



Downtown Residents' Council, Inc.

February 2024 – MONTHLY MEMBER MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 13, 2024 @ 6:00pm

Place: First Financial Innovation Room, 4th and Vine

New members: Daniel & Julie Poston, Yvonne Sullivan, Brendan Hague (Bee's Barbecue OTR), Thomas Allen, Rosemary Bootes, Mahmoud Shobair, Doug McKelvey

Vice President Alan Bunker called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and welcomed our new members.

Monthly reports:

Captain **Adam Hennie**, Cincinnati Police Department, spoke about the recent violent activities in the Downtown area and plans to address it. Plans include adding 10-15 extra officers on the streets from 3-9PM each weekday. Additionally, Police and city leaders are working with our city prosecutors. They have also met with the Superintendent of the public schools who is giving support in dealing with these juveniles. City leaders and the police are also working with the Dohn Charter school and Cincinnati Metro to determine how best to transport students home after school.

Captain Hennie noted the Chief of Police identified an officer, for the next six months, who will be present at the initial juvenile court appearance to professionally articulate to the Magistrate what the juvenile has done. The intent is to provide the facts to the judge to assist in determining how to prosecute the case.

Captain Hennie reported most of the juveniles who jumped a person on Sixth street have been identified. All parties involved in the Race Street homicide have also been identified.

Captain Hennie introduced Lisa Dotson, our neighborhood liaison for the Central Business section. Lisa's role will be responsible for quality-of-life issues, violence trends and reporting findings and recommendations to Captain Hennie. She's been with the CPD since 1996.

Finally, Captain Hennie addressed multiple questions from the audience regarding juveniles with multiple arrests, thresholds for releasing juveniles, and how members can get involved by writing letters to elected officials and judges.

Alan Bunker spoke for the Cincinnati Fire Department. He reminded everyone about the fire department's monthly newsletter and free smoke detectors.

Alex Martin of 3CDC thanked everyone for donations made to the winter coat drive. She noted the Ambassadors start mulching in March and spoke about power washing 4th street more frequently.

DRC Reports

Treasurer's Report-

Tricia Lynn - Starting DRC balance 1/1/2024: \$8,357.72 with a closing bank balance on 1/25/2024 of \$8,956.38, less no outstanding checks leaves a DRC balance of \$8,956.38.

Social Committee-

Mary Heimert reminded members about the social at Nation following tonight's meeting.

New Business:

Neighborhood Support Program (NSP- Monies 2024: DRC Recommendation Final

Disbursement

Tricia Lynn, Treasurer, reviewed how NSP monies will be allocated in 2024 and asked for a vote of approval. With a show of hands, the recommendation was unanimously approved by all 53 in attendance.

<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

Tricia spoke about the request for pantry items from the School for Creative and Performing Arts (SCPA). Although the request doesn't fit properly with NSP guidelines, we can invite them to a future meeting and determine if members may want to donate to the pantry.

Speakers:

Seth Harmon introduced speaker **Staci Bell**, Community Cultivation Manager and **Natalie Young**, Community Engagement Manager of **ProKids**. They shared a video describing how the organization is an advocate for children. As a ProKids Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer one becomes an expert on a child, connecting families, school professions and the court so every child has support they need. Volunteers are provided with 30 hours of training and asked to commit for one year. The monthly time commitment is about 10 hours. They asked if anyone is interested in volunteering to please contact ProKids.

Announcements

Margaret Swallow from the Cincinnati World Cinema spoke about upcoming documentaries/films. She invited everyone to come see a show.

Dylan Lurk, a representative from Bridge Forward, called on everyone who supports the vision to voice support to the Cincinnati Mayor and city council.

Morgan Rigaud from Skate Cincinnati invited everyone to the OTR rec center to roller skate.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 6 p.m. (First Financial Innovation Center)