

**February 2024 – MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Downtown Residents' Council, Inc.

**Date:** February 12, 2024 @ 6:00 pm

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

**Members absent:** Jackie Bryson, Kurt Grossman, Chase Mosijowsky, Esther Wing



Vice President **Alan Bunker** called the meeting to order at 6:04PM.

**Approval of November 2023 Meeting Minutes:**

Sue Byrom motioned to approve the minutes, Mary Heimert seconded, and all voted in favor.

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

Joan Meyer motioned to approve the report, Lisa Sprague seconded, and all voted in favor.

**Reports of Committees and Projects:**

**Finance:**

Tricia Lynn reviewed the recommended allocation of NSP funds for 2024 and asked for Board approval. The recommended allocations will be presented to members and taken to a vote at the February member meeting.

NSP Monies: 2024 Recommended Final \$ Allocation and Board Approval

<u>NSP 2024 Allocation</u>	<u>\$7,375.00</u>
Membership	-\$2,500.00
Beautification/Path	-\$1,150.00
Generocity513	-\$1,000.00
Ziegler Sumer Camp	-\$1,000.00
CYC Saturday Hoops	-\$1,000.00
<u>Watering Path</u>	<u>-\$725.00</u>
Total Remaining	\$0.00

Teri Boland motioned to approve the allocations, Sue Byrom seconded, and all voted in favor.

An additional request from the School for Creative and Performing Arts (SCPA) to alleviate local food insecurity was discussed by the Board. However, the request didn’t properly fit with NSP guidelines. The Board will consider asking SCPA if they can accept pantry item donations from the membership.

**Membership Management:**

Joan Meyer reported a couple of new members joined the DRC. She also recommended raising membership dues to \$20 per person for household accounts and to \$40 for businesses. This topic will be discussed when Jackie returns at the March Board meeting. All Board members were asked to do some research and come prepared to discuss in March.

**Information & Technology:**

Nothing to report.

**Social:**

Mary Heimert reported between 55-57 people have RSVP'd for the social at Nation tomorrow night (2/13). The March social will be at Corkopolis and in April at March First. Mary noted many businesses are struggling because recent crimes are keeping people away. Therefore, we will not be asking for any special pricing for upcoming social events.

**Nominating Committee:**

Sue Byrom - Chair, Seth Harmon, Tim Nolan, Kathy Sackett and Melisse May make up the nominating committee. The committee received one bio from Tracy Johnson but still needs bios from the other candidates running.

**Outreach:**

Teri Boland noted the Annual Interest Grant (AIG) will be the funding source for the Outreach program. This program recognizes our Downtown Ambassadors, Cincinnati Police and Cincinnati Fire Departments.

**Clean, Green & Safe:**

Alan Bunker attended the 25/26 Community Budget Request (CBR) meeting.

Sue Byrom mentioned Cincinnati leaders will be discussing violence intervention strategies after 14 juveniles were recently arrested. The city will make an announcement tomorrow, 2/13, about a collaborative violence intervention plan.

**Speakers:**

Seth Harmon has Staci Bell from ProKids scheduled to speak at the February member meeting. He is working with the Kroger Corporate Research Group for a future speaker about how Kroger selects its store locations. Of interest the discussion will include how Kroger selected the On the Rhine Downtown location. He continues working to secure speakers on The Banks Development and the Mercantile Library.

**Young Downtowners:**

Nothing to report.

**New Business Items for Discussion/Action/Assigning or Deferring:****Community Project Funding (Greg Landsman PowerPoint)**

Each year, members of Congress solicit applications from the community for 15 local projects to receive specialized federal funds. The DRC Board was asked to identify any community projects to include in the application. Currently, there are no other projects to include.

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

Sue Byrom noted there was nothing new to report from attempts to contact Sargeant Kelly. She mentioned there are several new establishments opening, for example in the former OKTO space, but has not received anything about either a liquor license transfer or new application. Work will continue in this area.

A brief discussion began on the Race Street shootings near Tulua Nightclub and Cocktail Bar. This incident coupled with juvenile assaults last month raised concern among DRC members. We expect the recent Downtown incidents to be a topic at the February member meeting. Sue also mentioned city leaders will be announcing a collaboration to expand the city's violence intervention strategies on Tuesday, 2/13.

Sue Byrom mentioned a new downtown neighborhood liaison role within the CPD was being created but didn't have specific on the role.

**Announcements:**

Alan Bunker is leading the February member meeting. Joan Meyer will attend to the door greeting members and guests.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49PM

**Next meeting: Monday, March 11, 2024, 6:00 pm., First Financial Innovation Center**