

## MARCH 2019 - MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 12, 2019

Place: Public Library, 800 Vine Street, Tower Room

Welcome: Sue Byrom, President

### New Members:

Dion Brown                      Mona Passmore  
Debbie and Wade Dent      Ryan Tap



Sue introduced new members and the nominees for seats on the DRC Board of Directors. These are Jackie Bryson, Jan Hirlinger, David Ostrander, Carol Parobek, Brenda Smurda, and Esther Wing.

### Monthly Reports

Sue Byrom introduced **Captain Doug Wiseman**, newly appointed to command the **Cincinnati Police Department's** Central Business District. Capt. Wiseman greeted the group and reviewed his service history. He will have been with the Department for 29 years in May; since being promoted to Captain, he has held several positions around the city (including in the CBD), most recently as commander of District 5. The captain expressed his intent to be a regular presenter at DRC meetings. With a laugh (and a nod to predecessor **Captain Mike Neville**), he provided his department cell phone number, 513-484-5203. He noted that he preferred not to be called after his 10:00 bedtime, stressing that the department's third-shift operators are fully competent to field non-emergency calls and that emergencies are best dealt with by calling 911. The non-emergency number is 512-765-1212. Officer **Tim Eppstein** reported that both violent and property crime rates remain low in the CBD when compared to a three-year moving average.

### Speakers:

Scheduled speaker **Stephanie Summerow Dumas**, Hamilton County Commissioner, was forced to cancel her appearance.

**Caitlin Douglas**, stakeholder services specialist with Downtown Cincinnati Inc. (DCI)/ Cincinnati Center City Development Corporation (3CDC) gave an overview of the new organization in the wake of a recent merger. She introduced **Adam Gelter**, Executive Vice President, and **David Vissman**, Vice President, Operations.

Cate explained that the boards of both DCI and 3CDC, in collaboration with Fifth-Third's strategic planning group, had studied their respective missions and how they might be combined. A decision to affiliate became effective January 1. DCI is now technically a wholly-owned subsidiary of 3CDC, but in practical terms they are now a single organization.

Cate described programs that will be ongoing, such as the Safe, Clean & Green initiative carried out by the Downtown Cincinnati Ambassadors. 3CDC is working with the police department to optimize Ambassador coverage of downtown areas, especially Fountain Square, the library and the courthouse. Cleaning services, especially overnight, will be intensified. Upgraded snow removal efforts are under consideration. Also being looked at are beautification efforts, such as planters. Cate and other staff will continue to track citizen requests for services and work with the city to address them. Particularly critical right now is the replacement of the many lights now out downtown; the city manager has announced a “blitz” repair effort. In development is an initiative aimed at making Piatt Park more welcoming. Cooperative efforts with Downtown businesses, for example with respect to signage, continue. It is hoped that plans for Fountain Place (Macy’s, etc.) will be announced soon.

DRC members are invited to get in touch with Cate regarding their concerns and ideas at [cdouglas@3cdc.org](mailto:cdouglas@3cdc.org).

**Old Business:** The February meeting minutes were approved.

**New Business:** Sue reminded members that the April 9 meeting is the annual meeting, at which new Board members will be elected. She noted that nominees’ bios may be read on the DRC website. She thanked current outgoing Board members Dennis O’Connor, Andy Reiss, and Ginnie Schlosser, for their service.

Member announcements included upcoming events sponsored by Cincinnati World Cinema (719 Race Street, [cincyworldcinema.org](http://cincyworldcinema.org)) and an update on the library’s spring programming.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

The next members’ meeting will take place **Tuesday, April 9, at 6:00 p.m. at the library.**