



City of Cambridge

O-2
IN CITY COUNCIL
May 18, 2020

VICE MAYOR MALLON
MAYOR SIDDIQUI
COUNCILLOR NOLAN
COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

- WHEREAS: COVID-19 has had a devastating impact on the Arts community, with [the Massachusetts Cultural Council reporting](#) that more than \$264 million in revenue has been lost and 15,000 jobs have been affected; and
- WHEREAS: As the Arts are a crucial driving force in our economy, ensuring our Arts community is well-supported and able to reemerge in a meaningful way in the coming months will help our local economy recover from the effects of COVID-19; and
- WHEREAS: The Arts also play a unique and invaluable role in Cambridge, bringing our community together, enriching the lives of our residents, and helping us cope and relieve stress during difficult times, especially during the past several weeks of isolation; and
- WHEREAS: For these reasons, it is imperative that the City actively works to uplift the Arts community; and
- WHEREAS: [A Small Business Advisory Committee](#) was recently created to develop reopening recommendations, offer guidance to small businesses on relief programs available, and play a key role in fostering communication between small businesses and City staff; and
- WHEREAS: Our local Arts community could greatly benefit from having a similar, dedicated advisory group focused on their specific needs of financial stabilization and security, and a gradual reopening of Arts facilities; and
- WHEREAS: As Governor Baker recently released a phased reopening plan for the Massachusetts economy, now is the time to create such a group to ensure our Arts community is prepared for reopening; now therefore be it
- ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to appoint and convene an Arts Recovery Advisory Committee, to include representation from the Cambridge Arts Council, the Economic Development Division of the Community Development Department, local arts organizations, local individual artists from different artistic disciplines, and other relevant parties, to provide insight on how the City can best support the Arts in the coming months; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide regular updates to the City Council on the Arts Recovery Advisory Committee's work and recommendations, to ensure the City Council is able to act on their recommendations in a timely manner; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely fashion.

In City Council May 18, 2020.
Order Adopted by a ye and nay vote:-
Yeas 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.
Attest:- Anthony I. Wilson, City Clerk

A true copy;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony I. Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

ATTEST:-

Anthony I. Wilson, City Clerk