



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
ARTS COUNCIL
JAKE WILSON
MAYOR

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

Wednesday, April 08, 2026 | 6:30 pm

In attendance: Heather Balchunas, Joe Burgio, Ada Ren-Mitchell, Rachel Strutt, Emily Beattie, Ben Cuba, Christine Hayes, Rachel Strutt, Becky Donner,

1. Approve Agenda (5 min)
2. Community Check In (10 min)
 - Ben-Band played at Aeronaut, Art Farm support (will share resources), future artists of the month
 - Becky-candidate prep, Yard Sale, Studio Space open Milk Row Studios @ New Alliance Audio, galleries in P'town
 - Emily-Art Beat (new dance space), week in ME studio time
 - Rachel-The Elephants in downtown Boston
 - Heather-Celtic Art Exhibit at Harvard, Puppet Theater, Midsummer Night's Dream, KMW School Painting Show
 - Joe-Motz Gallery in Gloucester Public Library exhibit, Rothko at Cape Ann Museum, Boston Dance Theater to observe graduating class, Lynn Art Festival
 - Ada-Yart Sale participation w/ a friend, LCC Work Session, Gallery in South Korea, MIT October Google Eye Exhibit
 - Christine-Board Candidate Meet & Greet, Board Candidate Meet & Greet, LCC efforts
3. LCC: Workshops, LCC dates for panels, panelist outreach and panelist application
 - Tentative 10/27 or 10/28 at 6:30 LCC Orientation
 - Emphasize the importance of support materials
 - Will do a Doodle Poll for potentially week prior

- Panel Meetings (11/17-12/3)
 1. 11/17 (Ada & Becky) Visual Arts Projects
 2. (Christine & Yurgos?) Visual Arts Fellowship
 3. (Antonio) Cultural Heritage
 4. 11/18 Joe Interrelated Media
 5. 12/1 Ben Music
 6. Literature
 7. (Emily) Dance / Theater
- Applications Deadline ?
- Panelist Application is out and on website
- Support Workshops
 - 8/19 Main Library Joe & ?
 - 8/31 W Somerville Library Ben & Emily
 - 10/7 Technical Support Main Library
- 4. Board Recruitment Update & Arts Director Role Recruitment
 - 192 Applicants for Arts Director Role
 - Board Recruitment
 - Future Meet & Greet Structure
- 5. Cultural Trust Information public meetings
 - 3 meetings over the Summer
 - Partnership w/ MAPC is strong
- 6. Armory Updates and Information on SomArt
 - In process of negotiating leases for those awarded space
 - SomArt has 3rd Floor (process almost complete)
- 7. Upcoming Events

Kudos to Somerville 311!