



“Brewing success in our community”

Notes of September 12, 2007 meeting

Meeting hosted by Doug Boots at the old Stenger’s Café Building at 1720 Vine St.

Paid members in attendance: Debby Mays, Vermell Perkins, Denny Dellinger, Mike Bootes, Doug Bootes, Omar Childress, Steve Hampton, Mike Morgan, Steve Pavlish, Fred and Gail Berger, Greg Badger, Jennifer Walke, Julie Fay, Brahma Ramineni

Future members in attendance: Capt. Ken Jones, ShaRon Wilson, Bobbi Wilson, Deab Zaidan, Linda Ziegler, Eric Himebaugh

Several people who attended the meeting did not sign up in spite of repeated requests to sign in.

Agenda items:

1 & 2 The meeting started with socializing and introductions. Doug did a terrific job of hosting and provided a variety of beers and cold cuts on the bar. Duane Donohoo led the meeting.

3. No one had comments on the August 8, 2007 meeting minutes, so the minutes were approved.
4. Captain Ken Jones reported on safety issues, saying that crime is up in OTR. From July 2006 to July 2007 part one crime is up 29.7% in OTR. He said he had been expecting to see increases and in part attributes it to the excessively hot weather. They also think they know an individual who is responsible for multiple crimes and hope to have him in custody soon. Capt. Jones also said that vice has been focusing on prostitution and 367 arrests have been made year to date in district 1, with 210 of those being in OTR. He said most of the women arrested are addicted to crack or heroin. He said the county has very few jail cells for women, so most are out shortly after being arrested and a lot of them know how to respond to avoid saying the specific magic words that can lead to an arrest. He also said there are 250 police officers assigned to OTR, not including sheriff’s deputies, and that 73% of arrests last year were people who were not residents of OTR. Suburban communities are seeing an increase in crime as crime is going down in OTR. Ken was asked if he knew anything about the sheriff’s patrols not continuing and if that would mean that the inmate work details may not continue as well, but he said he did not have any information in regards to that. He stressed that we need a new jail to house these offenders for a period of time and to get

them in to long term treatment programs as well, if we want to have an impact on this problem. He also said that another reason there is no space in the jail is because the county is required to house federal prisoners and that there are mandatory sentences required for all domestic violence and driving under the influence offenders. Many of these people take up jail space that could be used for violent offenders who may be released so there is space of the domestic violence and dui offenders. Ken also mentioned that there are 108 social service agencies in OTR.

5. Duane gave a treasurer's report. We had approximately \$6,000 in the bank, plus \$2,000 income from the Ale Haus event, for a total of \$8,000.
6. Steve Hampton gave a membership report, as Ted was not at the meeting. We have 45 paid members and over 300 people on our email distribution list. There is a membership application form on the website. The fee for this year is \$25.
7. Mike Morgan gave a report on the Ale Haus event, which was held Thursday thru Sunday, August 16 thru 19, 2007. The \$4,000 proceeds of this event will be split equally between The Brewery District and The Over the Rhine Foundation. We brought lots of good publicity to the area and had some coverage on Channel 19 news. Thanks to all the volunteers and all who came down to drink beer. There will be a Steins in the Rhine event again the first weekend in November. More information will be on the website.
8. Mike Morgan gave an update on Citylink. September 12th was the appeals court hearing before a 3 judge panel. The judges asked lots of questions and seemed to be fairly balanced. It will likely take at least a month before they make a ruling and could be as much as four months. Mike said it is important that this issue does not fall out of the public eye and that we need to maintain awareness of this issue. If we win at this level, it is likely that Citylink will appeal it to the Ohio Supreme Court. We need to keep educating people about the threat this is to our community. Many people apparently still believe that this will result in social service agencies being moved from Over the Rhine, but this is not the case at all. No social service agencies in OTR are planning to move because of this. Please visit www.notocitylink.com for additional information.
9. Steve Hampton gave a report on the street signs and historical marker. Everything is in process, waiting for approvals from the State and the City. He hopes and expects we will have a special event in the fall.
10. Denny Dellinger gave a report on a recent meeting of the Hamilton County Local Alliance for Nature and Development (LAND) Committee on Green Building. The meeting was to discuss the creation of a new LEED category for historic buildings, LEED-HB. A subcommittee of the group was formed to study this possibility and to determine if it would be substantially different that the existing

LEED category for existing buildings. The committee will also develop guidelines for green renovations of typical Over the Rhine buildings.

11. Denny Dellinger reported that there are two upcoming public input sessions for comments on the proposed streetcar system. The meetings will be Sept. 20 from 5:30 to 8:00pm at the Art Academy and Sept. 27th from 4:00 to 7:00pm at City Hall in Council Chambers. You can also provide input by sending emails to streetcar@cincinnati-oh.gov. The City Council Economic Development Committee will review the comments at a meeting on October 9 at noon in Council Chambers. All interested parties are encouraged to come to this meeting and make comments. Also see www.cincystreetcar.com for additional information.

12. Julie Fay gave an update on the Kauffman Building. The sale is due to close any day. Otis Taylor is ready to go and will be the owner. He will restore the façade and bring the building up to vacant building standards with new roof and interior stairs. He estimates construction will take 6 months and he has up to 5 years to get a tenant and a certificate of occupancy for the building. She mentioned that the rear portion of the property could be developed as a parking structure.

Julie also reported that the CNBDU grant application resulted in \$299,000 for Vine Street streetscaping, starting at Central Parkway and north to 13th. The original request was for \$600,000. She felt getting the first portion of the funds will help with future grant applications for additional funds.

13. Mike Morgan reported the Cincinnati Public School Board is now considering plans to demolish Rothenberg School and build a new school building. The OTR Foundation has been instrumental in promoting the preservation of historic buildings and intends to support the renovation of the school. There will be a meeting on Sept. 20th with the school board to discuss this issue.

Mike also reported that the Free Store has plans to demolish several historic buildings to expand their truck loading area. They also have plans to demolish additional historic buildings in the near future. The Free Store now serves 20 counties and 3 states. They have a large distribution facility elsewhere in the county. This is a huge corporate deal, with corporations donating items for tax deductions. We need to get people to come to the OTR Community Council meeting the last Monday of the month to come together in opposition to this move.

14. Steve Hampton noted that the OTR Community Council is the official voice of the neighborhood and that Brewery District members are encouraged to join the community council. Membership fees are \$2 for residents and \$15 for employees or non residents.

15. Mike Morgan reported that the OTR Foundation and The Drop In Center are co hosting a neighborhood meeting on October 3rd. The Drop In Center will explain their program. Michelle Budzich of Hamilton County will discuss a plan for social service agencies. The purpose is to have an open dialog. The meeting will be at 5pm at the Emmanuel Community Center in the 1200 block of Race St.
16. Michael Bootes and Karen Ziegler presented the CUF soap box derby car and encourage the Brewery District to consider sponsoring a car this year and finding a neighborhood kid age 8 to 17 to be the driver. The cost to enter is \$600 for the car kit and it is for a good cause and will bring lots of good public relations.

The meeting adjourned around 7:10 pm.

The next meeting will be held at 5:30pm, Wednesday, October 10, 2007 at the old Moerlein Office Building at 2019 Elm, to be hosted by Bryon Martin.

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

Meeting notes respectfully submitted by Denny Dellinger September 21, 2007.