

# Merion Village Association

## MEETING MINUTES

March, 4, 2015

**DESCRIPTION:** Monthly Association Meeting

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

**MEETING DURATION:** 7:00 PM – 7:55 PM

**BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

- PRESIDENT: Tony Roell ([TRoell@MerionVillage.org](mailto:TRoell@MerionVillage.org))
- TREASURER: Michele Audetat ([MAudetat@MerionVillage.org](mailto:MAudetat@MerionVillage.org))
- SECRETARY: Jessica Norman ([JNorman@MerionVillage.org](mailto:JNorman@MerionVillage.org))

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

- VICE PRESIDENT: Coda Bruce ([CBruce@MerionVillage.org](mailto:CBruce@MerionVillage.org))
- MEMBER-AT-LARGE: Tracey Studer ([TStuder@MerionVillage.org](mailto:TStuder@MerionVillage.org))

**TOTAL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** 12

**TOTAL NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** 4

**TOPIC:** Introductions

**DURATION:** 1 Minute

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

**TOPIC:** Treasurer's Report (Presented by Michele Audetat)

**DURATION:** 1 Minute

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** We purchased a 2 year subscription to JotForm which will replace Adobe FormCentral, which is retiring.

**TOPIC:** 501c3 Status

**DURATION:** 1 Minute

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Our assigned handler is officially recommended the MVA for reestablishment of our 501c3 status.

**TOPIC:** Kroger Community Rewards

**DURATION:** 1 Minute

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Thank you for your participation in the Kroger Community Rewards program! The association brought in nearly \$800.00 in 2014 simply by registered participants sopping at Kroger. Remember to sign up each year!

**TOPIC:** Southbend Tavern Good Neighbor Agreement

**DURATION:** 3 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Anne S. has now received an e-mail response from the Southbend in regard to the items she and Michelle K. submitted. Southbend commented on the loud noise complaints. They are going to continue to monitor the situation but have been advised by the police department that they are well within the legal limits. The immediate neighbors were also concerned about public indecency claiming patrons from the bar are a nuisance. Anne will keep us posted but it's difficult to verify if these individuals are in fact patrons of the Southbend. Please continue to share your thoughts or concerns. A member brought up the bar's previous requests to install a patio. Tony is unsure if all paperwork has been finalized and Anne with the owner's to ask about the status.

**TOPIC:** Library Redevelopment

**DURATION:** 1 Minute

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** There have been no recent updates on the Library project.

**TOPIC:** Demolition Request for 123 E. Welch

**DURATION:** 4 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** We have a demolition request from the City of Columbus for 123 E. Welch. Tony drove by and felt the property needs work but is not necessarily a blight. He is working with the city to see if there are other things we can do before demolition. Members commented on how small the lot in question is and that if the house comes down, it's not likely anything else will go back up. A member asked if the land bank works with Habitat for Humanity at all, Tony was unsure.

**TOPIC:** Safety Committee and Block Watch Update

**DURATION:** 2 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** We are starting a block watch program. The first meeting will be at St. Paul's on Gates on 3/18/15 at 6:30 PM. If you would to participate, logon to our website and complete the registration form.

<http://www.merionvillage.org/safety>

**TOPIC:** Scheduled Events and Activities

**DURATION:** 4 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** We had a chili cook-off at the Hey Hey on the 1st and we had 8 pots of chili this year. Jeff Bruce won 1st place and we also had 2nd and 3rd place winners. In April, we are looking to have a wine-tasting at MINT on High Street which will coincide with a gallery event. We will serve finger foods. The Explorer's Club will host a chili cook-off on Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:00 PM. The cook-off will benefit Pets Without Parents in Clintonville.

