



Merion Village Association

Meeting Minutes: May 4, 2016

DESCRIPTION: Monthly Association Meeting

LOCATION: 225 E Gates St, Columbus, OH 43206

MEETING DURATION: 7:25 PM – 8:05 PM

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

- PRESIDENT: Tony Roell (TRoell@MerionVillage.org)
- VICE PRESIDENT: Coda Bruce (CBruce@MerionVillage.org)
- TREASURER: Allison Willford (AWillford@MerionVillage.org)
- SECRETARY: Jessica Norman (JNorman@MerionVillage.org)
- MEMBER-AT-LARGE: Nicholas Jenior (NJenior@MerionVillage.org)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

- NONE

TOPIC: Introductions

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

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

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: We received checks for one of our new grants as well as the grant for the Tatoheads Community Garden for which we are the fiscal agent. We also had several new membership this month and income from yard sale map and community lot registrations.

TOPIC: MVA Beautification and Zoning Committee Update

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: At the last pocket park meeting, the attendees did some clearing work on the park. If you are interested in helping with this effort, e-mail Tony. There is a cleanup for the park tentatively scheduled for May 21st. Two additional kiosks were hung since our meeting in April and we have one remaining that use to hang at the Explorer's Club. We need to find a home for this final kiosk. Several volunteers came out on Saturday, April 30th to help clear, repair and repaint many of the Merion Village planter boxes. Any planters that were still in good condition were left around the neighborhood and will be painted on location. We will also be checking with our contact at the City to see if they are going to install black metal trash cans in Moeller Park.

TOPIC: MVA Business Development Committee Update

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The committee recently met and continued their planning discussions. They have developed and are organizing a plan to reach out to local businesses who have not yet signed up for MVA memberships in 2016. You can check out our website at www.MerionVillage.org/business for a list of current members and any Buy Local rewards currently being offered.

TOPIC: MVA Education Committee Update

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The Education Committee is looking for anyone who has direct connections with our schools as Coda has had difficulty getting in touch with the Principals for Siebert and Southwood. The committee is looking to have a quick meeting or call with the principals to see what kind of assistance the committee or association can provide. Mary C. commented that right now is a very busy time of year for the schools and that any conversations need to be targeted for the 2016-2017 school year. The committee has also discussed some of the larger, systemic issues in our school system which they will continue to talk about over time. The school planning meeting held by the City was poorly organized and not incredibly productive. Tony passed around the materials from the meeting for those interested. Voting on these issues has now closed.



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TOPIC: MVA Social and Membership Committee Update

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The social committee has just wrapped up its third meeting and will be getting together again on May 18th to complete a mailing campaign to issue 2016 MVA Keytags to all existing members. The committee is also discussing the “Welcome Home” kits and some new ideas for this project.

TOPIC: Merion Village Block Watch Update

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The block watch has several safety classes in the planning stages which will take place over the next year. The courses currently include a kid’s cycle safety which will be at the festival in August, RAD (Rape Aggression Defense) classes for women ages 12 and over if there is enough interest, CRASE (Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events), CPR training and a “Hack the House” course focused on making your home safe.

TOPIC: Merion Village Spring Community Yard Sale

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The annual Merion Village (Spring) Community Yard Sale is Saturday, May 7th from 9:00 to 3:00 PM! There are over 50 homes registered for the community map and there will be several sellers at the community lot at the E. Moler and S. Fourth Street intersection. There will also be a vendor selling kettle corn, free coffee and water from St. Paul’s Lutheran Church and a Goodwill donation booth at the lot. The MVA will also be hosting a community sale in the fall in response to the requests of several residents last year. The success of this sale will determine if we continue to host 2 sales each year.

TOPIC: 2016 Merion Village Garden Tour

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The committee met last week and is discussing new ideas for this year. They are looking for committee volunteers as well as gardens for the tour. The next meeting is May 10th at Planks on High at 7:00 PM.

TOPIC: Merion Village Neighborhood Cleanup

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: Several residents did a slow bike ride through the neighborhood and documented broken dumpsters and other code issues which were reported to the city. Otherwise, the attendance at the cleanup was very sparse.

TOPIC: Scheduled Events and Activities

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The neighborhood Hog Roast at the Red Brick was very well received and had far more attendees than anticipated. Red Brick will also host a lamb roast to coincide with our Garden Tour on Sunday, July 10th.

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



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TOPIC: 2016 Merion Village Summer Festival

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: We're working to have our first meeting in the next couple weeks. Our alcohol permit was approved and we will have a beer and wine garden for our event. We are looking for distributors to partner with us for both the beer and wine sales. We'll be looking for food trucks for this event as well. If you have any suggestions or contacts, please e-mail us at festival@merionvillage.org.

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 5 additional volunteers to help with this fundraising effort. Please visit our website to sign up as soon as possible as the last required training course is May 26th.

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

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The neighborhood's application for pride improvements were approved. Aside from the traffic light removals on Parsons, the commissions received notice that another stop light in the Deshler Park area will be removed as a school has closed and the pedestrian traffic no longer meets the requirement for a light. They are doing a City-wide review and Erin expects to see these types of removals increased. Chris Macisco resigned as the Merion Village Commission Member so this spot is still vacant. We are looking for an interested individual who we can then nominate for the position. Responsibilities include a monthly meeting on the 4th Tuesday of every month, additional meetings for specialized committees and projects, participation in planning and executing large events. The grand opening for the new library is Saturday, June 4th.

TOPIC: Parsons Avenue Redevelopment Plans

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: The MVA board authored a letter to the City outlining our concerns about the Parsons Avenue Redevelopment project and some of the oversights which could negatively impact new business in the area and pedestrian access/safety.

TOPIC: Barret Redevelopment Informational Meeting

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION: There will be a special meeting at St. Paul UCC on Wednesday, May 11th at 6:30 PM to discuss the changes to the proposed single family homes with the developer. This is an informational meeting and all interested parties are welcome to attend.

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

NEXT MONTHLY ASSOCIATION MEETING: Wednesday, June 1, 2016 in the basement of St. Paul UCC (225 E Gates St, Columbus, OH 43206) beginning promptly at 7:15 PM.