



Membership Meeting Minutes

Meeting Held via Zoom

July 27, 2020

1. Welcome-Maurice . Motion to approve the agenda. Josh moves. Peter seconds. Motion carries.
2. Updates (3 minutes)
 - a. Census Campaign-We All Count-Casey Weldon-City Manager's office. Kicking off rapid response strategy to blitz Over-the-Rhine and downtown. They know that the census may have fallen off folks' plate and they are trying to bring awareness. Will be collecting info in a socially distant and safe way. Really want an accurate count.
 - b. 2020 Election-Mike-upcoming election is very important-please reached out to your neighbors to encourage them to vote. You can update and verify your voters information now.
 - c. Cornerstone-Renter Equity Program-Alisa Berry-Rent to residents in the Over the Rhine area. Alisa shared a short presentation on their program. Been running the renter equity since 2002. Aberry@csequity.org
 - d. Danny-BOT opening announcement-vacancy on the BOT. One spot we need to fill. We will send out the application forms in an email blast. Please send interest to the board.
3. Officer Reports
 - a. President
 - i. Findlay Park updates-the fences have been taken down. Thanks for all the efforts of neighbors, community partners, and many folks. We succeeded in getting the fences down as the space was going unused and it was needed. Maurice shared the motion from PJ Satterfield below:

MOTION:

WE MOVE that Findlay Playground - which was closed and gated for a period of nearly two years due to safety concerns - should be a flourishing, shared public space that increases safety and quality of life for the surrounding community.

WE MOVE that with the recent re-opening of Findlay Playground, in order to ensure a successful, sustainable, equitable future, that the City Administration draft and present to City Council a plan which accomplishes and includes the following:

- Uses Downtown/OTR TIF dollars to repair, revitalize, and upgrade the park portion of the property
- Considers also potentially including in the upgrades plans for a new, improved, and more appropriately-scaled OTR Recreation Center and revitalizing nearby Grant Park
- While TIF dollars are not eligible for operating expenses, a proposal should also include a plan for programming the space
- Ensures an outcome which is equitable and embraced by the community by establishing a Steering Committee comprised of representatives from each of the following groups: 1) Cincinnati Recreation Commission 2) Cincinnati City Council 3) Over-the-Rhine Community Council 4) City of Cincinnati Administration 5) Residents from immediately around Findlay Playground (some of whom should be low-income) 6) Over-the-Rhine Chamber of Commerce 7) Our Daily Bread 8) Affordable Housing Advocates; 9) 3CDC 10) Findlay Market

There were some comments from members. Peter suggested that we speak with the downtown residents council as we would need to vote on any TIF dollars allocated to the park. Sheila Quarles had some ideas and wanted to talk more with Maurice about them.

- b. Secretary-Amy -
Motion to approve June Minutes-Julie moves. Key seconds. Mike suggested that we add something about it being a zoom meeting and document the attendance. Motion carries.
 - c. Treasurer-Mike-no major updates.
Motion to approve the June report. Carissa moves. Bonnie seconds. Motion carries.
 - d. NSP-Key-no major updates. Projects and paperwork are being wrapped up. Key is working on finalizing the transfer of NSP funds from one line item to another due to the pandemic.
 Key is going to be stepping down as the NSP manager and looking for someone to think about stepping up to be the NSP manager.
4. New Business (10 minutes max please unless otherwise noted)
- a. Imagination Alley/3CDC (15 minutes)-Adam Gelter 3CDC.
 Shared a presentation. The city put out an RFP for someone to manage imagination alley. 3CDC was the only group to apply. Whatever happens they want to make sure that it is a community approach. Proposing some physical improvements. Some ideas for programming. Dedicated Ambassador zone. Talked about the potential ideas
 Key asked about seating in the space and asked about hours? Adam is open to what people want to see. Thinks there needs to be seating in many forms.
 The SID voting is still ongoing- Special improvement district. Still ongoing. Will update the council when that concludes.
 The property is owned by the city mostly.
 Bonnie shared-Pretty clear that our community council wanted this to stay a public park. Wanted it to be for neighborhood people, not nightlife focused. Want to keep it a passive park. Want the park to be welcoming to neighborhood people. Did 3CDC change their minds about 24 public events (once proposed?)-Adam agreed to the point of not overpowering the space. What kind of programming do POAH families want? Want to work with Peaslee on art enhancements. Want to bring more resources. Don't want to criminalize people hanging out in the park.
 What is the best platform to share ideas about the Alley? How can people engage with 3CDC? Adam will talk with his staff and will come up with a more concrete plan to engage with people on ideas.
 Kelly Carr said in the deed to imagination alley the city has committed to keep that a public space –peter
 - b. 1623 Pleasant St-John Blatchford-gave presentation.
 Looking to develop 1623 Pleasant-currently owned by the city. Kunst developer only group that responded to the city's RFP. Plan to renovate to 5 one bedroom and 3 studio apartments. Relatively affordable-1 bedroom affordable to someone making \$15 an hour, studio affordable to someone making \$12 an hour.
 Has John filled out the equitable development rubric yet? Yes John did fill that out and submitted it to Julie. We will share that on the website and in email blast.
Motion to recommend letter of support for the sale of City-owned historic building at 1623 Pleasant St and approval of their request for tax abatement. Mike Bootes moved. Matt Jacobs seconds.
 there was some more discussion
 estimated construction costs-1.16 million total costs . they will apply for state and historic tax cuts and tax abatement from the city.
 Motion-14 in favor, 8 against
 - c. 120 W Elder-Mark Bruggeman-sole proprietor. Architect and builder. Vacant shell-ladder access only currently. 2 habitable floors will be made into 3 bedroom single family. Cited the OTR Comprehensive plan for the development of single family homes. Not been a resident in the building since 1975. Proud of this project as a mom and pop developer.
 BOT oversight to not have this on the agenda as a voting item that needed a letter of support. No ability to vote on it tonight as a result.
 Ryan Dyson with the city shared the city's perspective on the difficulty of the site and how affordability was overlooked in this instance due to the other factors in this development.
 - d. **Motion** to ratify board's approval of \$800 in funds to support and increase participation in the census through a creative process to be led by Margy.

