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**Downtown Residents’ Council, Inc.**

**October 2024 - MONTHLY MEMBER MEETING MINUTES**

**Date:** October 8, 2024 @ 6:00pm

**Place:** First Financial Innovation Room, 4th and Vine Streets

**New members:** The Mercantile Apts – Katie Gillespie (Village Green), Heather/Jason Rinsky,

Iain and Sue Cartwright

President Jackie Bryson called the meeting to order at 6:03PM and welcomed our new members.

**Monthly reports:**

**Sara Bedinghaus**, 3CDC, provided an update on upper OTR developments and Findlay Rec Center. They are taking a comprehensive look at Elder and Vine Streets to bring more amenities to the area. Plans call for constructing a new Findlay Community Center at the park location. Crossroads Health Center will move into the former Rec Center at 1715 Vine Street. Vacant buildings South of Findlay Park on Vine Street will be renovated to provide housing and retail space. Other OTR developments include enhancing the street scape North of Vine Street.

Sara spoke about street scape projects in the Central Business District. These include improving the exterior of the Mercantile and former Chong buildings. The liquor store across from Government Square on Fifth Street is moving to Fourth and Walnut Streets.

**DRC Committee Reports:**

**Treasurer’s Report**

Tricia Lynn reviewed the Treasurer’s report - ﻿Starting balance 9/1/2024: $12,140.27 with closing balance of 12,148.62 less allocated funds $438.36 leaving a DRC balance of $11,710.26. Tricia reminded members to submit suggestions for non-profits to financially support through the Neighborhood Support Program (NSP) in 2025. Suggestion forms were supplied at the meeting. She will communicate how the funds will be distributed in January 2025.

**Social Committee**

Mary Heimertwelcomed everyone to the next social at Willow Run scheduled for October 15th at 5:30PM. The annual Holiday party is scheduled for December 9th at Prime Cincinnati, 6-9PM.

**Old Business:**

**Approval of August Member Meeting Minutes:**

Tricia Lynn motioned to approve the minutes, Esther Wing seconded, and all voted in favor.

**New Business:**

Jackie spoke about the DRC member survey that is done every two-years. The purposes of the survey are to give the DRC feedback on what’s working, what’s not working and other things you want the DRC to focus on. It will be distributed in November 2024.

Jackie spoke about 2025 Board member opportunities where a minimum of six positions will be available starting in April 2025. She asked anyone interested to contact her or other Board members.

Kurt Grossman provided an update on the Downtown traffic calming location recommendation made to the city by the DRC. Our recommended location (Aronoff Center at 7th and Walnut Streets) was not selected for funding in 2025. Forty councils submitted recommendations but only nine were selected.

**Speakers:**

Jackie introduced speaker **Ella Uhler**, Cincinnati Main Library. Ella provided a map of the Downtown Library, literature on upcoming events and list of resources available. The library wants to have a larger impact in the community. A member gave a shout out to the Beer and Books Club at Taqueria Mercado event hosted by the library.

Ella also handed out a 2024 Hamilton County voter guide provided by the League of Women Voters.

**Announcements**:

**Katie Gillespie**, Mercantile Apartments Sales Manager, announced the Mercantile Apartments are now accepting applications for the 172 available apartments located at 4th and Walnut Streets.

**Chef Bob (Robert)**, Vintage on Race, invited everyone to the upscale sports bar located at 500 Race Street.

**Morgan Rigaud** invited anyone interested in photography to an open house Friday, 10/11 at 1435 Main Street (5-8PM).

**Esther** **Wing** informed members she coordinates postings to the DRC Facebook page. Please contact her if you want anything posted.

**Jay** **Joyce**, Hamilton County volunteer, asked for volunteers to help with the election in November. If interested, go to the Board of Elections website to volunteer.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 pm.

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