

**I, Amy T. Harvey, Deputy Town Clerk of the Town of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of (2018-10-24/R-3) adopted as amended by the Chapel Hill Town Council on October 24, 2018.**

**This the 20<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2018.**

*Amy T. Harvey*

**Amy T. Harvey  
Deputy Town Clerk**



**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A COUNCIL TASK FORCE TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBLE USE OF THE VARSITY THEATRE AT 123 EAST FRANKLIN STREET AS A COMMUNITY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (2018-10-24/R-3)**

WHEREAS, the Council has an interest in enriching the cultural arts in Chapel Hill and enhancing the social and economic vitality of our Downtown; and

WHEREAS, the Chapel Hill Town Council wishes to explore the feasibility of converting the Varsity Theatre on East Franklin Street into a community performance venue that could host a range of performance types including, but not limited to, music, theater, dance, and film. In addition, it could also serve as a setting for community meetings and discussions; and

WHEREAS, the Council has determined that it desires additional consideration and input from community members and stakeholders regarding the possible future of the Varsity; and

WHEREAS, in order to conduct this exploration, the Mayor wishes to establish the Varsity Theatre Task Force to explore the community desire for this type of cultural amenity and the feasibility of managing this type of venture.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Town of Chapel Hill that the Council establish the Varsity Theatre Task Force to consider the possible use of the Varsity Theatre at 123 East Franklin Street as a community performing arts center.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force will be comprised of the following seats, including Council Members Rachel Schaevitz and Michael Parker, appointed as Task Force Co-Chairs.

- o Rachel Schaevitz – Council Member
- o Michael Parker – Council Member
- o Marlon Torres – NC Arts in Action and Downtown Resident
- o Don Tise – Architect and Downtown Business Owner
- o Emily Kass – General Manager of the Chelsea Theater and former Director of the Ackland
- o Justin Haslett – Managing Director of Playmakers Theater and chair of the CH Cultural Arts Commission
- o Hardy Butler – Downtown Entrepreneur
- o Kaze Thomas – Downtown Business Owner and Artist
- o Gerald Bolas – Arts Consultant and former Director of the Ackland
- o Mandey Brown – Downtown Business Owner
- o Sharon Rothwell – NC Arts Commission
- o Greg Overbeck\* –Downtown Business Owner
- o Brenda Womble\* – Member of the local arts community
- o To be Determined- Downtown Partnership representative
- o Justin Simmons, Chamber of Commerce and Varsity Theatre user
- o Dan Cefalo, artist, former Cultural Arts Commission chair
- o Paul Shareshian, current leaseholder and operator of Varsity Theatre
- o TBD, youth representative

\*= tentative

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force would be charged with determining the following:

- o What would be the vision for such a venue? What types of programming would be appropriate and desired by our community?

- How would such a venue meet community needs, reflect community values, and attract a wide range of individuals to the Downtown and what would be the economic impact on the Downtown?
- What would be the costs of this conversion for both acquisition and necessary refurbishment – and how long would it require? How would these costs be paid for and what kinds of partnership(s) might be feasible?
- What would be the business model of the new entity in terms of ownership, ongoing management, and ability to be financially secure and self-sustaining?

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that following the task force's report to the Council in May 2019, the work of the task force will be deemed complete and the task force will be discharged.

This the 24<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2018.