

## November 2020 – MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Downtown Residents' Council, Inc.

Date: November 9, 2020 @ 6:00pm

Place: Virtual via Zoom by Esther Wing,  
Corresponding Secretary

Members absent: Teri Boland, Mary Heimert, Tricia Lynn, Christian Rahe



President Alan Bunker welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at 6:03.

### Items for Presentation, Discussion or Action:

1. **Approval of previous meeting's minutes** – Mary Jacobs’s motion to approve the minutes was seconded by Tim Nolan and passed unanimously.
2. **Review/approval of Treasurer's report** – There being no questions about the report previously sent out by Treasurer Tricia Lynn, Lisa Sprague made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Jackie Bryson and passed unanimously.

### 3. **Reports of Committees:**

**A. Membership** – Jan Hirlinger reported that the membership committee has established three activity categories: residential, business, and young professional. The latter is in a holding pattern until social events are possible again. The committee is re-doing the DRC brochure to make it current, and will eliminate the traditional Board photo that goes so quickly out of date. Jan will send a mock-up of the new brochure to Board member for comment. New DRC business cards are in the works as well.

**B. Information & Technology** – There were no additional comments on the privacy policy discussed at the last meeting. Jackie suggested that it be posted on the DRC website, and said that she would add a paragraph to the next newsletters advising members of its availability. Victoria Pershick noted that the DRC Facebook page, up for some time now, only contains information on meetings and where to find the website, as a way of perhaps connecting with potential members.

**C. Outreach** - Mary Jacobs related a conversation she had with Sally Grimes of ABC, DRC’s outreach partner. Sally reported that Cincinnati Public Schools has requested 25,000 reusable grocery bags. CPS students are provided with lunch makings for the days they are not in the classroom and carry the food home with them. Standard plastic grocery bags have proved too flimsy for safe transport. Mary offered to ask DRC members to provide the 600 bags required by Taft and Rothenberg elementary schools. Any sturdy bags with handles will do, irrespective of what may be printed on them. Alan agreed to send an email blast to DRC

membership about this service opportunity. Those wishing to donate bags should email Mary at [Metromary121@gmail.com](mailto:Metromary121@gmail.com) to arrange for drop-off or pick-up.

- D. **Clean, Green & Safe** - Alan had previously emailed his report on this topic; there were no questions. Alan reminded the group of holiday decorating in Piatt Park on November 14. A sufficient number of volunteers have come forward, but more are welcome. Bring scissors.
- E. **Speaker Coordinator** – Cate Douglas said that she was planning to find someone from W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street to talk about revitalization efforts in that neighborhood. John Stringer suggested approaching Suzy DeYoung of La Soupe to talk about that organization’s Community Kitchen program.
- F. **Gift Cards** – John reported that 23 gift card purchases were made during the specified time period. This will allow for a 50% match on each. The card administrator Yiftee will load cards and send them to purchasers; John will ask that they also include a current list of businesses participating in the gift card program.

#### **4. New Business**

- A. **Business Improvement Program** – This is the program under which DRC sponsors five planters downtown during the growing season. Alan emailed their locations. He was told that we were responsible for filling them, which has not been the case in the past, and also that the pots belong to us. The Parks Department provides maintenance. Jackie suggested that we explore adding a simple plaque to our pots to show DRC as the donor.
- B. **Nominating Committee** – Jackie volunteered to act as chair, and Tim to serve as a member. Other members will be sought particularly one with a young-professional focus.
- C. **December Meeting** – DRC has not traditionally held Board or membership meetings in December. In the absence of a holiday party this year, the question was raised whether we should hold meetings. The clear consensus was to wait until January.

Alan reminded that group that this was John’s last Board meeting. All thanked him for his hard work, long service, and willingness to serve as a mentor.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:54.

**Next Meeting: Monday, January 11, 2021, 6:00 p.m., (Location TBA)**