

Over the Rhine Community Council May Meeting

DRAFT Meeting minutes for 5/22/2017

35 members and 20 guests attending the meeting at the OTR Rec Center at 1715 Republic Street.

Board members present: Amy Silver, Bill Cappel, Robert Sehlhorst, John Walter, Maurice Wagoner, Mark Manley, Mike Bootes, Cassandra Barham

Meeting Agenda: Motion to approve agenda made by Tanya Riley and seconded by Katrina Lackey. Agenda approved.

Police Report District One: Police have identified the top ten violent offenders. A portable lighting unit has been set up on McMicken at Grant Park. Have received no complaints about the light so far despite its brightness. Arrests are being made in regards to the heroin epidemic every day, but it is a near impossible task to keep up with and there is somewhat of a revolving door for offenders. Investigations are ongoing. Liquor Licenses up for renewal are being communicated to Board of Trustees. Graffiti vandal "Bug" has left the area.

Approval of previous meeting minutes: John Walter motioned to approve the revised meeting minutes from March and April meeting minutes and Cassandra Barham seconded. Minutes approved with one in opposition.

Nomination Committee: The election for the Over the Rhine Board of Trustees will be held at the June meeting. Per our bylaws the nomination committee has been formed with Mike Basch as the chair. Peter Hames has volunteered to be on the nomination committee. Mark Manley motioned to add Peter and Josh Spring seconded. Motion carries. There is still one additional vacancy on the nomination committee.

NSP funding cut: The city manager has proposed to cut NSP funding to the OTRCC by 25%, from \$7,700 to \$5,775. Peter Hames has created a resolution to oppose the city manager's plan to cut NSP funding. Peter Hames motioned to approve the resolution and Myra Greenburg seconded. Motion Carries.

Board of Trustees Election: The 21 nominees for the 2017 OTRCC Board of Trustees were announced. 22 nomination forms were submitted by the April deadline, but Robert Copeland has withdrawn from consideration. Marlene Romer was nominated from the floor. Anthony Bradford was nominated from the floor by Mike Basch. Nomination forms for the new nominees are due May 30th. The nomination committee will meet to develop a plan to run the election next month. This includes plans for distributing ballots to eligible voters, counting the votes, etc. per Peter's list of concerns. The plan will be presented at the Board of Trustees meeting June 12th.

Proposed OTRCC Bylaw changes: The Board of Trustees decided at their last meeting to postpone action in regards to revising the bylaws until after the next Board of Trustees election in June. After the election a committee will be formed to address this issue.

Mohawk neighborhood strategic plan: Steve Hampton presented. The Mohawk Neighborhood Plan is being developed as a flow down of the Brewery District plan, which in itself flows down from the Over the Rhine Comprehensive Plan. The City of Cincinnati's planning department has all documents developed so far included on their website: <https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/planning/planning-projects->

[studies/mohawk-area-plan/](#) The plan addresses neighborhood assets/challenges, big ideas, the business district, parking and zoning, connectivity and pedestrian experience, and development appropriate for the neighborhood. A community engagement meeting was held May 9th, but the website is still available to submit comments: <https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/planning/planning-projects-studies/mohawk-area-plan-feedback/> The next meeting of the Mohawk neighborhood steering committee meeting will be held in late September, and the plan will be shared with the community in October and then submitted to city council for a vote. The Mohawk plan is a subset of OTR Comprehensive plan, but does not specifically restate the principles of the OTR Comprehensive plan.

Imagination Alley: A community engagement session was held on May 17th, with an additional engagement session scheduled for Wednesday May 24th. CRC proposed several options for of Imagination Alley. Some restoration work has been done and landscaping performed by 3CDC who has extended their lease to 2018. They are also working with Model Group on the drainage issue on the parcel of land they own. Myra Greenburg noted that the engagement session could not properly be described as a design charrette. Bonnie Neumeier stated that the critical decision to be made is in regards to the general status of the parcels: will they be maintained as a public park or not? The community engagement session outcomes will be presented to the OTRCC.

Laure Quinlivan: Laure Quinlivan is running for City Council again. She spoke about some of the recent history of OTR. She mentioned affordable housing in the neighborhood, Imagination Alley and ways she can help.

Before I die Art Project: Erika Allen, a student at the Art Academy, has led the installation of this public art project at 12th and Jackson. People share dreams and goals as a positive reaffirmation of life. Wall is cleaned daily. The project was sponsored by the OTRCC and the Art Academy would like to thank us for the participation and support. The project will be there throughout the summer.

John Donaldson made the motion to adjourn and John Walter seconded.