

Date: July 10, 2023, 6:00 pm

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

Members absent: Lisa Sprague, Esther Wing, Teri Boland, Lorry Hartley, Andrew Naab



Jackie Bryson called the meeting to order at 6:02.

Speakers:

Clare Healy, Development Officer, 3CDC - Jackie Bryson welcomed Clare, who reviewed the former Saks building redevelopment project. Currently, the building is owned by the City of Cincinnati but 3CDC asked the Board for a letter of support to acquire it. 3CDC's redevelopment plan would convert the ground floor at Fifth and Race streets into restaurant space with the upper two floor converted to office space to house a single tenant. The façade would be transformed with new windows, streetscapes, etc. The timeline is to acquire the property from the city is September, start construction late fall and complete the redevelopment in 15-months.

1. Approval of June minutes – Tricia Lynn motioned to approve the minutes, **Sue Byrom** seconded, and all voted in favor.

2. Review/approval of Treasurer's report – Joan Meyer motioned to approve the report, **Kurt Grossman** seconded, and all voted in favor.

3. Reports of Committees:

- A. **Finance - Tricia Lynn** reported some funds have been spent on the 2023 Outreach program. Additional funds will be disbursed to the two volunteers working on the Outreach program.
- B. **Membership Management - Joan Meyer** reported she is looking to increase DRC membership. Some members recently reported they don't believe they are receiving DRC emails. As a reminder ask members to check their Spam folder if this occurs.
- C. **Information & Technology** - Update from **Carol Glotfelter** via Jackie – Nothing new to report.
- D. **Social - Mary Heimert** reported about 60 members RSVP'd for the social at Nicholson's Backstage scheduled for July 11th. Mary encouraged DRC Board members to reach out to both new and current members asking them to attend our socials and meetings.

E. Outreach - Teri Boland - Jackie reported for Teri. Work continues with the two volunteers; Gary Bryson is working on the Fire Department and Roz Flores is working on the Police Department Outreach initiatives.

F. Clean, Green & Safe - Alan Bunker had previously emailed his report on this topic.

Sue Byrom attended the Gun Violence zoom meeting from Sheryl Young's office. At this time, the DRC is not taking any action but will continue to participate in future meetings.

Alan attended a zoom meeting of the Neighborhood Community Action Committee (NCAC) on 6/17/23 regarding recent shootings in neighborhoods. It was moderated by Elizabeth Bartley of Invest in Neighborhoods (IIN) with a presentation by Scotty Johnson, Cincinnati City Council member. About 30 were in attendance. Comments in the chat section were from representatives of Price Hill, E. Price Hill, W. Price Hill, Mt. Washington, Clifton Heights, Northside, Roselawn, Westwood and Sedamsville. Comments and questions ranged from more intervention needed by Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) into the lives of children and families, to more skilled trade training for youths, and to more police engagement in neighborhoods. Scotty Johnson didn't have time to respond to immediate comments and questions but will reply to Elizabeth Bartley who will pass them along to the communities.

G. Speakers - Seth Harmon reported Alan Bunker will provide Path to Taft update and Clare Healy will provide an overview of the former Saks redevelopment project at the July member meeting. Ascend Wellness Holdings, the new medical marijuana dispensary to open on Reedy Street, is slotted to present at the September meeting.

H. Young Downtowners - Chase Mosijowsky reported continued posting on Twitter to get the word out about the DRC.

4. New Business

Central Business District Surface Parking Lots at Mark Jeffries request – Jackie met with Mark Jeffries regarding no more surface parking lots in CBD. Jackie will try to get the results of the surface parking lot survey to help determine interest in a presentation at a future meeting.

Former Saks redevelopment project - Kurt Grossman motioned and Alan Bunker seconded to approve writing a letter in support of 3CDC acquiring the former Saks building from the City of Cincinnati and redeveloping it. Voted in favor/approved.

5. Old Business

South TIF money - Cincinnati Parks/Skate Cincinnati - This item was deferred to a future meeting.

DRC By Laws update - Kurt Grossman and Tim Nolan reviewed the changes to the constitution and addressed questions. Some minor updates will be made and shared with the Board. The constitution updates will be communicated to members in the August 2023 meeting. Jackie thanked Kurt and Tim for their time and work on these updates.

WhatsApp communication CPD/DBD - Jackie will send an invitation to the Board to join the message group. If interested, accept the invitation.

6. Announcements - All

Alan Bunker is not available for the August and September DRC meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13.

Next meeting: Monday, August 7, 2023, 6:00 pm, First Financial Innovation Center