

## October 2023 – MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Downtown Residents' Council, Inc.

**Date:** October 9, 2023 @ 6:00 pm

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

**Members absent:** Jackie Bryson, Kurt Grossman, Seth Harmon, Lorry Hartley, Chase Mosijowsky



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

### **Speakers:**

**Subhas Patel** - Keystone Hotels and **Justin Halter** - Department of Community and Economic Development, City of Cincinnati. Mr. Patel shared the redevelopment plan for converting the former “Chong” building at 616 Race Street into a Hilton Homes to Suites hotel. They plan to add two stories to the existing structure to have a six-story hotel. There will be 109 rooms with a first-floor restaurant. They are asking the city for a tax abatement. Mr. Patel asked the DRC to endorse the redevelopment project.

### **Approval of September Meeting Minutes:**

**Tricia Lynn** motioned to approve the minutes, **Teri Boland** seconded, and all voted in favor.

### **Approval of Treasurer’s Report:** (report provided prior to meeting)

**Mary Heimert** motioned to approve the report, **Lisa Sprague** seconded, and all voted in favor.

### **Reports of Committees and Projects:**

#### **Finance:**

**Tricia Lynn** reported we spent \$500 more than planned. The current balance is \$12,831.00.

#### **Membership Management:**

#### **Management of Household Accounts:**

**Joan Meyer** reported there are still issues getting emails to both members with a household account via the Wild Apricot system. The system is only capable of sending one email per account. She proposed a solution to fix the issue effective January 1, 2024, by having each member in the household account pay individually. The topic will be discussed at the November meeting and a vote taken then.

#### **Wild Apricot Letter Uploaded:**

Joan Meyer reported the new/revised welcome letter has been uploaded to Wild Apricot.

#### **Information & Technology:**

**Tricia Lynn** found a server error in Wild Apricot and was able to resolve it. However, the system isn’t monitored by any Board members. A short discussion occurred regarding the need for an IT resource to support the system and member meetings.

**Social:**

**Mary Heimert** reported about 50 members RSVP'd for the October social at March First Brewing on Fountain Square. The annual holiday party scheduled for December 4<sup>th</sup> at Cincinnati Prime will follow the same format as last year.

**Outreach:**

Nothing new to report.

**Clean, Green & Safe:**

Nothing new to report. The meeting was postponed to next week.

**Speakers:**

**Seth Harmon** stopped by prior to the start of the meeting and gave Alan Bunker copies of the Hamilton County Voter Guide to handout to members at the October meeting. The Hamilton County voter guide was prepared by the League of Women Voters of Cincinnati Area. It provides information on the issues and candidates on the November ballot.

**Young Downtowners:**

Nothing new to report.

**New Business Items for Discussion/Action/Assigning or Deferring:****Piatt Park Decorations:**

**Alan Bunker** is looking for suggestions for a member to assume the leadership role for decorating. He will lead this year but needs to pass the baton as he terms off next year. The topic will be discussed further at the November meeting.

**Request of support from Keystone for the Chong conversion to a hotel:**

**Teri Boland** motioned to approve preparing a letter with the intent of "no objections" from the DRC for the Chong conversion project. The letter will be shared with Board members prior to sending to the city. All approved the motion.

**Old Business:****Processing liquor license requests and renewals:**

**Sue Byrom** found the Cincinnati Business Courier lists all new liquor license requests and renewals. The Board will use the Business Courier as the method of notification.

**Updated Constitution:**

**Tim Nolan** reported a member identified some enhancements needed to the membership language in the draft Constitution. As such, the Constitution was amended again to clarify DRC memberships. Tricia Lynn raised an issue regarding an NSP funding provision that might be impacted by the new membership definitions. She didn't have it handy but agreed to circulate the NSP provision to Board members for review. This would ensure another revision does not become necessary before we submit the amended Constitution to the membership. Accordingly, the Board motioned to withdraw

the current amended version and offer to new version to members for review at the November membership meeting to be voted upon in January. Tim Nolan made the motioned, Teri Boland seconded, all voted in favor.

**Announcements:**

Alan Bunker asked for a Board chairperson to lead the nominating committee. The topic will be discussed further in the November meeting.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:04.

**Next meeting: Monday, November 13, 2023, 6:00 pm., First Financial Innovation Center**