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## Foundry Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Friday, April 12, 2019, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.  
at The Link : 255 Main Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Cambridge

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**FAC Members in Attendance:** Marie Saccoccio, Jason Slavik, Mark Tang, Richard Thal

**CRA, City of Cambridge, and Others In Attendance:** Tom Evans, Erica Schwarz, Kathryn Madden, Michael Black, Robert Garner, Betsy Boyle, Katherine Shozawa, Stephanie McKay, Carol Watkins, Barry Zevin, Ron Peeples, Fabrizio Gentili, Heather Hoffman, Karin Keane, Ron Mallis, Peggy Kutcher, Phyllis Bretholtz, Magali Maiza, Jackie Cefola and others not represented on sign in sheets.

### 1. Updates

#### CAC Public Art Installation Process

Lillian Hsu of the Cambridge Arts Commission (CAC) was regrettably unable to attend, but asked Erica Schwarz of the CRA to give an announcement of the art piece selected to be installed in the Foundry. Elisa Hamilton's Jukebox was selected by committee in late February. The CAC is now finalizing a contract for Elisa Hamilton and will be working with her on detailed design development as the Foundry design and construction process moves forward. A wider announcement will be coming from the Cambridge Arts Commission in coming weeks.

#### Community Input Underway on Foundry Programs and Activities

Katherine Shozawa and Stephanie McKay, both of Lesley University (a Foundry Consortium member) gave an update on extensive community surveying now underway regarding activities and opportunities that would bring local residents to the Foundry. An overview of that outreach is attached to these notes.

#### Application Process for FAC openings

The application process to fill two FAC seats is now open. One seat was recently vacated by 'Folakemi Alalade, who left the FAC in order to participate in a different way with the Foundry. Another will be vacated by Deborah Rue will a replacement is identified.

The deadline to apply is April 26<sup>th</sup>. Applications can be picked up and returned to the City Manager's Office in City Hall or found online at [www.cambridgema.gov/apply](http://www.cambridgema.gov/apply). A few attendees of the FAC meeting indicated that they were thinking of applying or had applied already.

## **2. Property Management Consultants Selection**

Erica Schwarz announced that two firms (of the three interviewed) have been selected to provide property management consulting services for the Foundry: TSNE Mission Works' NonProfit Center and Artisan's Asylum. These organizations will provide complementary expertise during the Foundry design and construction period to ensure that the final design is sound from a property management standpoint. They will also help the Foundry Consortium develop policies and create systems around access and security, creating a welcoming environment, tracking use of space and other vital systems.

The decision regarding a contract for direct property management services at the Foundry will be made in future months, once the ideal staffing structure for the Foundry Consortium is more clear. Foundry Property management may be covered in part by Foundry Consortium staff and a set of targeted contracts with vendors, or it may be contracted to an organization that works closely with Foundry Consortium staff.

## **3. Overview of Working Design & Construction Timeline**

Michael Black from the City of Cambridge gave an overview of the expected construction timeline. Schematic designs are scheduled to be completed by May 31st. A public meeting regarding design is likely in June. The project will need to go before the Historic Commission and Planning Board, which is likely in late summer or fall of 2019. Construction (starting with demolition of existing floors), is expected to start in fall 2019.

Equity (the company completing a residential building adjacent to the Foundry) will not be completing Rogers Street; the final paving of that road will happen in coordination with completion of the exterior courtyard for the Foundry, and perhaps with some design guiding people back from the Rogers Street Park and from Third Street to the Foundry

Stefanie Greenfield and Justin Crane of Cambridge Seven displayed and gave an overview of the latest designs. Maker spaces were consolidated along one corridor to allow for ease in moving items between them and moving items from the maker spaces to other parts of the first floor. The multi-use performance space now shows areas blocked out where bathrooms and backstage areas will be located.

These drawing show an addition that is just 3 floors, but which is larger in square footage than prior versions in order not to lose office space due to a reduction in the height of the addition. Upper floors have been slightly reconfigured in order to capture more floor space for office use. Income from office space will cover the cost of running the art, technology, and community activities on the first floor.

