



## **“Brewing success in our community”**

Notes of December 12, 2007 meeting

Meeting hosted by Kevin Feldman at Milton’s Tavern.

Please remember to sign in.

Agenda items:

- 1 & 2 The meeting started with socializing and introductions. Kevin did a terrific job of hosting the meeting and provided plenty of beer and food. Duane Donohoo led the meeting.
3. No one had comments on the last months meeting minutes, so the minutes were approved.
4. No one from the CPD was present so there was no discussion of safety issues.
5. Steve Hampton encouraged people in attendance who are not already members to sign up for membership. There is a membership application form on the website. The fee for this year is \$25.
6. John Schneider discussed the proposed streetcar system. He said the council finance committee will be discussing the issue in January, and said we should all be prepared to attend meetings and speak in support of the initiative. He encouraged everyone to write letters of support to council people or make personal phone calls and to tell them in personal terms what the streetcar system would mean to them individually. He stressed that personal calls and letters are much more effective than emails. He has suggested that when we get the first phase built, which would extend from 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to 20<sup>th</sup> Street, or in other words from Freedom Way to West McMicken, planning could commence to extend the street car to Uptown, and that we would be able to rely on the lobbying power of UC and the hospitals to attract additional funding from the Federal Government, and show the first phase as a matching local investment of funds.

John stressed that streetcar systems will improve the public realm and will be much more effective than providing subsidies for spot projects. He said this is a way to improve the entire area, rather than picking winners among a favored few developers. He again referred to Portland and the Pearl District, which saw a 30 : 1 impact within six years. Private developers have so far invested 30 times the cost of the street car system in to new developments within a few blocks of the streetcar line. He said a Texas developer is starting a rental project with rent projected at \$2.00 per square foot per month, and with no subsidies required to build the project.

Concerns over safety were expressed, and it was noted that one reason we have crime is that we are driving cars, and feel insulated from the life of the street. In Portland, people are constantly on the street at all times. The population is about the same, but the murder rate in Portland is 1/5<sup>th</sup> that of Cincinnati. It was also pointed out that development brings safety, so with the streetcar, development will happen everywhere and crime will go away.

John said he will be leading another trip to Portland on February 15<sup>th</sup> and encouraged anyone interested to go on the trip. He will be circulating more information about the trip after the first of the year.

7. Steve Hampton reported that the Prohibition Tour will take place in conjunction with Bockfest this year on March 7, 8, and 9 and volunteers are needed to help make the event a success. A planning meeting will be announced in early January.

The meeting adjourned around 6:35 pm and members stuck around for further socializing.

The next meeting will be held at 5:30pm, Wednesday, January 9, 2008, to be hosted by Mike and Doug Bootes @ 123 East McMicken Avenue.

Please visit the website [www.otrbrewerydistrict.org](http://www.otrbrewerydistrict.org) for additional and updated information.

Meeting notes respectfully submitted by Denny Dellinger December 14, 2007.