

OTR Community Council
DRAFT Minutes for Meeting, April 24, 2017

23 Members attending based on voting.

Board members attending: Mike Bootes, Bill Cappel, Matt Jacob, Joan Kaup, David Macejko, Amy Silver, Bob Sehlhorst, Maurice Waggoner, Mark Manley, Cassandra Barham, John Walter

Board members not attending: Martha Good, Domonique Peebles

Meeting called to order by President Bob Sehlhorst at 6:03 pm. Agenda. David Macejko motioned to follow the agenda as posted. Mark Manley seconded and Motion passed.

Police Report. Officer Rock. Police Officer Rock and Captain Davis from District 1 provided their monthly report. Officer Rock reported that two arrests had been made in connection with a series of more than 13 Breaking & Enterings. Rickie Robinson was one of those apprehended. Captain Davis mentioned stepped up traffic patrols in the 15th and Vine area south of Liberty near Kroger. These efforts are being implemented to stem an increase in traffic/pedestrian mishaps. Captain Davis explained that increased focus on crime and prevention were returning to the Findlay Park, and Grant Park. Included in the stepped up activity in the areas is greater lighting.

Minutes. David Macejko Motioned to approve March membership minutes; a second was made. Discussion ensued. Margy Waller noted minutes could not be accessed via cell phone. Bill Cappel explained the previous OTRCC Web administrator had not included that feature in programming the site. Bill added that until he can discuss this obstacle with the previous programmer he could not make adjustments for mobile phone access. (**POST MEETING NOTE: This issue has been fixed.**) Peter Hames and others complained about the ineffective distribution of minutes electronically and suggested pushing the minutes to members via e-mail and by snail mail. President Selhorst referenced the bi-laws that supported the Board was in compliance with requirements for distribution of minutes electronically. David Macejko complimented Bill Cappel on his successes with web site and Facebook viability and suggested at some point members wishing to preview minutes in advance of Membership Meetings should assume some level of responsibility and be proactive in their efforts to find them on a computer or on Face Book. Perhaps contacting a Board Member including Bill Cappel could improve communications. An OTRCC Member stated he did not have access to a computer or a Facebook Page. March meeting minutes were not approved.

Pedestrian Streetscape Grant. Julie Fay asked for letter of support from membership on behalf of Main Street Merchants. The Street Scape Grant is intended to improve

traffic flow and pedestrian access along Main Street north of 12th. The membership supported a motion to provide the Letter of Support.

Proposed increase to Cincinnati Budget and Letter of Support from Membership.

Peter Hames asked membership to override OTR Board vote opposed to a letter of support for asking the City of Cincinnati to fund an additional @\$1.7 million over three years by creating a paid position within the City Administration for a Citizen's Engagement Director overseeing an Office of Neighborhood Investment and Engagement. Peter provided a three-page document with history on City's neighborhood support and detail on the proposed budget increase. He also shared his thoughts on how the additional @\$1.7 million over three fiscal years would improve the current functions of the Neighborhood Councils. Several current Board Members including Joan Kaup, David Macejko, Bill Cappel and Matt Jacobs provided their rationale for non-support during discussion and other members of the community spoke in support of Peter's plan. A motion was made to override the OTRCC Board's recommendation to not support this proposed Cincinnati Budget Increase and provide the requested letter of Support. A motion was made and seconded to override the Board's recommendation and to provide a letter endorsing the program and the increased funding. The motion passed 16 for and 7 against.

Community Style Living Kunst Development request for letter of support. At the last Board of Trustees meeting, OTRCC Board recommended the council membership provide a letter of support to John Blatchford and Kunst development's plans for properties at 57 E McMicken, 1662 Hamer, 1714 Vine and 1663 Hamer. John Blatchford and Kunst were unable to attend today.

Rothenberg School. Principal Amber Simpson/Barbara Bell did not appear.

School for Creative and Performing Arts, Holly Brians Ragusa, President PTSO.

Holly also did not appear, but did provide a list of all May FREE Concerts and Performances scheduled at SCPA and President Bob Selhorst read her report. The SCPA is in its final month of school and students are busy as the academic exams and artistic board exams as well as many concerts are beginning! Here are dates for upcoming performances and we hope to see you at an SCPA performance soon!

SCPA thanks Margy Waller for reaching out to inform SCPA students about opportunities and rules to follow to perform on the streets of Cincinnati!

FREE Concerts and Performances: May 2017

- 5/2 Mayerson Artistic Excellence Program - Brass & Percussion Mayerson (7-9pm)
- 5/2 Vocal Concert, Corbett (7-9pm)
- 5/2 PTSO Meetings, Library Exec Board 5:30pm & General 6:30pm
- 5/4 Beginning & Interm Band, Orchestra 1,2,3, Corbett (7-9pm)

- 5/4 Piano Duet Recital, Grades 4-12, Mayerson (7-9pm)
- 5/5 Jazz Ensembles with PARIMBA, Mayerson (7-9pm)
- 5/8 *Duet du Jour* SCPA Symphonic Band & Queen City Concert Band, Corbett (7pm)
- 5/9 Orchestra 3A, Junior & Concert Band Concert, Corbett (7-9pm)
- 5/10 Senior Dance Choreography, Corbett (7-9pm)
- 5/12 Class Day - Senior Walk (begins 9:20am)
- 5/15 SCPA Graduation, Taft Theater (7pm)
- 5/16 Vocal Recital, Mayerson (6-9pm)
- 5/17 Guitar Studio Recital, Black Box (7-8pm)

May 11th Corbett Mayerson Concert at SCPA \$25 tickets available on

<https://scpacpsk12.weshareonline.org/CorbettMayersonAwards>

City of Cincinnati Council Candidate Laure Quinlivan was unable to attend.

