



## Merion Village Association

Meeting Minutes: April 6, 2016

**DESCRIPTION:** Monthly Association Meeting

**LOCATION:** 225 E Gates St, Columbus, OH 43206

**MEETING DURATION:** 7:25 PM – 8:10 PM

**BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

- PRESIDENT: Tony Roell ([TRoell@MerionVillage.org](mailto:TRoell@MerionVillage.org))
- VICE PRESIDENT: Coda Bruce ([CBruce@MerionVillage.org](mailto:CBruce@MerionVillage.org))
- TREASURER: Allison Willford ([AWillford@MerionVillage.org](mailto:AWillford@MerionVillage.org))
- SECRETARY: Jessica Norman ([JNorman@MerionVillage.org](mailto:JNorman@MerionVillage.org))

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

- MEMBER-AT-LARGE: Nicholas Jenior ([NJenior@MerionVillage.org](mailto:NJenior@MerionVillage.org))

**TOTAL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** 15

**TOTAL NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** 3

**TOPIC:** Treasurer's Report (Presented by Allison Willford)

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Allison presented the monthly treasure's report and copies were made available to all those in attendance.

**TOPIC:** Gateway Kiosks

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** We will be hanging two of the remaining Gateway Kiosks this weekend at Tatoheads Public House and Reb Brick Tap & Grill.

**TOPIC:** MVA Beautification and Zoning Committee Update

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The MVA was awarded 2 of the 3 grants we applied for to improve the Pocket Park at Morrill and Bruck. We are going to have a kickoff effort in May for this park and need the support and time of interested neighbors. We plan to add lawn to the park and reorganize the flower and vegetable beds for easier maintenance.

**TOPIC:** MVA Business Development Committee Update

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The Business Development Committee met in March and will be ordering window clings to display in the locations occupied by our business members. These clings will advertise the Meet Local / Buy Local program. The members of the committee will divide the list of local businesses and meet with the owner(s) and/or manager(s) face to face to present our membership options. Coda recently attended the Nationwide Children's Hospital good neighbor meeting which is held quarterly. The underground tunnel to the hospital at Livingston and Parsons is complete and is open. They also have limited parking at this time and will be bussing their employees to a lot down further down on Parsons. Mickie's Child Care, our newest business member, has just opened on S. High Street.

**TOPIC:** MVA Education Committee Update

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The education committee held their first meeting and shared lots of great ideas. They reached out to the Principals at Southwood and Seibert and hope to meet with them in the next week or so to discuss what kind of help the schools need from the neighborhood. Mary C. mentioned a butterfly garden at Southwood that has not been kept up but that many of the teachers would like to see renewed.

**TOPIC:** MVA Social and Membership Committee Update

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The Social and Membership Committee met in March and is working to schedule their second meeting. The committee is gearing up for the upcoming Community Yard Sale on Saturday May 7th and researching ideas for the "Welcome Home" kits which will be delivered to new residents and businesses in Merion Village.



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**TOPIC: Merion Village Planters**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** On April 30th beginning at 10:30 AM, we will be hosting a neighborhood event to rehabilitate the Merion Village planter boxes. This will be held behind the residence at 1358 S. High Street and will include painting. The MVA be providing a cookout lunch for all volunteers. We will also be working with the City to replace the plastic trash bins in Moeller with black metal cans.

**TOPIC: Merion Village Neighborhood Cleanup**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Anne S. has teamed up with Tatoheads to work on the community garden next to the bar. This will occur concurrently with our neighborhood cleanup on April 23rd from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Tatoheads was awarded two grants to support their community garden and they would be very excited to see neighbors come out to help make it great. They will be building new raised beds, installing a sign and cleaning up the entire space.

**TOPIC: Merion Village Block Watch Update**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The Block Watch is in the process of scheduling safety education classes, the first of which will be a CRASE (Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events) class. They will also be host RAD (Rape Aggression Defense) classes for women ages 12 and over if there is enough interest. There must be 20 participants to have this class. They Block Watch will also will be making first aid and CPR training available and will have a safety booth and various information available at the Merion Village Summer festival on August 28th in Moeller Park. If you have any questions or comments, e-mail [Safety@MerionVillage.org](mailto:Safety@MerionVillage.org).

**TOPIC: New Apartment Building in Shumaker Place**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** There is an apartment complex being constructed behind the CVS and The Crest of Parsons. The Shumaker Place association has had many discussions about this project, similar to what we've had regarding the Barrett Redevelopment.

**TOPIC: Merion Village Neighborhood Appreciation Event at the Hey Hey**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** We held our first Neighborhood Appreciation Event at the Hey Hey last month and had at least 50 attendees, including many new faces! It was a great event and we'd like to thank the Hey Hey for allowing us to use their space and being such excellent hosts!

**TOPIC: Neighborhood Hog Roast and MVA Fundraiser at the Red Brick Tap & Grill**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** There will be a hog roast and Merion Village fundraising event at the Red Brick Tap & Grill on April 16th. The Seventh Son Brewing truck will be in attendance and there will be live music from A Fellow Man. Attendees can also view and purchase art created by CCAD students. Thanks to the Red Brick for conceptualizing and organizing this event!

