

**Date: July 12, 2022 @ 6:00pm**

**Place: First Financial Innovation Room, 4<sup>th</sup> & Vine**

**New members: William Housh, Richard Longworth, Kevin Moran, Phyliss Throckmorton, Gary Warden**



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

**Monthly reports:**

**Captain Doug Wiesman** brought the group up to date on a number of crimes in the city in recent weeks. Officer John Harris was beaten badly while trying to subdue a robbery suspect. He is in the hospital and will require multiple reconstructive surgeries to his face. Doug thanked DRC members for their outpouring of support. Alan drew attention to a get-well card for John on the back table and urged all to sign it.

In other incidents, a couple was assaulted by a group of teens while waiting for a Uber in the Banks; one arrest was made. A man on Main Street was shot by his roommate. In good news, Doug noted that there were no problems in Smale Park July 4, despite large crowds. Unfortunately, violent crime numbers are up for the first time this year as compared with various rolling averages.

A member thanked Doug for his role in getting scooters shut down at 6:00. He warned that the Lime and Bird scooter enterprises are pushing back hard on this.

Doug announced that Officer Tim Eppstein has received a promotion to sergeant and been transferred to District 4. (A card for Tim was also available for signature.) Doug is interviewing candidates to fill Tim's downtown position.

**Sara Bujas** of 3CDC reviewed Ambassador activities. **Amanda Rodriguez**, team leader with GeneroCity 513, reported that open cases are down, in part because of warm weather but also because team outreach efforts have been fruitful. Amanda explained that GeneroCity 513's overall goal is to get people housed. Homeless individuals cannot be forced to come off the streets, but when they are connected with needed services and some level of case management, trust can develop and progress is possible. Doug praised the work that Amanda and her team do; they work closely with CPD and handle situations that would otherwise require direct police attention. In answer to a question, Amanda said that panhandlers are not formally organized, but do tend to cooperate with one another in terms of territory.

Sara listed many activities, from the pop-up roller rink to Shakespeare in the Park to a car show that downtown residents can look forward to this summer. Details may be found on the 3CDC website. She shared draft designs for new murals planned for 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and 4<sup>th</sup> and Central.

### **DRC Reports**

Treasurer **Tricia Lynn** reported an opening balance of \$16,813.63 on June 1 and a closing balance of \$16,966.90 on June 30. Some of these funds are obligated; the balance available for use is \$14,474.33.

**Mary Heimert** announced that the next social would take place at the Hard Rock Casino on July 19; all members should have received an invitation.

**Teri Boland** reminded the group that the Board plans an August outreach visit to first responders (police, fire, and Ambassadors).

### **Old Business**

**Tricia Lynn** made a motion to approve the previous meeting's minutes, **Pam Myers** seconded, and all voted in favor.

### **Speakers**

Jackie introduced **David Cave**, Chief of Advancement with the Contemporary Arts Center. He gave some history, from the museum's founding in 1939 to today, and presented its mission, vision, and values statements. The current Rosenthal Center site opened in 2003; its architect, Zaha Hadid, was awarded architecture's prestigious Pritzker Prize the following year. CAC does not have a permanent art collection, but rather serves as a showcase for emerging artists "in dialogue with the issues of the day." A 6000-square foot creativity center will open in late August. Dave reviewed some of the museum's major exhibits and invited DRC members to its August 20 gala.

**Adam Turer**, co-chair of Saturday Hoops, made a return visit to update DRC members on the program and to thank the group for ongoing support. He led the room in the Saturday Hoops pledge, recited by young participants at each gathering. Saturday Hoops is now a year-round, multiple-location enterprise that offers speakers, lunch, swimming, and other activities in addition to basketball. Adam invited everyone to observe a basketball clinic taking place the morning of August 6 in Laurel Park in the West End and urged all to consider dropping by and volunteering on Saturdays.

**Victoria Pershick** gave an update on the new DRC Membership Directory, which will be available August 1. All are encouraged to check their profiles and privacy preferences in advance of the debut and to contact Victoria with any questions ([vicpershick@zoho.com](mailto:vicpershick@zoho.com)).

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10.

**Next meeting: Tuesday, August 9, 2022 at 6:00 pm, First Financial Innovation Center, 4<sup>th</sup> & Vine.**