November 27, 2017

Annual thanksgiving dinner at 5pm

6:00pm

Motion to approve meeting agenda with amendment Tim Mara moves, Peter Hames seconds, and motion carries

The group sang Happy Birthday to Michael Flood

Bob gave thanks to all the people who made the Thanksgiving meal happen. Thanks to TruPartner Credit Union and OTR Community Church for funds for the meal, Freestore Foodbanks Cinti Cooks for the sides, Iris for the vegan options and other local vendors for the rest of the meal. Thanks especially to Walter and Bob for organizing this.

Community Motion to recognize and thank the OTR Community Church for tonight’s Thanksgiving dinner

Elm St Health Center-manager of the health center came to introduce herself. Gauri Wadhwa came to briefly introduce herself and to share what the clinic provides to the community.

**Motion to approve the October Minute Minutes and Treasurers report** Bill moves with adjustment in committee reports on Community Development, (Bill will share this edit with Amy and she will update the October minutes to reflect this.) Julie Fay seconds. Motion carries

Cincinnati Police-officer Davis gave a brief report. Crime is down overall. 1509 Race has a new restaurant, Poke Hut that is seeking to develop outdoor sidewalk seating. There was a question about how much this would go into the sidewalk-CPD will get that information to the OTRCC. Maurice asked for input from the council on how or if we would like to weigh in on this sidewalk seating. **John made a motion to give a letter of approval for this outside seating. Bill seconds motion.** Discussion- Bonnie shared concern about pedestrian safety getting around the outside eating areas. Mr. Andrews from the City’s Department of Transportation said that his office monitors the permitting of these spaces. Complaints can be directed to 591-6000. Denny Dellinger objected that this request should not have been brought to an immediate vote as the request did not follow the accepted process of requesting input from the community council. That process is the person requesting a response would do the following:
1. Send a letter to the president, requesting to make a presentation to the council.
2. The president will assign the task to an appropriate committee.
3. The committee would hear the request, then ask questions or for any additional information.
4. The committee will report to the board.
5. The board will decide how to respond, and will generally present the request to the general membership.
6. The membership will hear the presentation from the person making the request, ask questions, then vote on the issue.
Denny also commented that both the sidewalk seating and the sign, require permits from the City. The City has regulations for both signs and outdoor seating. These laws should first be applied, and should not become an issue to be approved by the Community Council, unless there are site specific issues that would impact safety and convenience of pedestrians using the sidewalk **All in favor 6, all opposed 14. Motion fails.**

**Peter moves that we invite the business to the OTRCC to share a presentation about their plans with their sign and the intended use of the sidewalk, Josh seconds.** Motion carries

Rothenberg-Barbara Bell gave update-95 families were given holiday support this Thanksgiving from the school. Testing is happening currently at the school. The “Dolphin Tank” is coming up for the 6th graders at the school where they pitch their business ideas- Dec 7th is the date of the event. Ms. Bell is looking for 4 community judges. They are looking for donations for their Falcon Bucks Store (especially items for families as the kids are shopping for families for the holidays.)

SCPA-Holly was not present at this meeting
Discussion of New Business

1. Proposal to explore the establishment of a service improvement district (SID) in Over-the-Rhine-Annette Wick and Stephanie Gaither were not present. We will move this to the next agenda.

2. Request for a zoning variance for a ground-floor commercial use at 1432 Elm St: Brad Roebke, 3CDC. The current zoning does not allow for any commercial use in this space. Seeking a use variance for office, mercantile or personal service. This variance does not include use for a restaurant or bar. The commercial space will rent for $16 per square feet. This space would roughly rent for $14,000 per year. After some discussion 3CDC said they would remove the variance request for mercantile use after concerns about the sale of alcohol. There was conversation about the need for more neighborhood serving businesses. Bonnie asked Brad to take this issue back to 3CDC to look at future storefront use as this issue of equitable development can’t be addressed.

Motion to accept the board’s recommendation to send a letter of support to the Historic Conservation Board. Tim Mara Moves, Jason Miller seconds. 15 in favor, 13 against. Motion carries.

3. Presentation regarding the Over-the-Rhine Foundation’s design standards for infill construction in the OTR Historic district-Jennifer LeMasters Wertz. Shared some history about the Foundation and past projects around OTR. Shared presentation about the current vague historic guidelines and the OTR Foundations proposed recommendations on more clear guidelines, omit uncertainty in the document. A technical consultant is currently working over the OTR Foundation’s documents to continue to move it forward. The project schedule moving forward will include public input sessions, document design and design competition. Feb 18 will most likely be the timeframe of the first input session. Members of the infill committee include about 20 people. The OTR foundation will share a list with the OTRCC on the members of the infill committee in addition to the power point presentation.

Motion to accept the board’s recommendation to send a letter to the OTR foundation supporting its work to establish design standards for infill development in OTR. Josh Moves, Peter seconds. 2 against. Motion carries.

Committee Reports

A. Housing and economic development: Julie Fay-the committee is working on updating the OTR Housing study. Liz Bloom will attend the next committee meeting. Continuing to work on intermediate CRA-there will be a subcommittee for this topic. Also working on criteria for developers coming before the OTRCC seeking approval. Dec 6th at 6pm is next meeting date at Chatfield.

B. Operations and Structure, Printer Update, roles and protocols-Danny. Update on meeting protocols to make committee meetings run more efficiently. Next meeting December 1st at 1pm at Chatfield.

C. Parking and Transportation-Stefan- this committee has had 3 meetings since last OTRCC meeting. Met with OTRCH, parking enforcement, regular meeting in November at Chatfield. Next meeting at December 7th at 6pm at Chatfield.

   a. Motion to ratify the board’s approval of the resolution supporting the Liberty St Safety project with requests for further action. Peter Hames moves, Myra Seconds. Discussion: Stefan shared concerns about the loss of 100 parking spaces with this proposal. Conversation about the park owned green space at Elm and Liberty. An OTRCC member shared her experience of the use of that park-wary of any development on that land moving forward. This was clarified that this park issue is a separate issue from the Liberty St issue. Tim shared concerns about the need to act now due to the projects timeline and that this process has been thoroughly vetted over the past few years by the OTRCC and this committee. Thanks to Mathew from Transportation for his work with the OTRCC in this process. Josh moves Amendment to motion: Urge the City to work to replace the 75-100 spaces lost by the Liberty Street project and complete a comprehensive parking study for Over-the-Rhine. Myra seconds. Motion carries.

D. Public Services and Safety-Bob met with Keep Cincinnati Beautiful recently about blight, trash and graffiti in 20 specific lots. Talked about block watch for OTR businesses and residents to take ownership of spaces. Next meeting will be in the middle of December TBD. More to come in January about block watch.

E. Outreach and Engagement-Walter introduced Valarie Dowell who will be co-chairing the committee with Walter moving forward.

F. FY 2018 Neighborhood Support Program (NSP)-Key Beck-encouraged people to take a look at the NSP documents to see if they have a project they want to submit. Myra spoke about interest in working on a
beautification project-needing partnerships to look at ways we can use these funds on beautification-in Imagination Alley for example or other pocket parks. We have $6,800 to spend with NSP.

Motion to adjourn: Josh Moves. Bob Seconds. Motion carries. Meeting ends at 8:17.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amy Silver
OTRCC Secretary