



“Brewing success in our community”

Notes of April 9, 2008 meeting

Meeting was hosted by Mike and Doug Bootes at the OTR Boatworks, 132 East McMicken Avenue.

Agenda items:

1. - 3. After socializing, Steve Hampton called the meeting to order at 5:55. Introductions of all in attendance commenced and sincere thanks was extended to Mike and Doug Bootes for graciously hosting the meeting and for providing a variety of iced beer from the Christian Moerlein label. The next meeting will be at Novel Whole Home Services, 24-28 West McMicken Avenue.
4. No one had comments on previous meeting minutes of the March meeting so the minutes were approved.
5. Duane Donohoo reported the current balance of our account which is around \$18,000. All tickets for the rescheduled Prohibition Resistance Tour have been sold despite the snow delay and the proceeds will further augment the balance.
6. Steve Hampton reported that our electronic mailing list now has over 400 contacts. He also urged members who have not yet renewed their membership for this year to do so and encouraged new members to join.
7. Steve Hampton continued with an outline for upcoming events. The rescheduled Prohibition Resistance Tour has shaped up nicely but additional volunteers would be appreciated to help out with the tour as well as staffing the Ale House. The Ale House will be held at 116 West Elder Street in Findlay Market from 10-7 on Saturday and 11-7 on Sunday. Also upcoming this Friday will be the unavailing of the Brewery District historical marker which was paid for by proceeds from last year's Ale Haus. Immediately following, all are invited to stay for the groundbreaking celebration of the Clyffside Brewery Condominium development at 244 West McMicken Avenue. Celebrations will continue after the ceremony complete with beer, mets and brats!
8. Steve Hampton followed with an update on the streetcar and turned the floor over to Brad Thomas who urged all members and supportive parties to urge city council to move forward with the proposal. Councilman John Crowley is considered to be the swing vote as council appears to be split on the issue at this point in time. Brad will also be promoting the streetcar initiative at the Ale Haus this weekend. A brief discussion of developments in City Hall and focused on the rift between extending the streetcar line uptown as part of the initial development phase.
9. Mike Bootes officially introduced the soapbox car named “The Rothenberg Rocket”. He gave an overview of the official kit that he assembled with the help of neighborhood kids. A driver has been chosen and is being trained. The OTR Foundation as well as the Brewery District have committed to sponsor the car in part but additional sponsors are still needed.
10. Mike Bootes and Steve Hampton then gave an update on the planning process for the rehabilitation of The Rothenberg School. The tireless efforts of everyone involved to revive the school have paid off and preliminary work has begun. All who are interested in providing input in the process are encouraged to join the working group's meeting on 17.April at 3pm and the design team's meeting on 23.April at 5pm. Both meetings will be held at the old Vine Street School. Brewery District Representatives are encouraged to attend as to fill the group in at the next meeting.

11. Mike Morgan and Steve reported that the original application submitted by the Freestore Foodbank to raze brewery related buildings to expand their operations was declined by The Historic Conservation Board. New plans will be submitted but exact details are not yet available but The Brewery District will continue to monitor.

12. An update on liquor license applications and renewals was given by Steve Hampton regarding establishments actively seeking renewals with high rates of civil disturbance in and or around their premises'. Testimony from the CPD will be heard at the April 15th meeting held in the council's chamber. Any person wishing to speak about this issue is encouraged to appear.

13. John Donaldson reported on the annual Great American Cleanup set for 26.April. In the past cleanup efforts where focused on and around Dunlap Street and although a target area has not yet been defined, volunteers are requested to help clean up the Brewery District.

14. Mike Morgan gave an update on The OTR Foundations "Green Historic Pilot Project" which aims to set a precedent for the sustainable rehabilitation of historic buildings. He briefly described the disconnect between environmentalists, preservationists and restoration contractors on the issue of energy efficiency in old buildings. The OTR Foundation is working with Hamilton County's Green Building Committee and UC's Niehoff Urban Design Studio to create practical and affordable models to facilitate the exchange of information between all parties involved with restoration of old buildings to create a mutual understanding of the aspects involved in order to make the continual reinvestments in OTR more sustainable.

15. As far as other business, the following topics where discussed.

a. The "GO OTR" 5k walk / run will be held on Saturday, 31.May and a proposal for a Brewery District walk / drink team was expressed. More information can be found at the OTR Chamber.

The meeting then adjourned around 7:30 pm.

The next meeting will be hosted by Levon Siler at 5:30pm on Wednesday,14.May. 2007, at Novel Whole Home Services, located between 24-28 West McMicken Avenue. The entrance will be marked by a Brewery District sidewalk sign.

Please visit the website www.otrbrewerydistrict.org for additional and updated information.