

Merion Village Association

MEETING MINUTES

June 4, 2014

DESCRIPTION: Monthly Association Meeting

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

MEETING DURATION: 7:00 PM – 8:40 PM

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

- PRESIDENT: Tony Roell (TRoell@MerionVillage.org)
- VICE PRESIDENT: Anne Stewart (ASTewart@MerionVillage.org)
- TREASURER: Michele Audetat (MAudetat@MerionVillage.org)
- SECRETARY: Jessica Norman (JNorman@MerionVillage.org)
- MEMBER-AT-LARGE: Tracey Studer (TStuder@MerionVillage.org)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

- NONE

TOTAL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 17

TOTAL NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 5

GUESTS: Wes Miller (*Consultant for the Property at 116 E. Moler St.*), Chris Macisco (*MVA Representative, Southside Area Commission*), Property Owner of 1224 S. High St and Associates.

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 Michele Audetat)

DURATION: 4 Minutes

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: Michele went over the May report with those in attendance. Michele also wanted to make member's aware that she keeps very detailed records and is happy to show these records to any member upon request.

TOPIC: Give-Back Programs

DURATION: 1 Minute

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The summer give-back program will focus on gathering school supplies to be donated to Southwood and Seibert Elementary schools during the months of June, July and August. Bring your donations to the monthly MVA meetings or to our booth at the festival in August.

TOPIC: Bi-Law Reviews

DURATION: 1 Minute

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The bi-law reviews and updates are still in progress. Joe S. is assisting the association with this process but has been short on time. Additional updates will be provided as progress is made.

TOPIC: Zoning Update Request for 1224 S. High St. (Presentation by Owner's Associates)

DURATION: 37 Minutes

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The owner of 1224 S. High Street is seeking a zoning variance for parking. He plans to open a billiards hall at this location. The location currently has 5 exterior parking spaces behind the structure and the plan adds an additional 4 indoor spaces which would be reserved for residents living in the second story apartments. 52 total spaces are required for the intended business. The current zoning of the structure grandfathered in 24 spaces and the additional 32 spaces would be obtained by leasing space at a nearby private lot. Some members raised concern about what type of impact this business would have on our community. The owner spoke to those in attendance and state that he is a family man and the safety of this business would be a high priority for him. He is investing a conservative amount of \$600,000.00 in this property and business. He plans to be open by this fall or early in 2015 Monday-Saturday from around 5:00 PM to 11:00 PM. He wants to promote this business as a local hang-out, drawing members from our community as patrons.

VOTING RESULTS: APPROVED (Members Voting YES: 13 / Members Voting NO: 3)

TOPIC: Garden Tour

DURATION: 4 Minutes

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The 2014 garden tour is on June 22nd. We currently have 10 gardens on the tour. Anne Stewart will have a planting station setup for children throughout the event and would love any volunteers who would like to help. The brochure for the tour is on the MVA website.

TOPIC: Columbus Clippers Historian

DURATION: 1 Minute

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The historian for the Columbus Clippers would still like to come speak at one of our monthly meetings. The MVA may also organize a baseball outing. Details to come.

TOPIC: Scheduled Events and Activities

DURATION: 4 Minutes

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: There is an upcoming art walk in Merion Village on June 23rd and the Parsons Avenue cleanup will take place on Saturday, June 7th.

DATE (TIME)	EVENT DESCRIPTION	COORDINATOR(S)
June 22 nd (10:00 AM - 3:00 PM)	Merion Village Garden Tour	Mark G.
LOCATION: Community Maps Will be Available		
August 17 th (12:00 PM - 5:00)	Second Annual Community Festival	Tony Roell
LOCATION: Moeller Park (261 Hanford St, Columbus, OH)		
September (TBD)	Community Clean-Up	Fran
LOCATION: Meeting at the MVA Information Center		
October (TBD)	Pasta Dinner	Tracey Studer
LOCATION: TBD		
December (TDB)	MVA Potluck and Cookie Trade	TBD
LOCATION: TBD		

TOPIC: Southside Area Commission Report (Presented by Chris Macisco)

DURATION: 11 Minutes

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The public meeting at the Parsons Library on May 21st was well-attended and lengthy. Many Merion Village residents attended and voiced their concerns with regard to the design and impact of the new structure. The presenters stated that no design is in place yet for the structure, but the plan is for a single story. Many attendees voiced concern about that plan. If you have thoughts regarding the new library, please email those thoughts to Tony Roell at Troell@MerionVillage.org. Early in May, Tony authored a letter in support of the library in general to assist in their application for a grant. Any member who would like to see a copy of the letter may request a copy from Tony. The library will be coming to the MVA soon to discuss demolitions.