**TOPIC: Merion Village Spring Community Yard Sale**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The Annual Merion Village Spring Community Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, May 7th from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Residents and businesses who would like to be included on the community map or want to rent a sale space in the shared lot at Fourth and Moler should visit our website at [www.MerionVillage.com](http://www.MerionVillage.com) to register. The registration deadline is Thursday, April 28th. Community maps will be published on our website 1 week prior to the sale. The YOSCAR app will be available again this year allowing sellers to list their residence on the virtual map. Lastly, we will be advertising this event through flyers posted around the neighborhood, in the April-May edition of the South Side Voice, on Craigslist.com and the MVA social media as well as in This Week Columbus and the Columbus Dispatch. We're looking forward to a great turnout!



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**TOPIC:** Scheduled Events and Activities

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** There is a Parsons Avenue Earth Day cleanup on the morning of April 16th beginning at 10:00 AM. The volunteers will work on Parsons from Hosack to Frebis on both sides of the Avenue. We are kicking off our Garden Tour and Festival committees in the coming weeks. If you'd like to help with either event, please stay tuned for our Facebook page for announcements.

DATE (TIME)	EVENT DESCRIPTION	COORDINATOR(S)
April 23 <sup>rd</sup> (10:00 AM - 2:00 PM)	Merion Village Spring Community Clean-Up	Anne S.
<b>LOCATION:</b> Merion Village Neighborhood		
May 7 <sup>th</sup> (9:00 AM - 3:00 PM)	Merion Village Spring Community Yard Sale	Social & Membership Committee
<b>LOCATION:</b> Merion Village Neighborhood (Location Map Will be Available)		
July 9 <sup>th</sup> (10:00 AM - 3:00 PM)	Annual Merion Village Garden Tour	Garden Tour Committee
<b>LOCATION:</b> Merion Village Neighborhood (Location Map Will be Available)		
August 28 <sup>th</sup> (12:00 PM - 6:00 PM)	Annual Merion Village Summer Festival	Festival Committee
<b>LOCATION:</b> Moeller Park (261 Hanford St, Columbus, OH 43206)		
September (TBD)	Merion Village Autumn Community Clean-Up	TBD
<b>LOCATION:</b> Merion Village Neighborhood		
October (TBD)	Merion Village Autumn Community Yard	Social & Membership Committee
<b>LOCATION:</b> Merion Village Neighborhood (Location Map Will be Available)		
December (TBD)	Annual Merion Village Potluck & Bake Sale	Social & Membership Committee
<b>LOCATION:</b> TBD		

**TOPIC:** Third Annual Merion Village Farmer's Market

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Wes Miller attended our meeting to announce the 3rd annual Merion Village Farmers Market which will held every Saturday from June through September, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. There are 5 returning vendors this year and there may be a few new faces as well. Yard signs for the market will be printed again this year and they will be looking for neighbors in and around Merion Village who would like to place a sign in their yard for the Summer. They are also looking in to accepting EBT cards at the farm booths. There will be live music at the markets again this year. One member asked if there would be food at the market each week. Wes commented that it can be difficult to find a food vendor for our market since our attendance does not usually meet the level food trucks need. Dan from Tatoheads is a member of a local food truck organization and volunteers to work with Wes and Coda to help find vendors.

**TOPIC:** Arts Festival & MVA Fundraiser Volunteer Opportunity

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The MVA will be running a frozen beverage booth at the arts festival again this year and we desperately need volunteers to help with this fundraising effort. Please visit our website to sign up.

**TOPIC:** Parson Avenue Redevelopment Plans

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Tony has spoken to the other members of the board about writing a letter regarding the Parsons Avenue Redevelopment plan and our collective concerns. If you have any input on this, please e-mail Tony.

**TOPIC:** Merion Village Google Calendar

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** There is a Goggle Calendar for Merion Village which we are working to keep updated. You can view the calendar on our website.



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**TOPIC: Southside Area Commission Report**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Chris Macisco has resigned from the SSAC as the Merion Village Representative. This position is now open and will need to be filled. If you are interested, please reach out to Tony.

**TOPIC: United Way Grant for the MVA Info. Center**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** We were awarded the grant from the United Way to improve our Info. Center on S. Fourth Street. Additional information about these efforts will be available in the coming months.

**TOPIC: Merion Village Association Constitution Changes**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** All members in attendance were given ballots to vote on the proposed changes to the Merion Village Association Constitution. The changes passed unanimously.

**VOTING RESULTS: APPROVED/REJECTED** (SUPPORT: 12 / OPPOSE: 0 / ABSTAIN: 0)

**GENERAL REMINDERS:**

- ✓ Community Rewards: The board would like to remind members and residents of the reward programs which help support the MVA. Visit our website for instructions to sign up for the 4 community reward programs in which we currently participate, including AmazonSmile, GoodSearch, GoodShop and Kroger Community Rewards.
- ✓ 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](http://www.311.columbus.gov)

**NEXT MONTHLY ASSOCIATION MEETING:** Wednesday, May 4, 2016 in the basement of St. Paul UCC (225 E Gates St, Columbus, OH 43206) beginning promptly at 7:15 PM.