Nominating Committee. Michael Basch, Chair of the Nominating Committee could not attend. President Bob received and provided Mike's report. Applications for Board Membership can be made on line. Self-nomination is also acceptable. Currently the term is for 2 years. Must be a resident of OTR and member in good standing. Peter Hames has graciously volunteered to join Michael Basch and Kathy Schwab on the nominating committee. Election by secret ballot is on June 23.

Proposed By Law Changes: Review Only- vote at May Meeting – Martha Good.

Martha was not in attendance. President Bob made members aware that the proposed by law changes developed over the last several months are available in draft form on line and by hard copy. Discussion followed about proposed staggered terms and voting for these changes without adequate time to review changes such as a proposed quorum increase to 25 members versus the current level of 12. Peter Hames pointed out that the current bi-laws would prevent voting on the changes in May because the 24th of April puts us 29 days away from the next meeting and 30 days are required. Bill Cappel suggested such a stringent interpretation did not serve the spirit of the bi-laws or the purpose of the organization. President Bob indicated a willingness to consider voting after the May meeting, but suggested that would be problematic to the recommended change of staggered Board Member terms. Comments turned to having suggestions and comments sent to the OTRCC Facebook page. Another OTRCC member discouraged the practice of publishing grandfathered member's names in the Bi-Laws. Hard copies of the proposed changes were made available. Bill Cappel said comments could be made on the OTRCC FB page, but our web site does not have that capacity. President Bob joined Bill in encouraging members to comment or e-mail the committee or board members well in advance of the May meeting.

Imagination Alley Committee, Bob Sehlhorst. OTRCC Committee met with board President of Cincinnati Recreation Commission and others. Imagination Alley, land owned by CRC, has been a public gathering place for years. CRC will facilitate design charrettes in the community about improvements to the park.-OTRCC will publicize the charrette when it is scheduled. President Bob reported that charrettes facilitated by

CRC would be held on May 17th and May 24th from 5:30pm to 7pm at Rothenberg School.

Julie Fischer of The Play Library at 1507 Elm Street and www.playlibrary.org brought the membership up to date on her relocation after a successful launch at the Liberty Foundation's Pop Up Space last year. Julie asked for, not only, financial support, but volunteers. A month long membership for \$15 allows children of OTR to take toys home, like books from the library. She commented that the Library is bringing families and children who are long time residents together with new residents and their children thru the Library. David Macejko spoke favorably of Julie's non-profit and passion and suggested OTR Members make efforts thru their networks to solicit financial support and volunteers.

PLATTE Architects status update Race Street/Washington Park New Construction. Platte Architects shared preliminary and fluid plans for development of a 22 unit apartment building and first floor restaurant on Race Street across from Washington Park and adjacent to The Cincinnati Bell Connector stop. PLATTE stated the plans are being revised after discussions with City Planning. He provided renderings of the original plans used for discussions with the city. Platte, representing the Steiner Development and current owners of the parcels, in partnership, are seeking variances in parking requirements and density. Those discussions are on going and PLATTE wanted to share the status with OTRCC Members. Josh Spring asked about inclusion of Affordable Housing Components and made it clear that if Steiner and his partners wanted community support they must include an affordable component in plans. Board Member Macejko spoke to other Steiner Developments in Columbus and Liberty Township and their design based on multi use faculties in a well-planned walking community environment. He also spoke to the Steiner practice of using funds from parking revenue and other sources to support community needs. Bonnie Neumeier asked if he the Architect had reviewed the OTR Community Plan and suggested he and Steiner and their partners would be best served by taking into account this Plan.

Proposed Street Name Change Doug Newberry shared efforts to change the names of Republic and Stonewall back to their pre WWII names. Republic was known as Bremen. He mentioned the rational behind the changes centered fear of espionage thru using the German street names. A letter of support would help this cause.

OTR Soapbox Derby revival Doug proceeded with a summary of efforts to revive previously well attended and enjoyed Soap Box Derby races in OTR and elsewhere. Doug mentioned pending races in Madisonville, Golf Manner, College Hill and Saint Bernard. OTRCC Board member Mike Bootes, OTR's answer to the Penske Racing Machine, provided historical background and ways teams can enter and build a car. Volunteers to help youngsters build cars and execution and organization of events are being sought.

Joan Kaup invited the OTRCC Membership and community to participate in April's Final Friday thru the Art Academy's and Candy Chang's "Before I Die" public art project. A chalk board will appear adjacent to the Art Academy at 12th and Jackson and folks are encouraged contemplate their pending exit and to fill in the blank " Before I Die, _____." A wise suggestion, maybe better served with thought every time our feet hit the floor each morning.

David Macejko motioned to adjourn; seconded by Denny Dellinger. Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.