Danny moves. Carissa Seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

- e. Inquiry concerning in-time participation from members at Bot meetings?-refer this to the operations and structure.

5. Committee Reports

- a. Operations and Structure-in an effort to be more transparent we want to open up our BOT meetings on the zoom platform. This platform allows more folks to engage with us. Thus far the BOT meetings have been for board only with facebook live hosting the feed. However moving forward we will open the BOT meetings to the membership and will try to facilitate open discussion in a constructive and engaging way. The meetings will still be shared via facebook live.
will look at polling and roll calls to better run voting during membership meetings.
- b. Economic Development and Housing-Julie Fay
 - i. Property Tax Working Group- this has been active for a year and a half. Very active working group.

Motion to send letter to recommend the City adopt an "intermediate Community Reinvestment Area (CRA)" tax abatement to property improvements by developers of small projects. This would apply the "Residential CRA " guidelines to the typical OTR building, (4 to 8 units, or small residential over commercial,) This would encourage diversity, increase jobs for small contractors and small developers. Letter would go to Property Tax Working Group, City Council, City Manager, Mayor.

Maurice moves approval. Matt Jacobs seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

TIF updates-Peter –David Mann has an ordinance that is supposed to increase community engagement in the TIF process. There is a draft of this now-it has to be modified to include PJs motion to dedicate 25% of revenue to go towards affordable housing. Peter is still waiting on the final ordinance.

- c. Parking and Transportation-Margy
 - i. **Motion** to oppose the requested extension of FCC animated LED light to offsite advertisers. We also oppose 365 days a year until 1am. A letter will be sent to the city.
Greg here to present from FCC-Shared a presentation. Shared animation of what the stadium may look like. Demonstrated the lighting-called bstick(?) technology-coordinated animation across the entire façade of the stadium. Part of zoning development language (time and length of light). On non-game days a more passive animation is what they intend to project.
Greg discussed the timeline/schedule of the process.
Talked about ambient light and lack of impact of the stadiums light on the existing experience. No sound associated with the lights at all.
Margy asked for the names of the people on the design committee and the FCC reps were not able to come up with that list
Josh moves. Amy seconds. Final discussion . 30 in favor. 1 opposed.
Motion carries
 - ii. **Motion** to send a letter to city council regarding reopening the streetcar-margy moves. Holly seconds. Motion carries
 - iii. Discuss issues related to event planning for soccer stadium-this committee reached out to the city in May or June to gauge what things will look like-traffic, management of people flow, clean up, street closure, etc.
Please share comments or questions regarding this topic-send to the board.
1st Thursday of the month at 6pm via zoom. Let bot know if you want to join.
 - iv. **Motion:** Parking and Transportation Committee recommends name change to Quality of Life and Infrastructure.
Carissa moves. Josh seconds. no discussion . motion carries.

- 6. Motion to Adjourn-Danny moves. Carissa seconds. all in favor!

Meeting adjourned at 9:11pm

Note: This was a virtual community council meeting held over Zoom and shared via Facebook live.
Participation: 53 total