

# Merion Village Association

## MEETING MINUTES

August 6, 2014

**DESCRIPTION:** Monthly Association Meeting

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

**MEETING DURATION:** 7:00 PM – 8:35 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))
- TREASURER: Michele Audetat ([MAudetat@MerionVillage.org](mailto:MAudetat@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:**

- 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*), Erin Synk (*MVA Representative, Southside Area Commission*), George Robinson (Owner of Robinson's Baseball Innovations)

**TOPIC:** Introductions

**DURATION:** 8 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:** 2 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The festival and new memberships brought in over \$1,000.00 in the month of July. We continue to receive new memberships and additional vendor registrations for the festival during August.

**TOPIC:** 501c3 Status

**DURATION:** 2 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Tony has continued to follow-up on the reinstatement of our 501c3 status. He has now learned that while our check has been cashed, the office responsible for processing our forms has lost our paperwork. Tony is handling the resubmission of the required documentation.

**TOPIC:** Give-Back Programs

**DURATION:** 1 Minute

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The summer give-back program continues to 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 MVA booth at the festival in August.

**TOPIC:** MVA Constitution and Bylaws

**DURATION:** 7 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The Board has combined the MVA Constitution and Bylaws into a single document. The document has also been updated in the following areas: (1) The membership categories "Patron" and "Non-Resident" have been removed. These categories were redundant and are not necessary as the same non-voting memberships can be obtained by non-residents or non-Merion Village businesses through individual and business membership types. (2) Voting privileges and procedures have been updated. Limited, neighborhood issues can now be reviewed for absentee voting. Each issue will require board review and approval before allowing absentee voting. (3) The document now includes a requirement that all Board members undergo a background check. (4) Acknowledgment of the South Side Area Commissions and the City of Columbus regarding Zoning requests and procedures has been added. (5) A section was added which specifically addresses and details "voting quorums". (6) The general voting procedures have been updated to reflect consistency with Modern Parliamentary Procedures. This replaced the previous reflection of Robert's Rules of Order.

A complete, red-lined copy of the updated Constitution was circulated to the membership via e-mail on Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**RESPONSIBLE**

**DEADLINE**

01. Conduct Membership Vote to Approve Changes

MVA Board

9/3/14

**TOPIC:** Zoning Committee

**DURATION:** 2 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Seth Trance has accepted the position of the Chair of the Zoning Committee. Seth previously worked with his neighborhood on zoning issues in Pennsylvania and is excited to working now with Merion Village.

**TOPIC:** Barrett Redevelopment Updates

**DURATION:** 2 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** There will be a public meeting held at Southwood Elementary on Thursday, August 21st, beginning at 6:30 PM. For more information, visit [www.barrettredevelopment.com](http://www.barrettredevelopment.com)

**TOPIC:** New Parsons Avenue Library

**DURATION:** 14 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** There was frustration at the public viewing of the demolitions the Library is requesting. The meeting time was rescheduled shortly before the originally scheduled time and the permit had already been signed and was given to the library officials at the hearing, despite concerns from those in attendance. Members were concerned that the Association is not being timely notified of zoning and demolition requests. The representatives from the South Side Area Commission assured the attendees that notifications are passed along to us right away. They also suggested that individuals contact their City Officials immediately when they have concerns. This continues to be an issue with some debate. If you have thoughts, please send them to Tony Roell.

**TOPIC:** Conservation Neighborhoods

**DURATION:** 5 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Tony discussed with the members the possibility of obtaining "Conservation District" status for Merion Village. The process for this would be lengthy and would require signatures in favor from 60% of the Merion Village property owners, but it would allow our neighborhood to have additional rights and regulations. We will be polling residents and members to determine the level of interest in this area.

**TOPIC:** The Council of Historic Neighborhoods

**DURATION:** 2 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Tony and Anne attended a series of meetings hosted by the Council of Historical Neighborhoods. Many local neighborhoods were in attendance. The intention of this group is to create a large voice to represent common goals of our neighborhoods. They are currently compiling priorities and tasks.

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

**DURATION:** 2 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** There are 3 or 4 buyers interested in this property. This is an example of where raising our concerns helped to salvage an old, brick structure on High Street with real potential.

