



MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

MERION VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

March 6, 2019 | 7:15 PM – 9 PM | MVA Info Center (1330 S 4th St, Columbus, OH 43206)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

NEW FACES AT THE MONTHLY MEETING

No new faces.

MVA TREASURER'S REPORT

In the month of February, \$143.82 was generated from memberships, \$128.83 was paid for utilities, \$158.25 was paid for supplies, and \$491.96 was paid for renewing subscriptions. Overall, we have a net loss of \$925.13 for the month and net loss of \$1060.95 for the year so far. We have \$31,453.76 in the account at this time.

The budget has been completed for the year, expecting an overall income of \$17,960 and expense of \$17,960.

Request to add grant details to report – how much, when we got it, and what it's for. An info sheet would work, too.

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS GUEST SPEAKER

There will be a brand new system this year to replace the 15 year old systems we've had. They asked the community what's important to them in a voting system and viewed models based on that feedback. One machine marks the ballot and another machine counts the ballot and counts about 60 ballots in 7 minutes. The two machines are not connected. The counter will also be able to accept regular paper ballots. If you have an opportunity to do so, work the polls! It's a 15 or so hour day, but it's worth it. You can join as a group and be placed together or join as individuals. There's a 2-4 hour class for training. If you've moved, don't forget to update your registration!

MERION VILLAGE BLOCK WATCH UPDATE

No one was present to present, but someone had attended and gave a brief report. People from the city came to present on abatements and housing – how houses got into the program that allows houses in the land bank to be fixed up. There was also a recap from South Side Strong event.

MVA COMMITTEE UPDATES

Membership, social, beautification, zoning, festival, and garden tour committees all need 2-3 people! Reach out to us if you're interested in helping! We can't do it without you!

SOUTH SIDE AREA COMMISSION UPDATES

Rob Dorans and Shayla Favor are the new City Council Members. Responsibilities will shuffle around. There is a round table meeting at the South Side Pride Center on the 19th at 1:30pm. There's also free legal clinics on Tuesday afternoons at the South Side Pride Center. There's a public service meeting on the 13th about the UIRF Fund for Urban Investment.

364 Whittier – commercial use eating/drinking establishment and adjacent parcel to turn into apartments. Revised so there's no longer a height variance. Density requirements of south side area plan is 3 units – they want 5. Parking will be 5 places and street. We can't vote on this because it's not in our area, but Tom can, so he's asking for feedback. Concern is people having to park far from their homes – increased chances for crime.

Proposal for parking study on Parsons now that work is complete – looking at where people are trying to park and locating better use for empty lots along parsons. Global study done by the city.

MVA ZONING PROCESSES & PROCEDURES DRAFT

Demolition coming through for 39 W Welch St. - doesn't look great and is on the edge of the neighborhood. Code enforcement said to fix it up or tear it down. The owner bought 4 properties in that area, unknown intention.



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Went over this draft in the November meeting. If you have questions, please reach out to MVA or Tony. The document's purpose is to hold us accountable to a process that is similar to other areas. It also allows individuals to know what to expect from us.

VOTING RESULTS

APPROVE: 13 | OPPOSE: 0 | ABSTAIN: 0

CHILI COOKOFF RECAP

We paired with South Central Commons Block Watch. It went really well – over \$500 was raised which was more than when we held separate cook-offs in the past. Last year we raised less than \$200. Lauren Larrick was the Grand Champ!

ANNUAL FESTIVAL KICKOFF MEETING

Monday, March 11th at 6:30pm at the Info Center. Come out and help! Average attendance is 75 vendors with an unknown number of attendees, as it's an open event. Promotion is held at the festival for membership – sign up and get rest of that year and next year membership. Fun fact: there are around 3100 households in Merion Village and we have around 60 members. Doing a push soon for membership.

MVA INFO CENTER OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, March 16th 2-5pm. Informal event to allow the neighborhood to check out the space, Bake Me Happy will be providing a tray of treats, plus there will be raffles. Open to ideas for the use of the community space!

MVA BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

We've made some changes this year to scale things back. We enjoyed the buy local key tag program, but due to low business partners and the cost associated, we're doing away with it. It can come back if there is interest later. The membership committee would be able to take this over with additional ideas. The business membership is live on the website now, if you know anyone who would like to sign up.

GAS LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Columbia Gas has contacted us about an upcoming project impacting South 3rd, South 4th, South 5th, South 6th, Frebis, and Moler. Those impacted will receive direct notice from them. The project will start in March or April, as weather allows. If you have questions, send them our way! Advice from neighbors who have been through this already: Take pictures of the sidewalk, street, and yard before the work begins so you can have evidence if they crack the sidewalk or leave any other issues. Also take pictures after. They would be responsible for damages. Water line coverage is recommended as there can be issues with the lines from the work they're doing.

JAEGER & THURMAN INTERSECTION

City looked at taking out the stop light and 2 parking spaces on each corner in order to put in stop signs. This has been attempted before. The traffic studies indicated the light doesn't meet the warrants full time, just a few part of the time. It is going to a flashing 4 way stop in 1 week's time to test the stop. If you have comments on this, contact 311.

OPEN FLOOR FOR QUESTIONS, CONCERNS AND COMMUNITY INTERESTS

- Ohio History Connection March 21st 7pm
- Columbus Building Doctor Clinic March 22 9-3pm
- Art project for the signal boxes down Parsons – collected submissions to go around boxes. Vote for your favorites on PAMA facebook page.
- Creative crosswalks – voting on PAMA facebook page
- Human trafficking training through She Has a Name – highly recommended to take

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

Festival Kickoff Planning Meeting | Monday, March 11th (6:30 PM) at MVA Info Center

Merion Village Block Watch Meeting | Tuesday, March 12th (6:30 - 7:30 PM) at Parsons Branch Library



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MVA Info Center Open House | Saturday, March 16th (2 – 5 PM) at MVA Info Center

PAMA Monthly South Side Happy Hour | Tuesday, March 19th (5 - 7 PM) at Tatoheads

Village Connections Monthly Brunch | Thursday, March 21st (10:30 AM) at Scrambler Marie's Livingston

South Side Area Commission Meeting | Tuesday, March 26th (6:30 - 8 PM) at Parsons Branch Library

MVA Monthly Meeting | Wednesday, April 3rd (7:15 PM) at MVA Info Center

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 signup 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, April 3rd | 7:15 PM at MVA Info Center (1330 S 4th St.)