

MARCH 2022 – MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Downtown Residents' Council, Inc.

Date: March 7, 2022, 6:00 pm

Place: First Financial Innovation Center, 4th & Vine Streets

Members absent: Lorry Hartley, Joan Meyer

President Alan Bunker called the meeting to order at 6:00.



Items for Presentation, Discussion or Action:

1. Review/approval of previous meeting's minutes – Jackie Bryson made a motion to approve, seconded by Kurt Grossman, and all voted in favor.

2. Review/approval of Treasurer's report – Lisa Sprague moved approval, Mary Heimert seconded, and all voted in favor.

3. Reports of Committees:

A. Finance – Tricia Lynn explained that the NSP payment shown in her report comprised agreed-upon donations to ABC, GeneroCity, and a 3CDC neighborhood beautification initiative.

B. Nominating – Chair Jackie Bryson presented a slate of candidates to fill the five Board vacancies that will exist at next month's annual meeting. Three of these (Alan, Kurt, and Teri) are current Board members willing to stand again. Two, Seth Harmon and Chase Mosijowsky, are new. Jackie distributed biographical statements for the candidates. Alan made a motion to accept the Nominating Committee's slate of candidates and to formally submit it to the Recording Secretary. Tricia seconded, and all voted in favor.

C. Membership – Heidi Shenk reported no new members this month. Jackie drew the group's attention to new residential buildings opening downtown, including the Provident development, the Artistry, and the Neyer new construction on Sycamore. She suggested that these are good targets for new member recruiting, and that, as we go into a new Board year, Heidi may need another membership committee member to develop a recruiting campaign.

D. Membership Directory/Information & Technology – Victoria said that next steps are to nail down a proof of concept and to assess business members' interest in being listed in a directory and whether these members would want the ability to update their own listings. Jackie pointed out that privacy policy will require both business and residential members (if we proceed to a residential directory) to give their permission or to have the choice to opt out of being listed. Victoria and Heidi will look at how a directory including pictures might work in Wild Apricot, and will bring more information to the next Board meeting.

- E. **Social** – The February 23 social event drew an enthusiastic crowd, and the host restaurant management has reported to Mary that some of the guests have already returned. There will be no social following the March 8 membership meeting. In April, a social will be held at the Kinley hotel on Race Street.
- F. **Clean, Green & Safe** - Alan had previously emailed his report on this topic.
- G. **Outreach/Speakers** – A suggestion was made that DRC members hear from the organizations to which we have made donations. Jackie noted that Ziegler Park will send speakers to this month’s membership meeting, and that Saturday Hoops will return in April. She will work on getting speakers from ABC and GeneroCity. Patrick Dye from GESTcarts is also scheduled to speak this month.
- H. **New/Young Member Recruitment** – As agreed last month, this committee is on pause at present. However, both new Board candidates have expressed an interest in working on an expansion of younger members, so there may be a way forward.
- I. **President’s Report** – Alan reported his attendance at a number of IIN and 3CDC sector meetings. He testified at an Ohio Liquor Control hearing in connection with an application to transfer the liquor license of the former Garfield Mini-Mart. He announced that the Cincinnati Zoo had approved a designation of the Path to the Taft as a pollinator garden. Alan let the group know that he will be out of the country from April 15 – May 4.

Old Business

Nothing has been heard from the city in regard to its traffic calming initiative or the recommendation made by a DRC member. The Pendleton Council let Alan know that Hard Rock Casino management has agreed to work with members of the council on noise abatement.

New Business

The Ohio Department of Transportation is looking at the walkway from Van Meter Street in Mt. Adams over the highways to Court Street with an eye to refurbishing it. ODOT would like stakeholder participation in the project, and has approached DRC in this regard. Alan asked whether any Board member would care to volunteer. Christian Rahe said that, since he sold the Greyhound property at Court Street and Gilbert, he was very familiar with the area. He agreed to be the DRC representative to an ODOT virtual meeting on March 22 or 23.

Alan reminded the group of previous discussion of the idea to have a Board retreat with the goals of reviewing our accomplishments, reflecting on our mission, and considering new ideas and goals going forward. Board members were amenable to a 2-3 hour session on a Saturday after the new Board takes form. Alan moved that the Board approve the idea of a retreat for review, reflection, and planning. Andrew Naab seconded and all agreed. Andrew will take the lead, proposing a location,

surveying Board members as to dates, and drafting an agenda. He will bring a proposal to the May meeting.

Kurt had previously sent Board members an email concerning 3CDC sector meetings. What were originally four city sectors were combined into two a few years ago. 3CDC now proposes to hold a single “all sector” meeting bi-monthly. As the two meetings tended to be repetitive (same CPD report, for example) and since most issues under discussion affect all sectors, this seems to make sense. Kurt wanted to bring the proposal to the Board’s attention. Our voice may potentially be diluted in a larger meeting, particularly if 3CDC expands “all sector” to take in more of the city than the central business district. It was agreed that 3CDC will have to ensure that stakeholders from all sectors are involved in a combined process.

Announcements

Esther Wing told the group that a nationwide search is underway to replace Police Chief Isaacs. Assistant Chief Theresa Theetge has been named interim chief. Esther also said that Mayor Aftab Pureval will be holding a series of Mayor’s Nights with local businesses, residents, and organizations.

Victoria said that she would bring a proposal regarding Facebook posting guidelines to the next Board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 13, 2022, 6:00 pm at First Financial Innovation Center, 4th & Vine.