

## JULY 2019 - MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Date: July 8, 2019

Place: Public Library, 800 Vine Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor



Welcome: Sue Byrom, President

### New Members:

Dawn Adams  
Thomas Hayward  
Beth Koloseike

Dele Ogundipe  
Jeanne Schot

Business member: Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra

### Monthly Reports:

**Officer Tim Eppstein** of the **Cincinnati Police Department** reported that crime statistics continue to look good compared with the five-year rolling average. An anomaly is the rape figure, which appears as a 19% increase; Tim explained that this was a function of rape accusations that later proved unfounded. Tim said the police are working toward improvements in the Government Square area - for example, asking the liquor store to push back the hour for morning alcohol sales. They are also working with library staff to address complaints about lingering crowds.

**Captain Doug Wiesman** announced that three new sergeants had been named to the force, with a fourth appointment imminent. A recruit class of 42 will graduate at the end of the month. Unfortunately from a Central Business District perspective, these officers will be moved to outlying districts for further training before some may be assigned downtown. Discussions in regard to lingering crowds and crowd behavior are also upcoming with the owners of Taco Bell on 6<sup>th</sup> Street and with the Dohn School, whose students transit through Government Square. The Captain told the group that his officers are writing warning tickets to e-scooter riders on sidewalks; most of these appear to be from elsewhere who are downtown for events. Actual scooter citations are aimed at those who are defiant about warnings or who are engaged in manifestly unsafe behavior such as riding the wrong way on a one-way street. The next big downtown event is the Music Festival, July 26-27. Youth curfews will be enforced on Fridays and Saturdays for the next several weekends. Finally, Capt. Wiesman urged members to register their external video cameras with the police department, to facilitate contact when video records may assist in an investigation.

**Milton Davis**, the lead outreach worker employed by Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services (GCB) spoke on behalf of the Downtown Ambassadors. He is under contract with 3CDC. The outreach mission continues to build trust relationships with homeless people and connecting them to needed services. If DRC members or other downtown residents see a person or situation where help is needed, they should call the Ambassador Hotline (513-623-3429). Operators will refer calls to outreach workers' personal phones. **Marisa**

Reed, 3CDC, said that any problems with response from the hotline should be reported to her (513 977-9040).

### **DRC Reports:**

**Social Chair Mary Heimert** invited the group to a post-meeting social at Nicholson's Backstage Event Center, 625 Walnut Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

Hugh Koon proposed, and Esther Wing seconded, a motion to approve the June minutes, which passed unanimously.

### **Speakers:**

**Cate Douglas**, Stakeholder Services Specialist at 3CDC, described a proposal to create a new Community Entertainment District (CED) in the Court Street area, bounded by Central Avenue, Central Parkway, Sycamore Street, and 9<sup>th</sup> Street. This designation would allow for new and price-regulated liquor licenses that would serve as an incentive for new business development and greater visitor presence in the neighborhood, and ultimately encourage businesses of types other than bars/restaurants to consider the neighborhood as well. The proposal does not include an open-container provision. Other CEDs, such as the Banks and OTR East and West, exist in the city.

**Jake Dietrich**, Director of Development for Milhaus, an Indianapolis development company, outlined plans for Artistry, a seven-story multiuse complex on Pete Rose Way near the Purple People Bridge. The complex, slated for groundbreaking in August or September, will include retail establishments, 344 apartments, and 390 parking spaces. Milhaus has previously developed the Gantry Apartments in Northside and Poste in East Walnut Hills. Artistry is expected to be completed in 24 to 28 months. Questions may be addressed to Jake at [Jake.Dietrich@Milhaus.com](mailto:Jake.Dietrich@Milhaus.com).

### **Announcements:**

Alan Bunker announced that the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra (a new DRC business member) will sponsor a musical event, CSO Look Around, on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. It will feature multiple performance sites from Washington Park to Ziegler Park. The CSO also has made available 25 \$10 Pops tickets to first-time buyers on a first-come, first-served basis.

Members with concerns about city upkeep, such as missing pavers and burnt-out streetlights, are encouraged to start with the **Fix It Cincy!** app.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mary Jacobs and seconded by Lisa Sprague; it was approved at 7:03. The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 13, at 6:00 in the Tower Room at the library.