

OCTOBER 2021- MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
Council, Inc.

Downtown Residents'

Date: October 12, 2021 @ 6:00pm

Place: First Financial Innovation Room, 4th & Vine

New Members: Bernice Bailey, Judy and Jarrod Bradford, Tricia Carter, Seth Harmon



President Alan Bunker called the meeting to order at 6:00. He introduced members of the Board and welcomed new DRC members.

Monthly reports:

Captain Doug Wiesman reported that the city is doing well in most crime categories, the exception being thefts from cars. There was one recent homicide near the river. The prostitution in Piatt Park discussed at the last meeting is less of a problem; CPD's vice squad is involved and access to social services has been offered. **Officer Tim Eppstein** said that he is spending much of his time with homeless populations, again trying to connect people with needed services.

A question about what police are doing to address scooters being ridden on sidewalks clearly touched a nerve in the audience. Doug explained that he has a folder of citations that have been issued, but said that his officers frequently have more pressing priorities. He has worked with the Bird and Lime companies to set electronic fences around high pedestrian traffic areas such as the Banks. A member noted that Philadelphia has solved the scooter problem by banning them altogether. Tim observed that this strategy would need to be taken up with City Council, not the police.

Cate Douglas of 3CDC announced that bright blue recycling bins have been placed around the city, some with a humorous message designed to attract attention, e.g., use this side if you support UC, this side for XU. There is signage on each can indicating what materials are acceptable to Rumpke. Ambassador are engaged in leaf removal, pressure-washing, and gum clean-up. Cate drew the group's attention to Fall on Fourth, a Saturday event showcasing retailers at the west end of 4th Street.

Nicole Smith of the Social Outreach Team said that the team currently has 206 open client cases. Thirty-eight housing matches are in progress, compared to a typical monthly average of seven to ten. Ten people moved into housing in September, making a total of 109 for the year. Nicole urged members to put the team's hotline (513-498-6192) in their phones and to call if the team's attention could be helpful.

DRC Report

Treasurer **Tricia Lynn** reported an opening balance of \$15,288.16 and a closing balance of \$15,401.53 for the month of September. There were no questions.

Social chair **Mary Heimert** urged everyone to walk over to O'Malley's in the Alley for a social event after the meeting, and reminded them of the December 6 date for DRC's holiday party.

Alan announced that the annual decoration of Piatt Park has been tentatively set for November 13, but cannot be confirmed yet. Cappel's has been sold, and it is not yet clear whether we will be able to continue the arrangement with the new owner to store decorations in the store and to use their truck and ladders. Alan will let us know.

Old Business

Sue Byrom made and **Jackie Bryson** seconded a motion to approve the previous meeting's minutes; it was approved unanimously.

New Business

Tricia presented a summary version of the Neighborhood Support Program budget that she is preparing for submission to the city. DRC is allowed to apply for \$7,638 in NSP funds. This is broken down in the following categories:

Council Business/Operations/Administration	\$1,700
Quality of Life (Activities Beyond Classrooms)	1,250
Neighborhood Improvement Activities (Beautification)	3,438
Neighborhood Services (GeneroCity)	1,250

Tricia reminded the group that we have also applied for funding under the Neighborhood Activation Fund for Zeigler STEM and Saturday Hoops. She asked for a motion to approve the NSP budget. **Mary** so moved, **Mike Glotfelter** seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously (47 yes, 0 no, 0 abstention).

Speaker

Cate introduced **Jack Esteal**, Community Executive Director of the Central Parkway YMCA. Jack spoke of the YMCA's history and said that the principles on which it was founded - youth development, social responsibility, and healthy living - remain its pillars today. He said that when the Y had to close because of the pandemic, focus shifted to providing meals (220,000 of them), child care, and COVID testing at other locations. Jack described the Y's STRONG challenge, which involves a commitment to 150 active minutes per week, and invited members to sign up (<https://myy.org/strong/challenge/>). He also urged members to check with their health care providers to see if they are eligible for the Silver

Sneakers program, under which Medicare pays for exercise at facilities like the Central Parkway YMCA.

Announcements

Margaret Swallow of Cincinnati World Cinema announced upcoming films: *BOSS* (by a local filmmaker) on October 21 and *Language Lessons* on October 27.

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 6:00 pm, First Financial Innovation Center, 4th & Vine.