



MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

MERION VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

February 5, 2020 | 7:15 PM – 8:30 PM | MVA Info Center (1330 S 4th St, Columbus, OH 43206)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

- ✓ PRESIDENT | Jess Norman
- ✓ VICE PRESIDENT | Jessica Hatala
- ✓ SECRETARY | Amanda Harris
- ✓ MEMBER-AT-LARGE | Lauren Larrick

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

- ✓ TREASURER | Eric Stegemoeller

NEW FACES AT THE MONTHLY MEETING

Welcome, Charlie Walker! He was a long time South Side resident who married the daughter of the family who owned the store Betty Anne. This is now our Walker Park!

MVA TREASURER'S REPORT

Eric is traveling for work, so we'll double up next month.

CONNECT 2 PROTECT BLOCK WATCH GUEST SPEAKER

The Merion Village Block Watch will now be known as Connect 2 Protect Block Watch. It grew thanks to National Night Out at Schiller Park last year. They gave presentations to the neighboring areas which wanted to join the block watch, so now it represents over 6,000 households, about half of which are in Merion Village. Connect 2 Protect partnered with Officer Medley to get everything set up so that 4 people representing each neighborhood feed up to Dee. Dave is the contact for Merion Village.

Attend the meetings! Big things are happening and they need your support. There will soon be a way to attend remotely if you aren't able to join in person. National Night Out will return this year with even bigger plans and the next meeting will be on the topic of Juvenile Justice with Judge Gil. Come with questions.

Officer Medley's Update: There were 2 shootings on Monday, February 3rd. Multiple people were involved and one person has been charged so far. There was a murder on E Livingston and the murderer was caught. There was an armed robbery at Family Dollar and that person was caught. A doorbell video caught an armed break-in and the victims being threatened with guns at the house. It notified officers who were then able to find both suspects. Dee gets the updates on any crime in the area and sends it out to the block watch members. Make sure, no matter where you are, you have a plan of what you'll do if you get caught up in a problem.

Dave's Update: He's the liaison to get Dee's message to everyone in Merion Village. Message him on Nextdoor if you need anything – there are no dumb questions. He'll tell you what he knows or find information for you. 11th and 13th precincts are covered but 13th precinct needs more people to come out. Planning to try to get a tour of the 13th substation set up to get people involved.

Follow Connect 2 Protect on Facebook to stay up to date!

MVA COMMITTEE UPDATES

Beautification | Membership | Social | Zoning

Beautification: We have a few people interested in this committee and are hoping to have news soon!

Membership: If you haven't renewed your membership yet, renew by the end of the month!

Social: Continuing the monthly happy hour on the 20th at Parsons Brewery from 5:30-7pm. If anyone has ideas for future events, reach out to Mike!

Zoning: Nothing going on just yet.

SOUTH SIDE AREA COMMISSION UPDATES

The public services committee is prioritizing south side intersections to work on safety. In Merion Village, there are 4 intersections that are being looked into. They'd love to have a letter of support from MVA, especially for Whittier and Bruck. They meet every 3rd Wednesday at the library at 6pm if anyone would like to come help.

City Council changes to Area Commission – extended length of terms from 2 to 3 years so bylaws will be changing as a result. There may be changes to update so each area is represented in the commission – places where it's typically been hard to get representation.

From the elections, there are 2 new members and the rest are returning. Mike Alcock will be joining as the new education chair.

Ganther's Place has an event this Saturday – House Sweet It Is.

South High School had the largest honors roll in a long time!

CHILI COOK-OFF



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The Chili Cook-Off is the fundraiser for the annual scholarship for a South High Senior from the south side. We're looking forward to the cook-off and just need chili cookers and chili eaters for meat and veggie categories! We're partnering with South Central Commons Block Watch again, with Ganther's Place and South Side STAY promoting the event. There will be a \$5 donation that allows you all you can taste access, plus raffles.

Will the scholarship be open to all kids in Merion Village? For right now, it's just for those at South High School. We've been trying to grow the scholarship before we expand it. Right now it's more reach than we can handle. We're hoping to grow it as we work with other areas in the south side.

MEETING TIME VOTE

Calling a motion tonight to change the meeting time back to 7pm. We'd moved it to 7:15 when the block watch met before our meeting, to give them more time.

VOTING RESULTS

APPROVE: 11 | OPPOSE: 0 | ABSTAIN: 0

BYLAW REVIEW COMMITTEE

We are looking for 3 active members to come together to review the bylaws. We've received some concerns and suggestions for updates. It's quite a process, but if you're up to the challenge it helps us make sure we're running as well as possible.

MVA BLOG

We've turned the newsletter into a blog! As a member, you're automatically signed up to get a digest of anything we've posted during the week. If you have any news or information to share, just reach out and we'll get it posted for you.

2020 GRANTS UPDATE

We submitted 2 grants to United Way this year. One is for a program to increase the tree canopy in our area. It'll allow us to set up a reimbursement program for any resident planting trees along the tree line. It would add to the programs the city does to encourage adding trees. The other is for the festival. We took feedback from the neighborhood to add additional art and acts to the festival and requested funds to add more entertainment, including a permanent art project to install in the park. We won't hear back about the grants for a while, but we will keep you updated!

OPEN FLOOR FOR QUESTIONS, CONCERNS AND COMMUNITY INTERESTS

- This year, the city is giving out grants for festivals. MVA could get up to \$5000 if we apply.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

House Sweet It Is: Community Tour & Dessert Tasting | February 8 (1 – 4 PM) at Parsons North Brewing Company
Merion Village Block Watch Meeting | February 11th (6:30 - 7:30 PM) at Parsons Branch Library
PAMA Monthly South Side Happy Hour | February 18th (5 - 7 PM) at Parsons North Brewing Company
Village Connections Monthly Brunch | February 20th (10:30 AM) at Scrambler Marie's Livingston
MVA Happy Hour | February 20th (5:30 – 7:30 PM) at Parsons North Brewing Company
South Side Area Commission Monthly Meeting | February 25th (6:30 - 8 PM) at Parsons Branch Library
South Side Scholarship Chili Cook-Off | February 29th (3 – 5 PM) at Hey Hey Bar & Grill

GENERAL REMINDERS

- ✓ Visit our website at www.MerionVillage.com for information about the MVA, past meeting minutes, details about upcoming events and a variety of helpful resources. You can also join the MVA and sign up for our monthly newsletter!
- ✓ Community Rewards: Remember that you can help support the MVA through our community reward partnerships! Visit our website for instructions to sign up for the 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

NEXT MONTHLY ASSOCIATION MEETING: Wednesday, March 4th | 7 PM at MVA Info Center (1330 S 4th St)



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