**In Attendance**

* Marion Atherton, Crowden
* John Caner, Downtown Berkeley Association
* Bruce Coughran, Indra's Net
* Susan Duhan Felix, Art Ambassador
* Audrey Faine, The UC Theatre
* Archana Horsting, Kala Art Institute
* Marian Kohlstedt, West Edge Opera
* Aimee Le Duc, Berkeley Art Center
* Aaron Lorenz, La Peña Cultural Center
* Susan Medak, Berkeley Repertory Theatre
* Mary Ann Merker, Civic Arts Coordinator
* Vanessa Ramos, Central Works Theater
* Julia Robertson, Berkeley Civic Arts Commissioner
* Kristen Sbrogna, La Peña Cultural Center

*Begin at 9:07am*

**Update from Aimee Le Duc on June 9th, 2015 City Council meeting**

Multiple issues going on; a lot of social service agencies in South Berkeley had their budgets terribly cut. Therefore, arts funding issues have been pushed to future meetings or limited comment times, just as with last night: 1% for art was not discussed until after 10pm.

30-40 general public were lined up for the Air BnB discussion.This was not an affective time or place to say it could help the arts; the conversation was mired in just the basics of whether or not Air BnB is legally present in the city and how it should be taxed moving forward. General thought: the TOT tax is good for the arts. We have multiple examples of how that has been successful for other cities to back this claim up.

**Overview of the revised motion: Drafting Percent for Art Ordinance, and Adding a Condition of Approval to Sizable Projects**

Excludes 5 developments, but is for entire city. Next step is the motion is to be sent to the Planning Commission for review. Planning Commission very receptive, but it will take time. There will be more opportunity for discussion when it comes back from the Planning Commission. City Council has to read the ordinance twice (after it has been approved by both Commissions).Details still need to be worked out regarding the “in lieu of” fund—capital improvements would be a grant people would have to apply for, through BCAC (this is still up in the air). Having an outside consultant would be best to work out the guidelines for this.

Currently “significant community benefits” is an umbrella term for transit, amenities and it does include the arts. But, arts and culture is not defined. And it could easily be thrown out in the coming months. There is good intention having arts & culture, but there will be so much public pressure not to use the funds for the arts.

**ACTION:** **All BCT members** should contact their city council members to say “in general the BCT supports 1% for art in Berkeley.”

Funding to come from this motion most likely won’t available to apply for funding until 2017. But, it is set down as being active as of June 10th, 2015—any developments from here on out that meet these qualifications are eligible for this funding.

**Update from Aimee Le Duc on Berkeley Cultural Trust Current Projects:**

Regarding the proposed multi-disciplinary performance space, there was a tentative coalition (between Berkeley Ballet, YMTC, BAC, folks involved in the Oaks Theatre). But, the project is on hold. YMTC and Berkeley Ballet need to move forward on their own; they have extremely dire needs. YMTC is looking to other cities at this point. Berkeley Art Center will move forward to look for space individually as well. We need a lot more buy-in from the performing arts community to make this happen.

The size of the space we’d need for a performance space does not exist in the way we need it to right now in Downtown Berkeley; that is why the Veterans building came back into the conversation. However, millions of dollars in repairs and seismic retrofitting have to be made before it could be built out into a multi-use performance and rehearsal space.

**ACTION:** Aimee to meet with Susan Wengraf in first week of July to discuss. She is interested in creating a space like this (either in the Veteran’s building or otherwise).

**Discussion on BCT meeting with Berkeley developers**

The city’s ordinances will not bring in the funds we need.We should talk to the developers directly at this point; to assume the developer is the problem is not accurate. They’re trying to figure out how to maneuver through Berkeley politics. The worry here is societal pressure and negative reaction from Berkeley Citizens on development; they don’t see the arts as the space holder in that building that’s going to generate good will.

If we want them to help us solve the problem of our multi-disciplinary arts center, or arts space, then we need to prep exactly what we want to make out of these funds and give them a business plan: a programmatic model on how it should be used, the calculated costs, potential income from rentals, etc. If we move forward with this, we need to avoid another Gaia Building at all costs.

**ACTION:** Aimee to meet with Michael Caplan, Economic Development Manager at City of Berkeley to talk about opening up a dialogue with developers: when do we start having that conversation with incoming developers? Is there a way to make our needs meld with their problems?

**ACTION:** Aimee to create a survey from BCT members on what the needs are specifically; we have a set of terms already regarding the space’s potential layout

End 10:05am