

November 2020 – MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Downtown Residents' Council, Inc.

Date: November 10, 2020 @ 6:00pm

**Place: Virtual via Zoom by Esther Wing,
Corresponding Secretary**



New Members: Bob Igel, Megan Kendall, Jack and Lisa Phipps, Beverly Thomas and Roy Robbins.

President Alan Bunker welcomed the group, identified and welcomed the new members, and called the meeting to order at 6:02.

Monthly reports:

Captain Doug Wiesman of the Cincinnati Police Department gave his usual update on crime statistics. The city is still in a cooling-off period after the troubled summer. Crimes are down in all categories on all comparative time schedules, with the exception of year-to-year comparisons of shootings because of summer incidents. Doug noted that he had spoken at City Council's October 27 liquor hearing and thanked those residents who came forward to do the same. He said he is working with the CPD's law department on setting up meetings with the three bars that were the focus of the hearing and forging with each of them a written good-neighbor agreement. In response to a question, Doug confirmed that residents fearful of coming forward with bar-related complaints could submit them in writing to attorneys Mark Manning or David Lang. Resident Beverly Thomas reported that she had reached out to the owner of Chalet and found him responsive to her complaints. Finally, Doug reported that a new detective has been added to the downtown police force.

Cate Douglas of 3CDC provided an update on Ambassador activities. Leaf clearing and training on snow removal equipment continue. Greening projects and work on the 3rd Street mural are ongoing as well. Ambassadors are also working with the city's urban forestry department on a tree inventory.

DRC Reports

Treasurer Tricia Lynn reported an opening balance of \$13,393.53 and a closing balance of \$13,510.75 for the month of October. She said that a check to Yiftee, 3CDC's gift card administrator, had been mailed and that Yiftee should soon be getting cards to DRC members who purchased them as part of our business-support initiative.

Jackie Bryson spoke on behalf of Mary Jacobs, Outreach Chair, about a giving opportunity via ABC, our outreach partner. Cincinnati Public Schools has requested ABC's help in securing 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. Those wishing to donate bags should email Mary at Metromary121@gmail.com to arrange for drop-off or pick-up.

Old Business

Approval of previous meeting's minutes – Jackie Bryson's motion to approve the minutes was seconded by Tim Nolan and approved unanimously.

Announcements

Alan reminded the group that decorating of Piatt Park for the holidays would take place on November 14 at 11:00 a.m. Additional volunteers are welcome. He announced that Jackie Bryson would chair the Nominating Committee, which will seek new Board candidates and volunteers to fill officer positions, particularly Membership Chair. Alan drew the group's attention to DRC's Privacy Policy, recently approved by the Board and posted on the website. He announced that there would be neither a Board nor a membership meeting in December, and expressed high hopes for good health and better circumstances in 2021.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 12, 2021, 6:00 p.m., (Location TBA)