



AgX Meeting
Saturday, May 21, 2016, 1:00 PM
AgX Space
144 Moody Street, Waltham

Present:

Anto Astudillo (3:00 PM)
Frank Aveni
Stefan Grabowski
Brittany Gravely
Morgan Hoyle-Combs (2:10 PM)
Christina Hunt (3:00 PM)
Matthew McWilliams

Robert Todd (2:20 PM)
Douglas Urbank

visitors:
Alex Daunais, MassArt
Homa Sarabi, MassArt

AGENDA

Budget & Finance Update
Membership Update, AgX Website & Membership Promotion
Member Listserve
AgX Lease & Liability Insurance
AgX Access & Key Panel Update
Imagivision Update
RISD/Kodak Processing Offer
Fundraising & Contacts Update
Fundraiser Perk Delivery
CCTV June 30 Screening
Waltham Mills Open Studios
August Fort Point Screening Opportunity
IFFBoston Film Collectives Panel Review
AgX West First Bolex May 7 Field Day Recap
KitSplit Discount
Sunshine Furniture Screening Opportunity
Gary DiNardo-Morrison

OTHER ITEMS

FilmLabs Conference
Firehouse Space, Brooklyn
Leadership & Volunteer Staffing Model
Film & Equipment Donations Management
Education & Outreach

MASSART STUDENT SCREENING PROGRAM

Alex Daunais and Homa Sarabi, introduced themselves as MassArt students interested in becoming AgX members. They proposed to hold a screening of their video program, *Alternative Reality*, at AgX. The program will include students from MassArt, Boston University, Emerson College, SMFA, and MIT, and faculty from MassArt including Ericka Beckman and Jake Fried. They will also open submissions to AgX members and others. June 1 is the deadline for submission. Alex and Homa are organizing a summer tour of the program currently including two Cape Cod locations: AMP Gallery in Provincetown, run by a MassArt graduate, and HyArts in Hyannis. They will also present their program at MassArt and other schools during the upcoming fall semester. They are open to videos exploring a broad interpretation of the phrase, *Alternative Reality*, tech oriented or not, from virtual reality to storytelling. The intention is to take down the borders between schools and encourage collaboration. They also want to expose MassArt students to AgX. Ericka plans to show her new 2-channel version of *Hiatus*, if possible.

The group agreed to host the program at AgX Saturday, July 23 at 7:00 PM. AgX will move the time of the scheduled business meeting that day to 3:00 PM. Alex and Homa will handle promotion.

BUDGET & FINANCE UPDATE

The group discussed the continued shortfall in collecting enough in dues to cover rent and expenses. Stefan reported that we have 40 members who should be contributing about \$1,440 per month, based on the membership applications. While this is still not enough, current contributions are significantly below that. Stefan further reported that our public mailing list, which has not had any recent updates, has 78 subscribers and our listserve has a total of 88 subscribers. The group discussed the possibility of soliciting additional donations. The group also discussed the issue of individuals who are interested and participate occasionally, but aren't paying members, and the pros and cons of allowing occasional participation.

Brittany will set up MailChimp for regular payment reminders to all members.

WEBSITE

Matt and Frank presented the demo AgX website. There will be two levels: user and monitor. Any user can create an event, which will include categories for meetings, screenings and workshops and can be designated public or private. There is a News page, a running feed which also appears on the home page. The Members list links each member to a personal page with contact information and other links and stills. Members determine what information to include. The Contact page will include links to AgX lists. The Donate page links to Dwolla and includes a pulldown menu to designate payment as either donation, dues, workshop fee, or other.

Matt advocated that AgX require a general membership agreement, as well as a loan agreement stating terms. He suggested having an attorney help draw these up.

Monitors can create inventory items. "Create Resource" includes make, model, price, etc. Stefan showed the group an example of the FileMaker database used to track video equipment inventory at Harvard, containing an asset list including item, serial number, model, internal ID, category, value and purchase details. Accessories, such as cables can be checked out and logged along with the main items. An Equipment Checkout Form is generated including a use agreement. Frank and Matt believe they can duplicate these features.

They only have a couple of style issues to work out in order to launch the site with core pages. They will then continue to develop other functionality.

IMAGIVISION UPDATE

Doug reported on the meeting with Craig Shannon of Imagivision and Bryan. (Rob, Stefan, Ethan and Mike were also in attendance.) Dana is out of the space and Imagivision can only afford to pay \$200 rent on Craig's area. Imagivision also plans to give up a separate rental space in

Allston. Bryan is unlikely to rent Dana's area. The group discussed possible keypad replacement of locks to space and equipment closet. Bryan and Craig reported that another video production group has had access to the equipment closet and use of Handcranked/Imagivision equipment. They had been paying Handcranked intermittently. Craig will approach them proposing a \$200 per month rental to go to AgX. Craig also indicated that he would be available as a monitor to provide access to AgX members.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Sarah could not attend the meeting, but provided the following update from the Fundraising Committee meeting via email, as follows:

