



## Merion Village Association

Meeting Minutes: August 5, 2015

**DESCRIPTION:** Monthly Association Meeting

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

**MEETING DURATION:** 7:15 PM – 8:30 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))
- SECRETARY: Jessica Norman ([JNorman@MerionVillage.org](mailto:JNorman@MerionVillage.org))

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

- TREASURER: Michele Audetat ([MAudetat@MerionVillage.org](mailto:MAudetat@MerionVillage.org))
- MEMBER-AT-LARGE: Tracey Studer ([TStuder@MerionVillage.org](mailto:TStuder@MerionVillage.org))

**TOPIC:** Introductions

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

**TOPIC:** Treasurer's Report (Presented by Tony Roell)

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Tony discussed the various line-times on the monthly report.

**TOPIC:** The Info. Center and Meeting Space

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The MVA Board has been discussing the Info. Center and our meeting locations. We will continue to meet at St. Paul UCC until the end of the year and will be making a donation to the church for the use of their space. Once we have a better idea of our normal meeting attendance, we will discuss permanent location options with the association members. We had previously discussed having our meetings in the T.Y. Furniture building. That entire building is now rented so we would not have enough room to meet there. There are a lot of things to consider and discuss. Part of this discussion will relate to one of the board's aspirations to obtain a grant for a paid staff person.

**TOPIC:** Community Reward Programs

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The board would like to remind members and residents of the several reward programs which help support the association. Visit our website for easy instructions to sign up for the 4 community reward programs in which we currently participate. These include AmazonSmile, Good Search, Good Shop and Kroger Community Rewards.

**TOPIC:** AARP Presentation

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** A volunteer advocate from AARP came to speak to attendees about senior caregiving and fraud risks. The speaker wanted to encourage both seniors and those who act as caregivers to be vigilant and careful of those who conduct scams and fraud.

**TOPIC:** Zoning Updates

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Tony and Seth approved a garage demolition at 39 E. Mithoff. When these types of requests are related to auxiliary structures, Tony and Seth review and approve typical requests to keep things moving. Larger structures and homes will be brought to the association for review and vote. There was a home demolished on Gates on August 5th that was never brought to the Association for review. Tony and Seth are investigating as this is not the proper procedure for demolitions within our boundaries.

**TOPIC:** Greenlawn Fire Station Concerns

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** At this point, it does not appear the City has any plans to do anything about the concerns related to the Greenlawn Fire Station and potential traffic issues during emergency situations. Tony has been asked to write a formal letter voicing these concerns. The MVA board will authorize and sign this.



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**TOPIC:** Meet Local / Buy Local Event at the Red Brick

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The first Meet Local / Buy Local event at Red Brick was very successful. We sold a total of 55 tickets and packed the house! Our next event will be with Bake Me Happy and we will also be working with Tatoheads and Hey Hey for future events.

**TOPIC:** Merion Village Garden Tour

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The weather for the Garden Tour was beautiful. A member raised some concerns about the errors in the Garden Tour Brochure and Map. There were not many volunteers for the tour committee this year and the printing deadlines created some confusion. Next year, we hope to have additional volunteers and help in planning.

**TOPIC:** Scheduled Events and Activities

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The Merion Village festival will be at the end of this month. At least one of our local schools will have a booth at our festival. We need help with day of volunteers and people who can help to canvas Merion Village to hang our door hanger advertisements. We need as many volunteers as possible. If you sign up to help, please be sure you are committed to helping. We are also looking for volunteers to help us get donations for our silent auctions. The farmers market is every Saturday from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM and will run through the end of September. Remind your neighbors to come out! We intend to plan a cleanup in October which Anne Stewart will chair again. Stay tuned for the date.

<u>DATE (TIME)</u>	<u>EVENT DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>COORDINATOR(S)</u>
August 30 <sup>th</sup> (12:00 PM - 7:00 PM)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Merion Village Festival	Festival Committee
<b>LOCATION:</b> Moeller Park (261 Hanford St, Columbus, OH 43206)		
September (TBD)	Meet Local / Buy Local Event	Coda B. and Jessica N.
<b>LOCATION:</b> Bake Me Happy		
October (TBD)	Meet Local / Buy Local Event	Coda B. and Jessica N.
<b>LOCATION:</b> Tatoheads Public House		
October (TBD)	Fall Community Cleanup	Anne S.
<b>LOCATION:</b> Initial Meetup at the MVA Info. Center (1330 S. 4 <sup>th</sup> Street)		
December (TBD)	Annual MVA Potluck and Bake Sale	Jessica N.
<b>LOCATION:</b> TBD		

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

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The zoning committee is meeting next weekend at 10:00 AM to discuss the cell tower that is being installed. At 11:00 AM, there will be an update on a project PAMA has been working to complete. One of the big projects for the commission is the Housing Expo on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 5:00 PM. If you'd like more information, contact Erin Synk at [ESynk@Yahoo.com](mailto:ESynk@Yahoo.com)

**TOPIC:** Volunteers from Stowe Mission

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Stowe Mission will help us by driving through alleys and reporting broken dumpsters to 311 and they will help us organize and digitize our historical data. Tony received an e-mail from a woman in Tucson who is a Merion family descendant and asked her to share any interesting information she learns.



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**TOPIC:** ADAMH Guest Next Month

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Next month, a representative from ADAMH will come to speak at our monthly meeting.

**TOPIC:** Merion Village Kiosks

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Our gateway kiosks signs have been refinished and will be rehung this month.

**TOPIC:** Business Development Grant

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** We are wrapping up the remaining funds from our business development grant and we've been able to do a lot of great things with these funds, including launching the Buy Local Rewards Program.

**TOPIC:** Merion Village Planter Makeovers

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The planter makeover project has officially begun. Coda and Jeff have been out looking at planters in the neighborhood. By the next meeting we'll have an illustrated plan so you can track our progress.

**GENERAL REMINDERS:**

- ✓ Kroger Community Rewards: Remember to sign-up with through your Kroger card account, selecting the MVA as your designate non-profit group to receive 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 and the rewards received by the MVA are NOT deducted from your personal Kroger benefits.
- ✓ AmazonSmile Rewards: Visit [www.Smile.Amazon.com](http://www.Smile.Amazon.com) to signup for a new account or link your existing Amazon.com account. You'll be prompted to choose a charity. Search "Merion Village Association" and select. After registration, be sure to go to the amazon smile site when you are going to make a purchase. A percentage of your purchase price will be donated to the MVA!
- ✓ GoodSearch / GoodShop Rewards: Visit [www.GoodSearch.com](http://www.GoodSearch.com) and sign up for a new account. Designate the "Merion Village Association" as your charity and save. When you use GoodSearch.com to search the web, the MVA will receive a penny per search. If you shop through the GoodShop site (who has over 30,000 vendors) a percentage of your purchase price will be donated to the MVA!
- ✓ 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, September 2, 2015 in the basement of St. Paul UCC (225 E Gates St, Columbus, OH 43206) beginning promptly at 7:15 PM.