



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
ARTS COUNCIL
JAKE WILSON
MAYOR

Somerville Arts Council Board Meeting Agenda
City Hall Annex conference room, 1st floor
50 Evergreen Ave.
Somerville MA 02145

May 20, 2026

6:30 pm

Minutes taken by: Becky Donner

- Attendees:
 - Emily Beattie, Becky Donner, Antonio Estab, Rachel Strutt, Joe Burgio
 - Hannah (Somerville citizen)
- Absent:
 - Christine Hayes, Ada Ren-Mitchell, Ben Cuba, and Sarah Beckmann

Meeting Notes:

- Meeting called to order 6:30pm
- Approved the agenda
- Community Check-in
- Discussed SAC mapping exercise and internal audit
- Update on Board meeting with Mayor's Chief of Staff and Erica last week
- Board reviewed and edited new Director job description
 - Compared to other city previous hiring examples and job descriptions
 - Edited existing job description provided by the City
 - Made plan for including rest of Board members who were not able to attend, and timeline for returning to City and Mayor's chief of staff
- Checked in with SAC staff on current activities and transition status
- Discussed SAC name change and additional resources committed by City of Somerville to assist in transfer of logo/naming/branding
- Discussed Porchfest:
 - Big success despite rain!
 - Biggest request: request for raindate; understand why difficult
 - Suggest sharing with public why no rain days (budgeting and scheduling challenges)
 - Somerstat going to do a data deep dive into Porchfest - likely in fall



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- Mayoral listening tour planning - ongoing, will update at next Board meeting
- Board recruitment:
 - Sarah stepping down due to move out of Somerville; still happy to volunteer
 - This means one vacancy added to our existing one; need to recruit 2 new Board members to fill visual arts and writing
 - High priority to recruit before LCC to be able to accomplish full LCC program
- Volunteer picnic is next Board meeting
- Event updates
- Meeting Adjourned 8:30pm.