**In Attendance**

* Laura Abrams, Cal Performances
* Marion Atherton, Crowden Music
* Lisa Bullwinkel, Another Bullwinkel Show
* Shifra de Benedictis-Kessner, DBA
* Susan Felix, Arts Ambassador
* Karena Fiorenza Ingersoll, Berkeley Rep
* Cherie Hill, Luna Dance Institute
* Archana Horsting, Kala
* Laura Inserra, Samavesha
* Joyce Jenkins, Poetry Flash
* Julie Saltzman Kellner, Aurora Theatre Co.
* Susan King, Sunday Streets Berkeley
* Marian Kohlstedt, West Edge Opera
* Aimee LeDuc, Berkeley Art Center
* Mary Ann Merker, Civic Arts Coordinator
* Rose Nisker, Gamelan Sekar Jaya
* Kathryn Roszak, Danse Lumière
* Kristen Sbrogna, La Peña
1. **Karena thanked Julie Saltzman for her two years of service as Chair, followed by introductions from all in attendance.**
2. **Update from Mary Ann Merker, Civic Arts Coordinator, and Julia Robertson, Civic Arts Commissioner.**

The city is hiring two consultants to work on two upcoming projects. One, now hired, will be doing a review of and providing recommendations on changes to the Civic Arts grant application process. The second is around public art placement on Telegraph Avenue. The city is putting resources into improving that area and making public art a piece of that.

Mary Ann reminded us that the Civic Arts Commission meets at 6:30pm at the North Berkeley Senior Center on the 4th Wednesday of every month. These meetings, as well as the other committee meetings they hold throughout the month, are open to the public.

1. **Call for a Secretary and/or Vice-Chair.**

If you are willing to “step up” and help keep the Berkeley Cultural Trust running in this way, please let Karena know. It is important that we fill at least one of these positions.

1. **Berkeley Arts Connect updates**
	1. The second year of the program is underway. The joint intern/organization orientation took place on 8/26, students are in conversation with their site supervisors, and will officially begin work the week of 9/15.
	2. A meeting will be held on 9/15 with staff that works on the program from the Public Service Center, Arts Research Center, and Berkeley Cultural Trust to jointly discuss the many details and specifics of work being done. The goal is to better understand everything that is happening, who is handling it, and think about potential changes to that structure for the future in order to reduce the cost of the program. The PSC is currently quoting an annual cost of $10K to keep participating at this level. Taking their fee out of the equation, the total annual future cost of the program is approximately $3-4K and they are currently being paid $2800/year so that number constitutes a considerable increase. We will know more after the meeting on the 15th and discuss in more depth at the next BCT meeting.
2. **Discussion of Future BCT Initiatives (and what has gone well in the past two years)**
	1. Based on the survey results, a list was compiled of areas people feel we’ve seen success in over the last couple years. The list included: Continuity, Berkeley Arts Connect, Networking and social opportunities, Connection to the Civic Arts Commission, and Information Gathering.
	2. There were a number of areas suggested for future thought and/or action.
		1. Advocacy: arts funding, transportation concerns and difficulties, general political support, training of younger leaders to be advocates into the future
		2. Looking ahead to construction and transportation related projects, particularly in the downtown. The Downtown Berkeley Association (DBA) does regularly discuss these items and will provide updates at each BCT meeting going forward.
		3. Recruitment of new members including a representative (Louise Gregory, most likely) from BAM/PFA.
		4. Working with Visit Berkeley to encourage them to add the arts organizations to their tours of the city (which now focus primarily on food).
		5. Professional Development for members as representatives of BCT. One such opportunity could be the Leadership East Bay, which (for a $1000 annual fee, potentially 50% subsidized by scholarship) hosts 8-9 full days of training and networking each year. This year’s group is nearly set, but they are still seeking a few candidates. We also want to explore other opportunities that can exist for members.
		6. Hosting an event that includes a social/networking component (perhaps a breakfast) to which we invite member(s) of government or business to be speakers.
		7. Fundraising project for Berkeley Arts Connect, professional development opportunities, or some other project to be determined. This could center around a Berkeley arts organization annual festival that we could collectively organize and participate in.
		8. Members were also reminded of the value of posting on (and liking if they don’t already) the BCT Facebook page. It is a free way to help promote your events. You can also add your events to the calendar listings on Visit Berkeley. Lastly, it was suggested that members pitch stories to Visit Berkeley with the comment that they are looking for content and are likely to publish it.
3. **Organizational Updates**
	1. Included information on Sunday Streets Berkeley (October 12 from 11am-5pm) as they are still recruiting artists/performers for the day. Please contact Susan or Shifra if you or your organization would be interested in participating.

**NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 12, 2014 AT 9AM AT “THE BAKERY” AT THE BERKELEY REP SCHOOL OF THEATRE, 2071 ADDISON STREET**