

AUGUST 2019 - MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: August 12, 1029

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

Members absent: John Stringer, Esther Wing

Items for Discussion/Action:



1. Sue Byrom called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to confirm Jan Hirlinger as the new Membership Chair. Proposed by Barb Smurda and seconded by Mary Jacobs, the motion was passed unanimously.

Discussion of website, social media, and event RSVP issues. Mary Jacobs clarified that fees to Better Impact are based on active membership, with no charge for archived members. Christian Rahe raised the possibility, last discussed some months ago, of switching over to Wild Apricot software that would tie together a web interface, a Facebook page, and membership management in a package that would be much easier to use, particularly with respect to membership. An event RSVP process apparently could be incorporated as well, though this needs to be confirmed. Mary noted that the cost of Wild Apricot was higher than Better Impact, approximately \$1200/year vs. \$400. There seemed to be a general feeling that the additional expense could be justified. Sue confirmed that the cost could be paid with NSP funds.

Victoria Pershick reported that she and Esther Wing had worked up a prototype Facebook page, which the two of them could manage, to replace the now-taken down page controlled by Conrad Thiede.

Finally, the board agreed that Chrisian and Victoria would make a presentation on Wild Apricot - including a recommendation on how to proceed - to the board next month, on the basis of which the board will make a decision.

2. Jackie Bryson told the group about a “mini-mural” project sponsored by Keep Cincinnati Beautiful which involves small murals, either temporary or permanent, which invites viewers to inscribe in chalk their thoughts on “Cincinnati is beautiful because...”. Her location suggestions were Fountain Square and/or the Banks. Also suggested were the Freedom Center, the new Kroger and the West End. Cost for an installation is \$20 and the property owner must agree to provide chalk. Jackie will send board members a link to the project.

Jackie also followed up on her earlier idea of working with the library’s Maker Space on designing a commemorative item that could serve as a recognition gift for member service. (This came up in connection with Chico Lockhart at an earlier meeting.) Jackie has worked with a laser engraver to produce a spiral

notebook with wooden covers that can be custom-engraved with a person's name and a message of thanks. She will bring it to show at a later date.

Jackie further noted that the weekly newsletter will not be published August 25, because of her vacation. A special edition will be published later that week, in advance of the Labor Day fireworks. Christian suggested that the newsletter could be used more aggressively as a DRC membership recruiting tool. Jackie and Victoria agreed to work on raising the visibility of membership information at the top of the newsletter.

3. Sue raised the issue of litter in the city, which all agreed seems to be getting worse. Cate Douglas said that Ambassadors are still picking up litter, but often are diverted to other projects. 3CDC is considering instituting a litter sweep at the beginning of shifts, before other project commence. Some of the increase in litter can be attributed to more and larger public events. Some of it is endemic, as with parking lots near bars. More trash receptacles would help, but the City is reluctant to increase their number because it increases the responsibility for trash pickup. Pickup already seems inadequate, with overflowing trash bins a common occurrence.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02. Next month's meeting is scheduled for **Monday, September 9**, at 6:00 in the community room at the Renaissance at the Power Building (a library room being unavailable).