**TOPIC:** Scheduled Events and Activities

**DURATION:** 2 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** It's almost time for the Festival! Join us in Moeller Park on Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup> for a great day of neighborhood fun.

<b>DATE (TIME)</b>	<b>EVENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COORDINATOR(S)</b>
August 17 <sup>th</sup> (12:00 PM - 5:00 PM)	Second Annual Community Festival	The Festival Committee
<b>LOCATION:</b> Moeller Park (261 Hanford St, Columbus, OH)		
September (TBD)	Community Clean-Up	Fran
<b>LOCATION:</b> Meeting at the MVA Information Center		
October (TBD)	Pasta Dinner	Tracey Studer
<b>LOCATION:</b> TBD		
December (TBD)	MVA Potluck and Cookie Trade	TBD
<b>LOCATION:</b> TBD		

**TOPIC:** Parsons Avenue Project

**DURATION:** 4 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** There was an open house for the Parsons Avenue Project. This project will update remove several stop lights from Parsons and will also remove all crosswalks between Livingston and Whittier. If you have concerns, please contact one of the City Representatives, Carl Walters at [CLWalters@columbus.gov](mailto:CLWalters@columbus.gov).

**TOPIC:** Safety Committee

**DURATION:** 2 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Anthony Dillard has accepted the position of the Chair of the Safety Committee. Anthony is excited to take on this role and will be interested to hear your thoughts and suggestions at the next Safety Meeting on Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:30 PM.

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

**DURATION:** 3 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The Commission will have a booth at our upcoming festival. There will be a housing and community EXPO on September 20<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 PM to 3:30 PM. This will be held at the Maloney Center.

**TOPIC:** The Siebert Chiller

**DURATION:** 1 Minute

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** There have been complaints for a couple of years regarding the very loud noise coming from the air conditioning unit on top of Siebert Elementary. If you are concerned, please contact the school board and the City to complain.

**TOPIC:** Merion Village T-Shirts

**DURATION:** 3 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Merion Village T-Shirts are now available for sale! T-Shirts can be purchased in person at our Festival and Monthly meetings for \$10.00. T-Shirts can also be purchased online from the "Shop" page of our website for \$11.00, which includes the online processing fee.

**TOPIC:** Gateway Grant and the Idea Foundry

**DURATION:** 8 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** We have received the final mock-ups for our kiosks being designed and constructed by the Idea Foundry. We must have this project fully completed by the end of August or the grant funds will be lost. Some members were concerned that the designs were too artistic and should simply include our logo. Conditions of the grant require the artistic aspect. The attached bulletin boards will contain all Merion Village information.

**TOPIC:** Business Development Grant (Presented by Tracey Studer)

**DURATION:** 4 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** This project is progressing. The next step is to mail the invite letter to each of the businesses in Merion Village.

**TOPIC:** The South Side Voice

**DURATION:** 2 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The South Side Voice will now be delivered to every home in Merion Village.

**TOPIC:** Columbia Gas Improvements

**DURATION:** 3 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The Columbia Gas line and meter upgrades and move project continue. Some members in attendance live in areas where this work has already occurred and they assured others that the process was painless and the workers who quick, courteous and professional.

**TOPIC:** Updates from Wes Miller

**DURATION:** 8 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Wes talked to the attendees about the Merion Village Chamber Music Series. These events will be hosted at T.Y. Fine Furniture and will include spirits and food. Check out their Facebook page for more information! Wes also mentioned a program he created called "New horizons". This program gives older adults the opportunity to explore old and new musical talents. Lastly Wes asked that everyone continue to come out and support the Saturday Farmer's Market. The vendors need attendees in order to be able to continue to participate this year and next.

**TOPIC:** Updates from George Robinson

**DURATION:** 5 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** George updated attendees on his progress at his new business at 27 and 36 E. Jenkins Avenue. The Baseball workshop is coming along and he should open soon. George will host "camps" at the center for young children and older children in September and October.

**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, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at the MVA Information Center (1330 S. Fourth St., Columbus, OH 43206) beginning at 7:00 PM.