

## July 2023 – MONTHLY MEMBER MEETING MINUTES

Downtown Residents' Council, Inc.

**Date:** July 11, 2023 @ 6:00pm

**Place:** First Financial Innovation Room, 4th & Vine

**New members:** Morgan Rigaud household, Ryan Yeazell

President **Jackie Bryson** called the meeting to order at 6:02 and welcomed new members.



Jackie introduced the First Financial Bank team, **Salim Jobeili**, and **Ian Zerilla**.

They gave a brief presentation about how First Financial Bank aspires to be the outstanding community advisor supporting all personal and business banking needs. Jackie thanked them for the use of their facility for the past two years.

### **Monthly reports:**

Captain **Adam Hennie** of the Cincinnati Police Department (CPD) reported the Taylor Swift concerts, Cincinnati Reds game, FC Cincinnati match and the International Gold Cup event at TQL went on without incidents. However, July 4<sup>th</sup> a few thousand juveniles congregated in Smale Park which resulted in closing the park and making 8-10 arrests. Next a homicide occurred at Government Square, which is under investigation. He reported Government Square will be monitored more closely during the school year. Additionally, the space will be redesigned to reduce violence.

A DRC member complimented the CPD for directing traffic following the Taylor Swift concerts and asked if the same could be done for football games. Captain Hennie reported Taylor Swift paid for those services and the CPD can engage with Paycor Stadium at their request.

Officer **Chris Loreaux** reviewed the latest crime statistics report. Over the past three years, violent and private property crimes have increased. We are slightly above the five-year average.

Officer Loreaux invited DRC members to attend active shooter preparedness and response training at the Cincinnati Police Academy, 800 Evans Street, August 31, 6-8pm. Anyone interested should register by 8/11/2023. Register online: [https:// www.cincinnati-oh.gov/police/active-shooter-training/](https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/police/active-shooter-training/).

Captain **Daniel Coletta** of the Cincinnati Fire Department shared the latest fire run statistics. There were 292 fire/EMS runs and four bomb runs last month. He noted a decrease in runs to the drop-in center. He reminded members to stay hydrated and check on the elderly during the summer months. Finally, the Fire Department is hiring ages 18-41.

**Marissa Reed** of 3CDC gave an overview on the Kiosks positioned throughout downtown and OTR. These are interactive kiosks like smart phones. They are GPS enabled touch screens that provide maps, dining options, downtown events, streetcar map, etc. A DCR member asked if one is installed

at the Duke Energy Convention Center. Marissa responded not at this time but could possibly be a Phase 2 installation.

**Jessica McCord** of 311 Cincy gave an overview of the 311 service. 311 Cincy is the City of Cincinnati's overall non-emergency, customer service system. It includes a 311-call center, online service request system, mobile app and public alerting system that offer ways for the public to connect with city services.

A DRC member asked if all city calls route to 311. Jessica responded that calls would route to 311 when city personnel are not available. A DRC member thanked Jessica for the 311 services and complimented them on the excellent follow-up to service requests.

### **DRC Reports**

#### **Finances:**

*(Starting balance 06/01/2023: \$14,008.43; Closing balance 06/30/2023: \$11,832.03 less allocated funds of \$2,176.40.)*

#### **Social Committee:**

**Mary Heimert** welcomed members to the social at the Backstage Event Center following tonight's meeting.

#### **Path to the Taft:**

**Alan Bunker**, DRC Vice President, and leader for the Path to the Taft provided an overview of the events that occurred to get the walkway (path) between E Pete Rose Way and E 3<sup>rd</sup> Street beautified. Events started in 2018 by painting the concrete wall, adding plants and mulching. In 2020 the DRC submitted a proposal to the city to further improve the appearance of the path and the city planted trees. In the summer of 2021, the city replaced the sidewalks. Work continued and in 2023 the walls were repainted. Jackie thanked Alan for his time and dedication to the path.

### **Old Business**

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

### **New Business**

Nothing new to report.

### **Speakers**

**Jackie** introduced **Clare Healy**, Development Officer, 3CDC. Clare reviewed the former Saks building redevelopment project. Currently, the building is owned by the City of Cincinnati but 3CDC wants to acquire it. 3CDC's redevelopment plan would convert the ground floor at Fifth and Race streets into restaurant space, with the upper floors 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. A DRC member asked if there would be any pedestrian restrictions during the Saks redevelopment project. Currently, pedestrian closures are not expected. Another DRC member asked about office tenants in the commercial space. Currently, 3CDC is having discussions with multiple tenants.

**Seth Harmon** introduced **Sarah Ditlinger**, Director of Marketing & Engagement, Taft Museum. Sarah encouraged all DRC members to visit the museum located at 316 Pike Street. The space was recently renovated. There are many programs for families and children. The famous Duncanson murals are on the walls at the museum. A DRC member asked if the murals were underneath the wallpaper. Sarah replied, yes. Another DRC member asked if luncheon dining options were available. Yes, there are several areas for lunch.

### **Announcements**

Jackie welcomed those having announcements to come forward.

**Scott Skeabeck**, DownTowne Listening Room, invited members to attend the upcoming concert with Jake Speed and the Freddie Plus the Turkeys Duo at the Cincinnati Fire Museum in Downtown Cincinnati on July 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Kurt Grossman** motioned to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:01.

**Next meeting:** Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 6:00 pm, First Financial Innovation Center, 4th & Vine.