



Merion Village Association

Meeting Minutes: June 3, 2015

DESCRIPTION: Monthly Association Meeting

LOCATION: 1330 S. Fourth Street, Columbus, OH 43206

MEETING DURATION: 7:15 PM – 8:15 PM

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

- PRESIDENT: Tony Roell (TRoell@MerionVillage.org)
- VICE PRESIDENT: Coda Bruce (CBruce@MerionVillage.org)
- SECRETARY: Jessica Norman (JNorman@MerionVillage.org)
- MEMBER-AT-LARGE: Tracey Studer (TStuder@MerionVillage.org)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

- TREASURER: Michele Audetat (MAudetat@MerionVillage.org)

TOTAL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 25

TOTAL NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 5

TOPIC: Introductions

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: Introductions of board members, all members, non-members and guests in attendance.

TOPIC: Treasurer's Report (Presented by Tony Roell)

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: We received new business memberships this month.

TOPIC: Jimmy John's Variance Requests and Presentation

VOTING RESULTS: APPROVED/REJECTED (SUPPORT: 26 / OPPOSE: 1 / ABSTAIN: 1)

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The restaurant will have 12 parking spaces which is the number required for the current zoning code. The code also requires two trees which the site will have. The site plan is preliminary and the developers are waiting until they get zoning approval before they move forward with a final plan.

Several members were very concerned about the potential for additional traffic congestion. Tracy commented that any business would cause congestion. "What's better, a vacant lot or a vibrant business?" Members were also concerned about the alley that will be behind this site as it is in very poor condition. This is owned by the City and will remain as such. Report violations and issues to 311 regularly.

Tony asked if the developers considered giving more frontage to the building. Due to their desires for the site and the drive through, this was not possible. This building is also consistent with the Jimmy John's franchise plan. There currently is no sidewalk on the side where they are seeking a setback variance. They will be adding a sidewalk as part of their plan. This site would be primarily glass at the front and will also have a patio. The building will be red brick with black framing and iron fencing. This site was previously approved to be a Starbucks and a Dunkin Donuts. Both of those previously approved variances have since expired. The likely hours of the restaurant will be from 10:30 AM to 10:00 PM.

A resident wondered if the restaurant would have variable hours for the inside and the drive through. The hours would be the same for both as is required by Jimmy John's corporate. The developers anticipate roughly 20 employees for this location. Some delivery drivers will drive vehicles, but they will primary deliver by bicycle. The restaurant will have roughly 30 interior seats and they are planning to have 12 seats on the patio. Jimmy John's patrons primarily do not eat-in and many of their employees use public transportation. A member asked if Jimmy John's would consider providing monthly bus passes to their employees as an incentive to use public transit. They agreed to research this.



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TOPIC: Scheduled Events and Activities

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The MVA has several volunteers who will help staff our beverage booth at the upcoming Arts Festival.

DATE (TIME)	EVENT DESCRIPTION	COORDINATOR(S)
July 8 th (6:30 - 8:30 PM)	Inaugural Meet Local / Buy Local Neighborhood Event	Coda B.
LOCATION: The Red Brick Tap & Grill (292 E Gates St, Columbus, OH 43206)		
July 12 th (10:00 AM - 3:00 PM)	16 th Annual Merion Village Garden Tour	Garden Tour Committee
LOCATION: Maps Available at www.MerionVillage.org		
August 30 th (12:00 PM - 7:00 PM)	3 rd Annual Merion Village Festival	Festival Committee
LOCATION: Moeller Park (261 Hanford St, Columbus, OH 43206)		

TOPIC: Southside Area Commission Report (Presented by Erin Sync)

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: June 13th is the Parsons Ave cleanup from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Meet at South High school and register at www.keepcolumbusbeautiful.org. June 18th is the ribbon cutting for the new senior village on Parsons. The commission has a vacant seat on their at-large board who deals with education issues, if you know anyone interested, please reach out.

TOPIC: Local Education Updates

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: Southwood reached out again in relation to their area council. They would like a Merion Village resident on their board. Contact Tony if you are interested. Stewart is going to have Pre-K starting in the 2015-2016 school year.

TOPIC: Merion Village T-Shirts

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: We will be placing an order for new a new batch of t-shirts. We will now have the green, scoop-neck shirts as well as dark gray, v-neck shirts. Both colors are available in adult sizes small-3X.

TOPIC: Gateway Kiosk Updates

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The repainting of the kiosks is in process. We will now only have to pay a few hundred dollars to complete this project rather than in initially anticipated amount of over \$1,000.00.

TOPIC: United Way Beautification and Safety Grants

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: Coda and Jessica will both have preliminary plans available for the two new grants we received in the near future. We have received some trashcans from the city that we will cleanup and then we will replace what's in Moeller Park. We will be circulating surveys regarding the crime and safety efforts. We have roughly \$600.00 remaining in our business development grant fund.

TOPIC: The Council of Historic Neighbors

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The council of historic neighborhoods was active but faded-out about 10 years ago. German Village is trying to reactivate this council and Tony is also involved. The council will address issues like historic preservation, etc.

TOPIC: Columbus Library Redevelopment

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The Columbus library broke ground on June 2nd. Tony helped in the groundbreaking ceremony.



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TOPIC: New Monthly MVA Meeting Format and Location

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: If you have comments or suggestions on our new meeting format or location, please let us know. Depending on what members want, we may no longer need to retain the Info. Center.

GENERAL REMINDERS:

- ✓ Kroger Community Rewards: Remember to sign-up with through your Kroger card account, selecting the MVA as your designate non-profit group to receive rewards. When you register and shop at Kroger, you contribute to the percentage of funds the MVA receives from the program each quarter. There is no cost to you for this program and the rewards received by the MVA are NOT deducted from your personal Kroger benefits.
- ✓ AmazonSmile Rewards: Visit www.Smile.Amazon.com to signup for a new account or link your existing Amazon.com account. You'll be prompted to choose a charity. Search "Merion Village Association" and select. After registration, be sure to go to the amazon smile site when you are going to make a purchase. A percentage of your purchase price will be donated to the MVA!
- ✓ GoodSearch / GoodShop Rewards: Visit www.GoodSearch.com and sign up for a new account. Designate the "Merion Village Association" as your charity and save. When you use GoodSearch.com to search the web, the MVA will receive a penny per search. If you shop through the GoodShop site (who has over 30,000 vendors) a percentage of your purchase price will be donated to the MVA!
- ✓ Report non-emergency crime to the Columbus Police Department by calling 614-645-4545.
- ✓ Report potholes, code violations, broken dumpsters and other requests for City services through the 311 Program. Call 311 from your telephone or visit www.311.columbus.gov

NEXT MONTHLY ASSOCIATION MEETING: Wednesday, July 1, 2015 in the basement of St. Paul UCC (225 E Gates St, Columbus, OH 43206) beginning promptly at 7:15 PM.