

JUNE 2019 - MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: June 10, 2019

Place: Public Library, 800 Vine Steet, 3rd Floor



Items for Discussion/Action:

Sue Byrom raised the issue of thanking Chico Lockhart for his long service to the city as the outreach leader of the Ambassadors program, and for his close work with DRC during that time. Jackie Bryson suggested working with the Library's Maker Space staff to design and produce a commemorative plaque that could be personalized for this and similar future gifts. She will pursue the possibility and let the Board know what it would entail.

Cate Douglas described a 3CDC proposal to create a new formal entertainment district encompassing the 50 acres bounded by Central Avenue, Central Parkway, Sycamore, and 9th Street, similar to what was done for the Banks. Such a designation - which ultimately would have to be approved by City Council - would make liquor licenses more readily and cheaply available. It is hoped that this would be an incentive for new businesses to open in the area, particularly on Court Street. John Stringer asked why bars and restaurants were targeted for incentives when other types of businesses, such as retail shops, were struggling throughout downtown. Cate explained that bars and restaurants were not being favored over other enterprises; it is simply that the high cost of liquor licenses is one barrier to entry that can perhaps be addressed. Jan Hirlinger cited the example of Vine Street in OTR, where bars and restaurants built customer traffic and other types of businesses followed. Board members agreed that Cate should bring the entertainment district proposal before DRC membership. Jackie recommended that Cate emphasize that the proposal would not involve an open-container provision, like that causing problems in Hamilton.

Victoria Pershick talked about testing Eventbrite as a mechanism for issuing and responding to social invitations, and said she would send a test invitation to Board members this week. There was general discussion about moving to a new membership administration platform, possibly with a Board-only access section. It being unclear how this would work, and whether a drop-box mechanism is the best alternative, Sue volunteered to draw up a list of the kinds of documents we collectively would like to store in this fashion, and to circulate a draft to the rest of the Board for input. Once the list is agreed to, Victoria will have a better idea of what will be needed to implement this kind of storage.

Al Bunker made his monthly Clean, Green & Safe report. The Park Board this year indicated its unwillingness to fill the planters at the Ohio end of the Purple People Bridge. 3CDC had flowers left over from another planting and offered to donate them. Al planted them and also some along the Path to the Taft.

Al reported that four individual and 10 business members were due to receive final notices of unpaid dues. Several Board members volunteered to approach those members

personally. There was discussion of working with building managers and/or designating a DRC representative in apartment and condo buildings.

Sue reported on recent Sector meetings. Piatt Park continues to be problematic. There is a new Ambassador point person for the area, but she goes off duty at 4:00 p.m. Summer events have been planned for the park, including Tuesday and Thursday lunchtime acoustic music and Monday evening yoga. Complaints about motorcycle noise were met by the same police response DRC members heard last month: there is not much they can do. Scooter complaints proliferate as well, particularly with respect to riding on sidewalks, underage riders, and the seemingly careless parking of the trucks that collect the scooters.

Mary Jacobs brought the group up to date on her outreach planning activities. She is in discussion with Activities Beyond the Classroom (ABC), an organization that supports Cincinnati public school students through a variety of programs. Mary believes that ABC could represent a good partnering opportunity for DRC.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 8, at 6:00 p.m. at the Library.