- They received a green light from the Boston Foundation to apply for an Open Door grant (funds up to \$50K.) They are working hard, under Rob's leadership, on the proposal (due May 27) for funds for infrastructure development, and to support educational and screening programs and visiting artists, engagement with schools, lowering the cost of membership, collaboration with other collectives/organizations, and expanding AgX footprint to include a space within the Boston subway system. That's looking good.
- Mike attended a workshop on grants research offered by the Associated Grantmakers of New England that provided useful info on boilerplate info to create, the importance of having a diversified funding stream (grants should make up about 20% of our income budget), how to assess how much to ask for, and an introduction to searchable databases of funders.
- Once the Boston Foundation proposal is in, they will turn attention to the Berkshire Taconic Foundation's A.R.T. grant proposal, which could fund visiting artists. They're requesting suggestions from AgX members of New England and Columbia or Northeast Dutchess Counties, NY, artist-filmmakers who could be good partners for this grant. Funds must be targeted for either a commission from the artist, or to support the screening and exhibition of their work. Stefan and Sarah have been discussing the possibility of identifying a filmmaker who AgX might offer a residency, commission a work, and later host a screening of the commission plus a workshop.

Rob reported that the basic text is fairly well worked out for the Boston Foundation gateway "[The Giving Common](#)." An exhaustive amount of information must be supplied for registration. They will need information on AgX from Stefan. Funds would be available in November. They will move on to applications due in the fall, including Mass. Cultural Council regional grants. Text includes mission statement, goals and aspirations. Isaac wrote a simple summary, Sarah provided helpful comments and edits. Rob said they need to schedule another meeting. Morgan mentioned Robert Harris who teaches at Fitchburg State University, as a possible visiting artist. Rob knows him.

INSURANCE

Doug reported that Risman Insurance Agency quote for general liability totals \$700 annually. He will get a second quote from Kaplansky Insurance. Kaplansky's rough estimate was \$500. The group questioned whether the insurance would cover accidents such as a chemical burn or a fall down the exterior metal stair. Doug will review coverage.

Rob suggested we have a waiver of liability, with help from an attorney. There are a couple of attorneys individual members can ask.

WALTHAM MILLS OPEN STUDIOS

Brittany agreed to be AgX point person. Doug suggested that Sarah or Valery might organize our screening.

IFF BOSTON FILM COLLECTIVES PANEL REVIEW

Rob described the event as having a packed attendance. The big issue was "how one learns about things." The desire for a central place for information was expressed, as there was when

the Boston Film & Video Foundation existed. Rob expressed frustration that the Boston Center for the Arts doesn't fill that role. He would like to discuss this with Julie Burros. The group discussed reasons for BFVF demise. Frank stated that BFVF had dual mission to promote film to the public but also provide services to core members, outreach vs. member support. Rob said that BFVF began with a focus on experimental work, later added documentary, and finally narrative.

One outcome of the panel was that participants suggested that AgX host a film collectives dinner. Gen and Rob talked about possibly scheduling the dinner in early June.

RISD / KODAK PROCESSING OFFER

Bryan reported via email that RISD will no longer work with Cinelab, and approached AgX with the possibility that AgX take over processing of student black and white reversal, with support from Kodak. Kodak is exploring ideas internally and will present proposals. Matt reported he heard from Bryan that RISD may provide funding. The consensus of the group was that AgX probably can't provide this, however we will wait for their proposal. But these are good contacts for AgX. Stefan suggested we may be able to get donation of Kodak's new super 8 camera, or discounts on chemicals and film.

GARY DINARDO-MORRISON

Matt agreed to contact Gary DiNardo-Morrison of the Waltham Film Festival who is interested in collaboration with AgX.

NEXT MEETING & OTHER SCHEDULING

The group set the next two meeting dates and reviewed other scheduling.

The next AgX Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 19 at 1:00 PM at AgX. The following AgX meeting is scheduled for Saturday, July 23, **at 3:00 PM** (note later meeting time to dovetail with 7:00 PM Alternative Reality screening).

Mike confirmed via email that Paul Turano would teach the two-day JK workshop on June 7 and 14. He described it as a "train the trainer" tutorial and will check with Paul on the optimum number of attendees.

The next three Work-in-Progress screenings are scheduled for Saturday, June 4, at 1:00 PM; Thursday, July 7, from 7:00 to 10:00 PM; and Saturday, August 6, starting at 1:00 PM. The idea is to alternate first Thursdays and first Saturdays, with the format for each screening determined by the host.

The Waterworks event is scheduled for September 16. Stefan will contact Susanna Bolle to try to set up a meeting of AgX and NonEvent members within the next couple of weeks.

The Silkscreening work day to produce fundraiser perks will be scheduled informally by Ethan.

The Inventory work day schedule is to be determined. Rob will organize it.

End of Meeting Notes
Notes by Douglas Urbank

ORIGINAL 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

Lab & Operations

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

Outreach & Website

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Brittany Gravely
Corrin Barnes
Frank Aveni
Matthew McWilliams
Nicholas Bunch