



AgX Meeting & Work-in-Progress Screening
Sunday, April 12, 2015
Handcranked Productions

Present:

Anto Astudillo
Brittany Gravely
Bryan Papciak (at beginning and end)
Carmine Grimaldi
Christina Hunt
Corrin Barnes
Douglas Urbank
Ernesto Livon-Grosman
Ethan Berry
Frank Aveni
Gen Carmel

Kathryn Ramey
Laura Ryan
Libbie Cohn
Matthew McWilliams
Mike Piso
Nic Brynolfson
Nicholas Bunch
Robert Todd
Susan DeLeo
Valery Lyman

Agenda

Mission Statement
Working Groups

MISSION STATEMENT

The proposed Mission Statement drafted by Ernesto, Brittany and Doug was presented to the group and discussion was opened.

Kathryn described it as a good combination of elements of manifesto and practical mission statement. Christina raised the issue of how AgX becomes “part of an international circle of artist-run film labs.” Doug stated that AgX needs to establish an artist-run film lab to be part of the international Filmlabs organization. Libbie questioned the hierarchy of community vs. space issues. The group agreed that both are equally important for the AgX. Doug pointed out that establishing the lab is a prerequisite to joining the international community already established by Filmlabs, so community and space are linked. Kathryn argued that members have differing levels of access to equipment, so providing a lab actually helps to expand the community to include those without lab access. Rob suggested the possibility of different fee structures to make AgX available to those who may not be able to afford the regular membership fee. Some in

the group stated that they might benefit more from community than from lab facilities, but still enthusiastically supported the draft Mission Statement. There was discussion of the use of the name "AgX." The background of the name is part of the draft Mission Statement.

The 19 attendees voted unanimously to adopt the draft Mission Statement.

WORKING GROUPS

The group reviewed existing and needed working groups. Existing groups included the Mission Statement group (renamed Planning & Administration), the Work-in-Progress group (renamed Exhibitions & Screenings), and the Social Media group (renamed Outreach & Website). Valery argued for keeping screenings separate from meetings. Kathryn also particularly values screenings, suggesting that although she has access to feedback from her institution she would benefit from "different eyes." Rob suggested role for exhibition coordinator as an add to the screening coordinator role. Rob also stated that a Budget & Finance group is needed. The group agreed that a Lab & Operations group is also needed, which Nic nicknamed Dark Ops.

Individuals in the group voiced interest in being part of the 5 groups and posted a signup sheet (attached). For example, Rob has taken on budget, Nick and Corrin have taken on social media, Kathryn and Laura have operations experience, Brittany and Doug will work on administration, etc. Rob suggested that website could reflect these positions. Christine argued that the full group should have oversight over all group decisions and actions. Libbie agreed that working groups should answer to the greater group. Valery argued for fluidity. Susan suggested looking at structures of other groups, including that of 12-step programs. Ethan argued that certain issues require pragmatism, but efficiency is not our purpose. Ethan suggested our association with Balagan as a 501(c)(3) might free AgX to operate in a more unstructured manner.

A discussion ensued about the value of fixed positions of a certain duration within groups, including a leader or main contact for each group. A term of 3 months is suggested for certain groups, however Rob said budget group requires longer term. Ernesto argued for a main administrative contact person to filter scheduling and agenda items, for continuity and clarity. Kathryn argued for rotation within groups to lessen burden and expand approaches to keep things open. Libbie suggested that in an open process new members can become involved and bring a different dynamic to the group.

Valery asked whether a decision was needed regarding the Handcranked Productions space. That decision was made at the last meeting, however commitments to pay are not yet in place. Rob's group will establish a method for payment, perhaps PayPal. Matt proposes soliciting institutional memberships where schools would pay fee that would give students access. Kathryn suggests minimal daily lab cost in addition to basic member fee, to distinguish those who use the lab. Rob has other ideas on how to scale cost. Susan raised issue of workshops. The group agreed that workshops would involve multiple working groups.

Doug raised the possibility of creating a separate listserv for general information to spare general interest parties an overload of messages pertaining to everyday practical issues. Valery mentioned that the listserv is set up so that hitting reply responds to the whole group rather than the sender, and asked that members be respectful of others' time and use discretion on when to respond to the entire group. Laura suggested an online bulletin board for maintaining an ongoing history of group.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be Sunday, April 19 at 1:00 PM at Doug's studio and will include special guest, Kevin Rice of Process Reversal. Important agenda item will be Budget & Finance discussion.

End of Meeting Minutes
Notes by Douglas Urbank

SCREENINGS

Organized by Valery Lyman

Laura Ryan
Robert Todd
Mike Piso
Douglas Urbank
Susan DeLeo

WORKING GROUP SIGNUP

Exhibitions & Screenings

Anto Astudillo
Carmine Grimaldi
Ernesto Livon-Grosman
Kathryn Ramey
Susan DeLeo
Valery Lyman

Planning & Administration

Brittany Gravely
Corrin Barnes
Douglas Urbank
Ernesto Livon-Grosman
Gen Carmel
Mike Piso
Anto Astudillo

Budget & Finance

Christina Hunt
Ethan Berry
Gen Carmel
Libbie Cohn
Matthew McWilliams
Mike Piso
Robert Todd
Valery Lyman

Lab & Operations

Christina Hunt
Ethan Berry
Frank Aveni
Kathryn Ramey
Laura Ryan
Mike Piso
Nic Brynolfson
Nicholas Bunch

Outreach & Website

Anto Astudillo
Brittany Gravely
Corrin Barnes
Frank Aveni
Matthew McWilliams
Nicholas Bunch