## Bridging the Gap - Cafecito #2 Notes

### Ryan’s Room

**Ryan:**
- Transparency, Communication
- Big Check
- Show don’t tell

**Tina:**
- Divide between neighborhoods and lack of cross engagement
- Developers changing the city
- No communication
- Bridging the gap with moveable furniture

**Airen:**
- Arts Commission of Greater Toledo
- Subcommittee Arts and Culture for the neighborhood coalition
- Bridge the gap between residents and the arts
- Uplift Uptown
- PUBLIC PORCHES
- BLAIR COHN
- VILLAGE BUILD CONVERGENCE

**Blair**
- Diffusing tense ideas with neighborhood exposure
- Chickens and Goats ordinance, brought out chickens and goats to educate around the issue
- Using sense of humor and public art to educate and create a shared sense of reality
- Stone Soup
- Reduces stress and fear
- Get everybody involved
- If the inspectors leave at 5pm, we do our events at 5:01pm

**Astrid**
- Reflect on Tina’s comments about the Difference between community engagement and city engagement
- NOLA has a lot of porches backed
- Stealth Placemaking

**Ethan**
- Architecture Rico Qurandongo
- AIA design agency how do we build better clients
- Bridging the gap is mainly what we do
- Bridging the silod careers, expertise silos

**Jackson**
- Bringing people together for a shared voice around advocacy
Summary

**Ryan**
- Placemaking is Breaking down walls, but also building up coalitions
- Don’t stop at the picnic, but keep them advocating and moving forward as an irrefutable force

**Sherryl**
- Neighborhoods divided
- Starting places where shared activity can happen
- Find your champions and empower them
- Grow their interest and empower them

**Mila**
- Neighborhood topic bridging the gap between neighbors
- People feel excluded despite inclusive efforts

Follow Up with Cade

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**Sherryl’s Room -**

**Sherryl:**
- Social boundaries made by perception of that which is different
- Neighborhood story about bridging the gap between different socioeconomic groups

**Jackson:**
- Aspire to organize bringing the community together and bridging the gap.
- Self-reflection: who do I not know, and why don’t I know them
- Language as a barrier is something key to address
- Socio-economic barriers also need to be broken

**Monica:**
- Detroit/Pontiac are not connected, there is sprawl in between both centers.
- Pontica had some initiations of urban forms, and these were destroyed by the government
- Bridging the gap with Detroit is important to learn from them
- Wants to bridge the gap between urban solutions and a place that is accustomed to sprawl solutions
- How do you transform anti-urban mentality in a world of sprawl

**Melvin:**
- Wants to organize residents into a downtown neighborhood association (DNA)
- Unify their voice and help advocate for themselves
- Wants to bridge the gap between residents and government, also empower residents to organize and have a voice
- Room full of residents and disengagement from downtown community, they don’t feel like downtown is their community
- How do you get residents involved? How do you facilitate or create a framework for participation?

Jim:
- Suggested to go for ARP funding important(build back better) - facilitate the funding to the residents

Jennifer Howell:
- Leander, TX (near Austin) - it’s a bedroom community and she wishes to activate spaces for art.
- Active group of artist, but meeting and gallery space not available
- Wants to bridge the gap between existing art groups and spaces to show the work to others.
- Suggestions included to connect with tech sectors, and to also start off with virtual space if needed.
- As taught by James Roja, and how the hispanic culture gathers in plazas. Explore events in outdoor places, it also facilitates getting people in.

General group suggestions:
- Engagement in schools, nonprofits, and entrepreneurial people as key to bridging the gap between people and resources
- Engage kids to include the youth as a crucial part of the future to a city and as a means to get the parents involved
- Find the local knowledge from the local groups and asking them what they want and what they know, so that this can be funded, bridging the gap between funding and what a community needs while we are the translators and facilitators to make that happen.

Mila's Room -

Cade:
- Experiencing a gap with my current neighbor, and attempts to bridge the gap have not been successful yet.

Staci
- School design – k-12 – fine tuning location of childcare centers, school deserts, early childhood deserts, don’t always intersect with poverty levels.
- Create community embedded schools
- Identity affirmation values.

Ilana
- Geographic sorting is political, taking action together, having the spaces and activities that put everyone in action about one common goal regardless of differences.
- Co-Creating
- Need for diverse community means political diversity
- Cultural activities appealing to everyone
- Opportunities and social norms around making things together, actually doing things
together. Social norming of neighborhood actions.

Jeff
- Multicultural event in Longbeach, got pushback with the reason being “building a little Manila”
- There can be sensibilities that one group is getting preferential treatment, or being perceived as dominant, even when trying to create an inclusive diverse event

THE CHAT

13:00:09 From Sherryl Muriente - West Palm Beach, FL to Everyone:
Welcome everyone to Placemaking Cafecito!

13:00:27 From Sherryl Muriente - West Palm Beach, FL to Everyone:
Please feel free to add where you are at next to your name. :-)  

13:03:36 From Sherryl Muriente - West Palm Beach, FL to Everyone:
Notes from last month are here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/10rFmdsZplC1L-bWdprGs1WGz_2PjRXIHamjkSWSVBAo/edit?usp=sharing

13:08:58 From Ethan Kent - NYC to Everyone:
https://www.pps.org/article/realtors-as-partners-in-placemaking

13:11:49 From Mila WPB FL to Everyone:
Meeting Guidelines:
- Be Your Authentic Self
- Give an intro in CHAT if you wish 😊
- Participate - Let us hear your voice!

13:12:53 From Jacqueline Austin - Jackson, MI to Everyone:
I have some experience with the REALTOR grants that you were chatting about, if anyone needs some info.*

13:12:55 From Ryan Smolar | SoCal / NOLA to Everyone:
Today’s theme: Bridging the Gap!

13:13:08 From Ryan Smolar | SoCal / NOLA to Everyone:
Thanks @Jacqueline, I’d love to compare notes

13:14:03 From Ryan Smolar | SoCal / NOLA to Everyone:
Hi all, Ryan Smolar from PlacemakingUS! Excited to be here with all you wonderful peacemakers across the country.

13:19:36 From Astrid Kaemmerling, New Orleans, LA to Everyone:
New Orleans

13:20:05 From Airen Meyer, The Arts Commission of Toledo (she/her) to Everyone:
Toledo, Ohio!

13:33:57 From Ryan Smolar | SoCal / NOLA to Everyone:
Ryan Smolar, placemakingus@gmail.com
13:51:46 From Melvin - Grand Rapids, MI to Everyone:
   thanks for this everyone! Hope to catch you all at the next one!

13:51:58 From Sherryl Muriente - West Palm Beach, FL to Everyone:
   Please drop here your "bridging the gap" learning points here. We will share all these notes with the whole group.

13:52:26 From Ryan Smolar | SoCal / NOLA to Everyone:
   Especially for you introverts! Drop you're summarizing thoughts here!

13:58:51 From Ethan Kent - NYC to Everyone:
   Have to run pick up a kid from school!

14:00:00 From Jim Ross to Everyone:
   Too Nuch Fun Club!

14:00:03 From Airen Meyer, The Arts Commission of Toledo (she/her) to Everyone:
   Thanks everyone!

Final mugshot after the rooms re-gathered.