the Director of Marketing & P.R. position and that all of the position-related materials had been submitted to personnel in very early January. He is currently waiting to have that posted and will involve members as needed once there is a slate of suitable candidates for the position to review and for interviews.

Finally, Jason shared news with the members about the status of the city-owned Foundry building located in East Cambridge. One of the groups very interested in the space is The Lab Cambridge, founded by Harvard University professor David Edwards. Jason expects to invite Dr. Edwards or his Executive Director, Carrie Fitzsimmons (former Arts Council employee) to a future meeting to discuss their plans and expectations for work here in the city.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Jason pointed out six items under 'other business' and marked dates for key items. The next meeting is of CAC is scheduled for February 12, 2013, 6pm.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Lori Damon, Ann Lawson, Phyllis Bretholtz, Lori Lander, Aliyah Gary, Luis Cotto, Stella McGregor, Matt Weinberg, Diana Lempel, Jason Weeks, Executive Director

**ABSENT:** Andrew Mroczek, Diane Norris