DATE (TIME)	EVENT DESCRIPTION	COORDINATOR(S)
April 18 <sup>th</sup> (9:30 AM - ?)	Biannual Merion Village Community Clean-Up	Anne Stewart
<b>LOCATION:</b> TBD		
May 9 <sup>th</sup> (9:00 AM - 3:00 PM)	Merion Village Community Yard Sale	Jessica Norman, Michelle K & Others
<b>LOCATION:</b> Merion Village		
June (TDB)	Annual Merion Village Garden Tour	Garden Tour Committee
<b>LOCATION:</b> TBD		

**TOPIC:** Southside Area Commission Report (Presented by Chris Macisco)

**DURATION:** 4 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The Mid-Ohio Food Bank is taking over the garden level of the Reeb center with a pay as you can food pantry. There is a benefit for the Southside food pantry on May 14th at Woodlands Tavern beginning at 5:00 PM. The Urban infrastructure project was approved, almost unanimously. The distribution of these funds covers the Southside area commission area rather than specific neighborhoods. This is still a bit vague, but Erin is working to develop a list of what projects are important to the neighborhood. Tony will keep everyone updated on this project.

**TOPIC:** Local School Updates

**DURATION:** 3 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Anne S. spoke to a teacher at Southwood today and asked about the building council the schools were trying to start. Previously, budget dollars were pushed out through the district but are once again site-based. Anne let Danita, the Principal, know that the MVA is still interested in being a part of this process. The principal has been out quite a bit and is working to get things moving again. Stewart Elementary had their ribbon cutting last week.

**TOPIC:** Merion Village T-Shirts

**DURATION:** 1 Minute

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** We will be placing a order for more t-shirts soon to replenish some of the dwindling sizes. You can buy shirts at the monthly meetings or at our events. You can also order online at

<http://www.merionvillage.org/shop>

**TOPIC:** Merion Village Kiosks

**DURATION:** 1 Minute

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Last month we discussed the Idea Foundry withdrawing from our previous contract as they feel they don't have time. Tony researched other vendors and found that another company would charge more to install than our entire project cost. He is continuing to work through this with the Idea Foundry.

**TOPIC:** Business Development Grant

**DURATION:** 2 Minutes

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** We passed out the first batch of key tags to members present at the monthly meeting. These key tags are a standard perk of MVA membership benefits and will entitle holders to various offerings from local businesses who participate in the Buy Local Rewards Program.

**TOPIC: Arts Grant**

**DURATION: 1 Minute**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Tony was working toward applying for an arts grant for the neighborhood. It was suggested to Tony that we focus our attempts at a program that offers monthly grants for performances.

**TOPIC: Rehearsal Space for the Actor's Theatre**

**DURATION: 2 Minutes**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** The Actor's Theatre is looking for a new location to rehearse. If anyone knows of an available location, please let Tony know. They are able to pay rent for the space.

**TOPIC: Civic Leadership Academy**

**DURATION: 2 Minutes**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** There is a Leadership Academy being hosted for people who are civic-minded and want to help in their communities. This is a free program and Tony would love it if a few people from Merion Village were willing to attend.

**TOPIC: Merion Village Fundraiser at the Arts Festival in June**

**DURATION: 4 Minutes**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** Would you like to volunteer your time to help the Merion Village Association raise funds this summer? The MVA will be running a frozen alcoholic beverage booth and we're looking to residents who have time available between 10:00 AM and 11:00 PM on Friday, June 12th and Saturday, June 13th. The association will receive 10% of the gross sales from our booth each day and will receive no less than \$150.00. Volunteers must be at least 21 years of age and will be required to attend a training session in the near future. Please visit our website at [www.MerionVillage.org](http://www.MerionVillage.org) if you'd like to sign up to volunteer.

**TOPIC: Spring Into Action Event**

**DURATION: 5 Minutes**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:** There will be a community event Saturday March 21st to recognize each of the civics in the Southside Area Commission. They have asked each civic area to nominate a resident from each neighborhood who is very active in their area. This is going to be an annual event held at South High School. Jaiza Page will be in attendance. The theme is Spring in to Action. Anne S. suggested that the MVA have a table at the event. They also ask for a \$25.00 donation from each neighborhood which we provided.

**GENERAL REMINDERS:**

01. Kroger Community Rewards: Remember to sign-up with through your Kroger card account, selecting the MVA as your designation for 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.
02. Report potholes, 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, April 1<sup>st</sup>, at the MVA Information Center (1330 S. Fourth St., Columbus, OH 43206) beginning at 7:00 PM.