

# Merion Village Association

## MEETING MINUTES

May 7, 2014

**DESCRIPTION:** Monthly Association Meeting

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

**MEETING DURATION:** 7:00 PM – 8:05 PM

**BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

- PRESIDENT: Tony Roell ([TRoell@MerionVillage.org](mailto:TRoell@MerionVillage.org))
- VICE PRESIDENT: Anne Stewart ([ASTewart@MerionVillage.org](mailto:ASTewart@MerionVillage.org))
- SECRETARY: Jessica Norman ([JNorman@MerionVillage.org](mailto:JNorman@MerionVillage.org))
- MEMBER-AT-LARGE: Tracey Studer ([TStuder@MerionVillage.org](mailto:TStuder@MerionVillage.org))

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

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

**TOTAL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** 17

**TOTAL NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** 9

**GUESTS:** Tarik Yousef (*Owner of 116 E. Moler St.*), Wes Miller (*Consultant for the Property at 116 E. Moler St.*), Erin Sync (*Southside Area Commission*), Ken Flower (*Southside Stay*), Dave Davenport (*Southside Stay*)

**TOPIC:** Introductions

**DURATION:** 4 Minutes

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

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

**DURATION:** 1 Minute

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Michele could not attend this meeting, Tony went over the treasurer's report on her behalf. As additional funds for the yard sale, deposited in May and the garden tour come in, the future reports will reflect this income.

**TOPIC:** Board Duties

**DURATION:** 2 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The board last met on April 16<sup>th</sup>. Tony worked with the board to redistribute some of the responsibilities he was handling himself. Michele will assume responsibility of maintaining the membership roster, Anne will be focusing on short presentations at the Monthly meetings for relevant topics, Jessica will assist with social media, new forms and website items and Tracey will focus on business development.

**TOPIC:** MVA 501(c)3 Status

**DURATION:** 3 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The MVA is not currently classified as a 501(c)3 organization. The appropriate paperwork has been submitted and is currently under review by the U.S. Treasury Department. Until the status is restored, any individual or group donating to the association cannot claim a tax deduction for their donation. Tony continued to assure the Association that the issues will be resolved as soon as the paperwork clears through the U.S. Treasury Department.

**TOPIC:** Give-Back Programs

**DURATION:** 1 Minute

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Some donations were received at the monthly meeting for the St. Paul's food pantry. We have not yet decided on next month's program. Members should contact Tony with suggestions.

**TOPIC:** Website Update

**DURATION:** 1 Minute

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The new website is active and currently includes the map for the yard sale. The old website is no longer accessible to the public. The web address is still [www.MerionVillage.org](http://www.MerionVillage.org)

**TOPIC:** MVA Bi-Law Review

**DURATION:** 2 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Several association members conducted a very successful meeting to discuss the bi-law review and updates on April 13<sup>th</sup>. The current bi-laws are available through the website and Joe Stefanko is assisting with the updates that have been discussed. These suggestions be available at the next monthly meeting.

**TOPIC: MVA T-Shirts**

**DURATION: 2 Minutes**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The board discussed designing MVA t-shirts which would be available for purchase by anyone interested. This would be a method for advertising the association and raising awareness at local events. Most attendees were interested in this idea and agreed that consistency with our current color-scheme and logos would be important. Tony also made note that we would seek input from members as far as the artwork or logo on the t-shirts. More will follow at the next monthly meeting.

**TOPIC: Merion Village Cleanup on April 26<sup>th</sup>**

**DURATION: 1 Minute**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The spring community cleanup went very well. We had about 25 volunteers who helped to clean the pocket park and pick up litter from streets and alleys. Afterward, several volunteers also met at Hal & Al's to socialize.

**TOPIC: Garden Tour**

**DURATION: 2 Minutes**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The garden tour committee would like to have 12-15 gardens on the tour. Gardens are still needed and the posture and brochure are in the works.