TOPIC: Safety Committee (Presented by Tony Roell)

DURATION: 3 Minutes

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The new city liaison will attend our next monthly meeting. We also have a new Columbus Police Department liaison, Scott Peck. Scott will attend out next safety meeting. The Safety Committee currently has no chair but Tony has been speaking with a member who may be interested in filling the position.

TOPIC: Barrett Redevelopment

DURATION: 2 Minutes

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: Anne Stewart reported that Homeport went to the school board with their new proposal which includes a lesser density of 25 units per acre. Tony encourages any members with specific questions to reach out to the school board as they will have the most current information.

TOPIC: Building Renovations at 116 E. Moler St. (Presented by Wes Miller)

DURATION: 5 Minutes

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: Wes Miller, Tarik Yousef's business partner reported on the progress of the building and businesses at the building 116 E. Moler Street. The grand opening for the building and for T.Y. furniture (Tarik's handmade furniture business) is set to be June 29th. There has been a security issue with their parking lot across the street. Going forward, unauthorized cars parked and left in the lot will be towed. Wes also reported on the Village Farmers Market which they will be hosting in the parking lot at Moler and Fourth Streets. The market will be every Saturday between June 7th and August 23rd from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. A percentage of the profits from the market will benefit the Merion and German Village Associations.

TOPIC: Gateway Grant and the Idea Foundry

DURATION: 3 Minutes

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: We have signed a contract with the Columbus Idea Foundry who will design and build 5 artistic kiosks to be purchased with our Gateway Grant funds. The five locations where we would like to mount kiosks are the Hey Hey, Hal & Al's, 116 E. Moler Street, Southwood Elementary and the Explorer's Club. The hope is to distribute the kiosks throughout the neighborhood.

TOPIC: Business Development Grant (Presented by Tracey Studer)

DURATION: 4 Minutes

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: Tracey Studer is working on the business development grant. We received the grant to develop our small business community. We plan to launch a key tag program for MVA members which will offer various discounts to members at participating businesses. We are working to develop a master list of Merion Village and surrounding businesses. If you know business owners in the area, contact Tracey.

TOPIC: Status of the Property at 1138-1140 S. High St.

DURATION: 3 Minutes

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: This building was scheduled to be demolished by a Court order. Tony requested time to advertise the property in hopes of finding a purchaser who will rehabilitate the structure. Fortunately, three potential buyers are interested. A sheriff's sale is likely to be held.

TOPIC: The Big Pitch

DURATION: 4 Minutes

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The big pitch is coming up. June 21st and 28th. This is a competition for restaurants, caterers, food trucks and finished food vendors. There are 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes. Several big food groups are involved already. This will be held at Franklin University. There will also be a food truck festival in the parking lot next-door. Visit <https://u-wish.com/wish:the-big-pitch> for additional information.

TOPIC: Walk With a Doc and United Way Community Leadership Programs

DURATION: 2 Minutes

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: Anne Stewart made everyone aware of an upcoming event "Walk With a Doc" on June 21st. Visit <http://www.walkwithadoc.org/our-locations/columbus-south-side/> for more information. Anne also mentioned that she was contacted by the United Way about community leadership courses. If you are interested, contact Anne Stewart.

TOPIC: Adobe Forms Central (Presented by Jessica Norman)

DURATION: 3 Minutes

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The board has reviewed research regarding the Adobe Forms Central program and a yearly fee of \$143.88, plus tax. The board agrees this system will be useful for various MVA applications and registration forms, votes and surveys as well as possible order forms. This information was presented to the members and one member suggested that this would be a good use of some of the funds from our business grant. Many members agreed. The account will be purchased and Jessica will begin developing forms for the association.

ACTION ITEMS:

RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE

01. Obtain a One Year License and Begin Form Creation

Jessica Norman

ASAP

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

NEXT MONTHLY ASSOCIATION MEETING: Wednesday, July 2nd at the MVA Information Center (1330 S. Fourth St., Columbus, OH 43206) beginning at 7:00 PM.