

MINUTES

Groundstory Hamilton Advisory Convening 1.1

Players' Guild of Hamilton

May 7, 2018

Attendees

- Claire Calnan, Hamilton Fringe Festival
- Jeremy Freiburger, Cobalt Connects
- Rufus Hickok
- Kelly Hill, Hill Strategies Research
- Kerry Jarvi, Hamilton Arts Council
- Sally Lee, CARFAC Ontario
- Allison MacKenzie, Hamilton City Housing
- Emily Power
- Kim Selman, Cobalt Connects
- Isabella Stefanescu, Inter Arts Matrix / Contemporary Art Forum / Globe Studios
- Kelly Wolf

Regrets

- Robert Andrews
- Erella Ganon
- Gilles Latour
- Tor Lukasik-Foss, Art Gallery of Hamilton
- Catherine Magowan

Facilitators

- Jessa Agilo, Lead Facilitator (Founder & Project Manager, Groundstory; President & CEO, ArtsPond)
- Jen Tindall, Assistant
- Brenda Nistor, Assistant

Appendices

- Appendix 1: Participant Survey Results
- Appendix 2: Participant Exercise Results – Empathy Map
- Appendix 3 : Participant Exercise Results – Rainbow Map
- Appendix 4: Backgrounder – Groundstory Stage 1 (2017-2019)
- Appendix 5: Convening Presentation (Jessa Agilo)
- Appendix 6: Participant Workbook

AGENDA & NOTES

1. Welcome

2. Getting to Here

No notes.

3. Mapping the Room

Continuum mapping exercise:

- Far left of stage = positive contributor to community/space (non-gentrifier)
- Far right of stage = adverse contributor to community/space (gentrifier)
- Middle of stage = displaced or uncertain about role

Far left of spectrum (positive)

- Geography determines affordability
- Artists wanting to be part of storytelling the phenomena of community-building

Middle of spectrum (displaced or uncertain)

- As an arts administrator I have been able to buy my own home. I have been priced out of my own neighbourhood, however. I have contributed to what's happened to me
- As a single mom money makes a difference. In Hamilton, the pay is half of pay in Toronto. Jumped to Hamilton for freedom but there are new challenges.
- A lot of our conversation was about quality of life, both positives and negatives
- Both feel complicit in the gentrification of displaced and have also been displaced
- Have lived in both areas
- Losing work because of commuting
- Arts administrator career supplements artistic practice – many people wear both hats in Toronto and Hamilton – we are all cultural workers then
- Definition of cultural workers depends on the organization you work for
 - Institutional versus artist-run; needs are varying. How can we deliver on both (all) ends?
- Have done studio tours of artists' who used to live in the neighbourhood

Far right of spectrum (gentrifier?)

- Have benefited from the rise in property values
- Entered the property market before prices skyrocketed
- Who has the security to show up to these kinds of meetings and challenge assumptions and practices of economic and political privilege while ensuring interventions meet the needs of the disempowered?

4. Mapping the Problem

5. Mapping the Response

No notes.

6. Next Steps

- Break-out groups and discussion of Empathy Map and Rainbow Map exercises
- Detailed notes attached (**Appendix 2: Empathy Map, Appendix 3: Rainbow Map**)