**TOPIC: Scheduled Events and Activities**

**DURATION: 5 Minutes**

<b>DATE (TIME)</b>	<b>EVENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COORDINATOR(S)</b>
June 22 <sup>nd</sup> (10:00 AM - 3:00 PM)	Merion Village Garden Tour	Mark G.
<b>LOCATION:</b> Community Maps Will be Available (Map Applications Due May 9 <sup>th</sup> )		
August 17 <sup>th</sup> (TBD)	Second Annual Community Festival	Tony Roell
<b>LOCATION:</b> Moeller Park (261 Hanford St, Columbus, OH)		
September (TBD)	Community Clean-Up	Fran S.
<b>LOCATION:</b> Meeting at the MVA Information Center		
October (TBD)	Pasta Dinner	Tracey Studer
<b>LOCATION:</b> TBD		
December (TDB)	MVA Potluck and Cookie Trade	TBD
<b>LOCATION:</b> TBD		

**TOPIC: Southside Stay (Presented by Ken Flower and Dave Davenport)**

**DURATION: 15 Minutes**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Ken Flower and Dave Davenport attended this meeting to talk about the Southside Stay group and raise awareness of their mission. The group began in August of 2012. Their mission is to keep families in the Southside area and even to bring new families to the area by way of improving our public schools. Interested parties can learn more about the group by visiting their website at [www.SouthsideStay.org](http://www.SouthsideStay.org). The group wants all the involvement they can get from the community. One current project is the attempt to convert half of the Stewart school to "neighborhood" instead of lottery. The school has expanded to include K-6 and some special education. The group hopes to stay connected and involved with the schools and eventually have an impact on the textbook materials.

**TOPIC: Building Renovations at 116 E. Moler St. (Presented by Tarik Yousef)**

**DURATION: 5 Minutes**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Tarik spoke to the association about the progress of his building renovations and introduced his friend and consultant on this project, Wes Miller. The project is coming along very well and Tarik expects to see significant activity in the building in the next couple months. He will personally have an artisan furniture showroom and a gluten free bakery which should open this Summer, is in the process of obtaining their necessary permits.

**TOPIC: Zoning Review**

**DURATION: 1 Minute**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Tony announced that we may have a zoning discussion and vote at the next monthly meeting. A group has requested a zoning variance for a patio and billiards space on High Street, near Hanford.

**TOPIC: MVA Safety Committee Report (Presented by Tony Roell)**

**DURATION: 1 Minute**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Tony announced that the current head of the safety committee would like to resign. As such, the association would like to hear from any member who is interested in filling this position. The next meeting is on Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 PM at the MVA Info. Center.

**TOPIC: Barrett Redevelopment**

**DURATION: 1 Minute**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Homeport announced that they are working on a lower density plan with more single family units. Interested parties can find more information at [www.BarrettRedevelopment.com](http://www.BarrettRedevelopment.com).

**TOPIC: Parsons Avenue Library Project**

**DURATION: 2 Minutes**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The Columbus Metropolitan Library will host a public meeting at the current Parsons Branch on Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 PM. The architects of the new library will be present and plans will be discussed.

**TOPIC: Southside Area Commission Report (Presented by Erin Synk)**

**DURATION: 4 Minutes**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Erin announced that the zoning variance discussed by Malcom Cochran at the last monthly meeting was approved by the commission. She reminded attendees that if you received a letter from Columbia Gas about moving your meter, the property owners have the most say about the location and should communicate with Columbia Gas about this. The commission also spoke to Columbia Gas to make them aware of our dates for the garden tour and ask for as little disruption as possible.

**TOPIC: Substance Abuse Discussion (Presented by Anne Stewart)**

**DURATION: 4 Minutes**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Anne has been attending a public discussion/workshop at the John Maloney Health Center for the last three weeks. The conversations have been loose discussions on how we, as a community and identify and address substance abuse in our area. The meetings have been run by a recently retired therapist. The next step is to put in place plans of action. Anne wants to encourage any interested parties to get involved and attend the discussions. One idea from the meetings is to have local civic groups meet and present individual ideas and plans.

**TOPIC: Nextdoor Website and App**

**DURATION: 5 Minutes**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Anne Stewart was contacted by Mike Anderson who is a regional manager for the "Neighbor Nextdoor" website and app. The site was developed in San Francisco to facilitate neighbors to get to know one another, talk about their communities, etc. There as some confusion on the site as to the correct boundaries for Merion Village. Anne met with Mike and made him aware of our accurate boundaries which is now reflected on the site. The site and app are free and some member's expressed that they have used the system and have been pleased.

**GENERAL REMINDERS:**

01. Kroger Community Rewards: Remember to sign-up with through your Kroger card account, selecting the MVA as your designation for 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.
02. Report potholes, and other requests for City services through the 311 Program. Call 311 from your telephone or visit [www.311.columbus.gov](http://www.311.columbus.gov)

**NEXT MONTHLY ASSOCIATION MEETING:** Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at the MVA Information Center (1330 S. Fourth St., Columbus, OH 43206) beginning at 7:00 PM.