



# Merion Village Association

## Monthly Meeting Minutes: April 4, 2018

**DESCRIPTION:** Monthly Association Meeting

**LOCATION:** St. Paul UCC (225 E. Gates Street)

**MEETING DURATION:** 7:15 – 8:38 PM

**BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

- PRESIDENT | Allison Willford | [President@MerionVillage.org](mailto:President@MerionVillage.org)
- VICE PRESIDENT | Jessica Norman | [VicePresident@MerionVillage.org](mailto:VicePresident@MerionVillage.org)
- TREASURER | Eric Stegemoeller | [Treasurer@MerionVillage.org](mailto:Treasurer@MerionVillage.org)
- SECRETARY | Katie Eisel | [Secretary@MerionVillage.org](mailto:Secretary@MerionVillage.org)
- MEMBER-AT-LARGE | Karen Musick | [MemberAtLarge@MerionVillage.org](mailto:MemberAtLarge@MerionVillage.org)

**BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Allison Willford, Jessica Norman, Katie Eisel

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** 12 | **GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE:** 3

**New Faces at the Monthly Meeting**

Grant Ames introduced himself, he works for city councilman Mitchell Brown. There were also two new neighbors who live on Gates Street.

**Monthly MVA Treasurer's Report** presented by Eric Stegemoeller

There has been an increase in petty cash due to the scholarship fund. Income is up slightly due to two new platinum business memberships. We made \$290 at the Chili Cook-off and \$95 from Kroger Rewards. We paid \$820 for insurance which resulted in a monthly net loss of \$313.57.

**Merion Village Block Watch Update** presented by Dee Debenport

Officer Mark Browning introduced and Officer Medley from 11th precinct came to talk too. Members met March 28 at the Parsons Library to attack crime more. They now have 3 subcommittees - to tackle crime and would like to identify other south side block watches. Looking to add some sub-committees: available resources, community outreach, street captains, stakeholder outreach.

**Beautification & Zoning Committee Update** presented by Allison Willford

Noted two Earth Day events on April 14. Tony R. noted that a property on Deshler is looking for a zone variance for a carriage house.

**Social & Membership Committee Update** presented by Katie Eisel

We are hosting an event at Bake Me Happy from 8-11 as a Yard Sale Kick-off Neighborhood Meet Up on May 5 from 8-11 am.

**South Side Area Commission Update** presented by Present Commissioners

The property on South 5th has been tabled and will be presented at the next meeting. They are still working on the late mail with the new post master. From the sounds, mail is coming a bit better. They enacted their first human trafficking sting and offered STD testing, food, hygiene items and clothes. 12 were arrested. Substance abuse was clear on all. Vice officers showed patience and compassion. Operations will be planned over the months. Training opportunities will be available to get involved on April 25 at the Reeb Center at 6 pm. 12 women were detained. From the events: Consistency is key. Catch Court also works with prostitution. Allowing women to know they have safe place to stay like the Salvation Army.



**Guest Speaker: Franklin County Drug Czar** presented by Amy O'Grady

Amy O'Grady worked for the attorney general for 12 years. She also worked on behalf of mental health crime victims as a background judge and public defender and a City county employee. She states that "We have an addiction and mental health crisis." 75% of heroin addiction started with pills. There are currently 50 pills for every man woman and child. There has been a plan given to her that covers the following subject areas: treatment prevention, health care and law enforcement. Recovering and community engagement meets once a month. Action items: Help schools understand prevention through social emotional learning, promoting Self-confidence and self-regulation. community. They have created a pamphlet about how to talk to kids about drugs at any age which is based on data and contains practical information. She reminded everyone to take old prescriptions to a drug drop box or dispose of them at home. She asked: "How do we bridge?" Through building trust in the community. Teaching First responders to be patient. They were receiving 3 hours of mental health training and now it is up to 20 hours. They have been given access to naloxone. Though that drug may seem fine, overdose victims are not out of the woods, they still go to the hospital. Also, not a lot of people know where to get treatment, one is the Dalton Foundation. She ended with: *"We're not sitting tight. We can't be discouraged by the numbers. I'm encouraged."*

**385 Stewart** presented by Julie B.

The owner is proposing splitting the lot. The properties on either side have been split. The owner is renovating a historical home and adding garage. They are adding a two-story home on back lot with a 2-car garage. 4 variances are needed. The owner will sell the new property. This is very standard and others have been approved. Both are not owner occupied.

**Merion Village Neighborhood Survey** presented by Jessica N.

100 responses so far – the most ever! The survey is open until April 30 and is anonymous for anyone who lives, works or volunteers in the village!

**Merion Village Yard Sale** presented by Jessica N.

May 5<sup>th</sup>! 9-3 pm. Everyone may register until April 26. To be on the map is free for members and \$5 for non-members. The lawn at Tatoheads is available for \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members.

**Community Events & Activities**

- PAMA Monthly South Side Happy Hour | April 19th (4 PM – 7 PM) at Local Cantina
- Merion Village Spring Yard Sale | May 5th (9 AM – 3 PM) throughout Merion Village
- South Central Commons Spaghetti Dinner | May 5th (5 PM – 8 PM) at Thurman Ave. United Methodist

**GENERAL REMINDERS**

- ✓ Community Rewards: Visit our website for instructions to sign up for our 4 community reward programs 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)
- ✓ Visit our website at [www.MerionVillage.com](http://www.MerionVillage.com) for information about the MVA, past meeting minutes, details about upcoming events and a variety of helpful resources. You can also sign up for our monthly newsletter!

**NEXT MONTHLY ASSOCIATION MEETING:** Wednesday, May 2, 2018 | 7:15 PM at the Merion Village Info. Center (1330 S. Fourth Street, Columbus, OH 43206)