FAC members and members of the public shared comments which included:

- Could we purchase an easement from Verizon that would require them to hold space for a setback from the building on their property? This would allow us to build right up to our property line and help us solve design challenges related to the loading dock, deliveries, and the mechanical room.
- There should be wayfinding signs throughout Cambridge – and very near to the site – directing people to the Foundry.
- It's important to get design input from groups involved in the kinds of uses the Foundry will provide of the site (this has been ongoing by CRA and the Foundry Consortium; that input is helping to inform design).
- The designs of the different points of access are very important in order to create a welcoming experience and help ensure the building meets its social purpose.
- It's important to ensure that the multi-purpose performance space is suitable for a range of types of performances.

### **3. Tour of The Link**

The meeting concluded with a tour of The Link, a co-working, workforce training and event space that helps connect companies in the innovation economy with talented job seekers who do not come from the educational paths that tech companies tend to pursue when hiring. The tour was conducted by Faisal Abid and Christina Dickson of the NonProfit Center, which operates the space. A public kick-off for The Link will be held later in the spring. Learn more at [www.Link-Kendall.org](http://www.Link-Kendall.org)

## **Foundry Community Outreach Team Interim Report April 12th, 2019**

Community Outreach Team Members: Sue Cusack, Ron Mallis, Stephanie McKay, Martha McKenna, Katherine Shozawa and Joan Squeri

Members of the Foundry Consortium's Community Outreach Team have been engaged in conversations with members of the Cambridge community in a variety of settings over the past three months. Building on our network of community connections, we have engaged in one-on-one conversations with community leaders to identify how best to spread the word about the Foundry and gather community input on uses for the building and desired programming that would bring the community into the space. We have engaged in conversations with diverse members of the Cambridge community through meetings at non-profit centers, community gatherings, school and church events, arts centers, as well continued one-on-one conversations about the Foundry and possible program activities once it opens in 2021. Our goal is to reach a broad cross-section of Cambridge residents in order to bring their diverse voices to inform the design of program activities that would provide for the community personal enjoyment and professional growth and development for years to come.

The Community Outreach Team (COT) members have met with community leaders to plan and execute meetings with their community members. These meetings included sharing information on the Foundry as *a future center for creativity, collaboration and education in an historic industrial building*; envisioning together what visual and performing arts, STEM and educational programming might bring diverse members of the Cambridge community into the Foundry; and distributing questionnaires for the community to complete on paper or online.

Conversations held January through April (continuing follow up with group members through June):

- Community Outreach Team of the Cambridge Learning Community (representing 9 diverse community groups in Cambridge including Arabic, Amharic, Bangla, Haitian Creole, and Spanish speaking communities as well as African American communities)
- East Cambridge Planning Team
- Lori Lander's Wednesday Gathering
- Newtown Court Tenants Association
- Wellington Harrington/ Port
- Area IV Coalition
- Port Café
- Central Square Business Association
- Cambridge Non-Profit Coalition
- Cambridge Community Foundation Recipients of Funding in the Arts and STEM
- Cambridge Art Association
- Agassiz Baldwin Community
- Lesley Art + Design Dean's Community Advisory Council
- Maud Morgan Arts
- MIT List Center
- Central Square Theater
- Massachusetts Production Coalition
- Mayor's Task Force on the Arts (COT members serve on the Task Force)
- Religious Centers: Sacred Heart Church, St Francis of Assisi Church, St. Anthony of Padua Church and Trinity Cambridge Church
- Biogen STAR Foundation Initiative Leaders: Young People's Project, On Route, Breakthrough Greater Boston, Citizens Schools, Cambridge Camping and Cambridge Youth Programs, uAspire, and RootCause
- Cambridge Arts Council Public Art Project
- Cambridge Rindge & Latin High School
- Cambridgeport Neighborhood Association

Additional Conversations planned for April through June:

- Community Art Center
- Cambridge Police Department Teen Program Focus Group with Office Green
- Religious Centers: Cambridge African Methodist Episcopal Church, Temple Beth Shalom