

FEBRUARY 2020 - MONTHLY MEMBER MEETING MINUTES
Council, Inc.

Downtown Residents'

Date: February 11th, 2020 @ 6:00pm

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

Vice President Alan Bunker called the meeting to order and welcomed new members:

New Members

James Beering

Amy & Bob Dressman

Mike & Vicki Evans

Ian Burt & Terrance Crawford

Craig & Carol Ellison

Janet Welling

Trip & Joanne Wolf

Kathie Maynard

Connie Trounstine



Business member

Dani Shertok, Shertok Smiles

Monthly Reports

Captain Doug Wiesman gave an abbreviated report, noting that January and February are typically slow crime months and that crime statistics look good. He reported that a Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program will debut in District 1 and downtown in early March; its focus is prevention of low-level crime on the part of drug users and those with mental health issues.

Caitlin Douglas of 3CDC spoke on behalf of the Downtown Ambassadors, who have been busy cleaning underpasses and green spaces around downtown. They cleared an abandoned homeless encampment at 4th and Central. Discussions about preparing for spring (and the resulting crowds) in Piatt Park continue with Cincinnati Parks and business owners.

Jamie Barham shared statistics on GeneroCity 513's activities. December brought encounters with 18 new individuals, all homeless, and 146 individuals in total. Many of these people were referred for health and social services; six were matched with housing. A member asked whether Ambassadors could help with reporting incidents with the metal sheets associated with road construction (flipping up, sliding, etc.) to the proper authorities.

Reports

David Ostrander of the Events Committee congratulated the group on the quick response to the combined DRC/Music Hall invitation to a Cincinnati Pops concert on March 8. He invited members to a social at Arnold's following the meeting and another at Taqueria Mercado in two weeks.

John Stringer's Treasurer's report showed a starting balance on 12/31/19 of \$11,256.56, and a closing balance on 1/30/20 of \$11,567.32

Old Business

Kurt Grossman moved that the January meeting minutes be approved; the motion was seconded by Rick Dieringer and approved unanimously.

Speakers

Brett Woods, Area Managing Director with Winegardner and Hammons and General Manager for the Lytle Park Hotel, updated the group on the new hotel's progress toward opening. This is scheduled for mid-March, with a goal of being operational in advance of Opening Day. Brett showed artists' renderings and some photos of public spaces and guest rooms. There will be 106 rooms, a northern Italian restaurant called Subito, and a rooftop deck with a retractable glass roof that will be open to the public unless booked for a private event. Décor is designed to be in harmony with the park outside. Parking will be valet only. Grand opening plans are still under discussion.

Mindy Rosen, Executive Director of the Friends of Music Hall, talked about the organization's activities. Formerly known as the Society for the Preservation of Music Hall, the group undertook a re-branding recently. Mindy highlighted aspects of Music Hall's restoration paid for by the Friends, including the carved wood panels installed in the Taft Suite, stenciling in Corbett Tower, cleaning of the chandelier and its surrounding mural in Springer auditorium and repainting black accents on the building's exterior. Mindy urged DRC members to sign up for a tour. A new offering, titled "Built on Beer" and incorporating tastings, will debut in March. A program on April 8 will feature two silent movies from the 1920s, accompanied by the Mighty Wurlitzer organ

Announcements

Margaret Swallow invited the group to see Cincinnati World Cinema's line-up of all the Oscar-nominated animated and live-action short features.

Martha Goodin of the Hamilton County Genealogical Society invited the group to take part in an all-day seminar on March 7 that will focus on German genealogical research.

Ali D'Arrigo announced that Kroger's On the Rhine Eatery will sponsor a new Thursday event called Singo, a combination of Bingo and Name That Tune. Karaoke will continue on Tuesday nights. All are welcome.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 10th 2020 at 6 pm, 3rd floor, Main Library