



# MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

MERION VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

September 4, 2019 | 7:15 PM - 8 PM | MVA Info Center (1330 S 4<sup>th</sup> 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**

Welcome to Nick and Matt!

## **MVA TREASURER'S REPORT**

There is about \$8,500 in checking, \$20,000 in savings, and \$870 in petty cash. Some money will be moved from checking to petty for the festival. For income, there's been some action with household memberships, a bronze business membership, sponsorship from the garden tour, summer festival for vendors, and rental of the info center. For expenses, there's rent, utilities, a special rider for our insurance policy for the festival, and summer festival expenses. If you have interest in using some of the grant funds, let us know. Our treasurer also has some homework: asked to create a list of what each grant is for and what the money remaining can be used towards.

## **WALKABILITY AUDITS GUEST SPEAKER**

The Merion Village Block Watch is partnering with Columbus Public Health to do a walkability audit of the area. This is when neighbors get together to walk the neighborhood and identify any issues with walking in the neighborhood such as low hanging branches and cracked/bad sidewalks. They'll make a report that can be taken to city council to have anything addressed that 311 portal doesn't fix. There are 2 routes being considered for September 28<sup>th</sup> at an unknown time – north and south. Each route is about 2-2.5 miles long. There will be a training session on this process and then the walk will start. If many people show up, they can be split into 2 groups so both routes can be covered. If not, the other route will be covered at another time. Get the word out! More info coming soon.

## **MERION VILLAGE BLOCK WATCH UPDATE**

No one present.

## **295 E JENKINS AVE VARIANCE REQUEST**

No one from the property showed up to the meeting, so a vote cannot occur. What happens next? Since they were a no show, we'd recommend to the south side commission that they give extra time so we have a chance to hear them out and provide a recommendation. General discussion followed to record topics we have questions on: The cars in the area get broken into often, so the neighbors want their cars in a range where their cameras can see their cars. How many people would be at the gym at once and at what times? Is it possible to list 8<sup>th</sup> instead of Jenkins as where to park for the business? What kind of gym will it be? Will there be classes or crossfit where many people are showing up at once?

## **MVA COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Beautification | Membership | Social | Zoning

Introducing our new social chair, Mike! If you have any suggestions, let him know. The possibilities are endless, potluck, game night, happy hours, ... We're kicking things off with a happy hour on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month. The first one will be posted on Facebook soon!

The committees are run by volunteers – if you'd like to get one going, let us know!

## **SOUTH SIDE AREA COMMISSION UPDATES**

Public services committee is evaluating all the city parks in the south side for repairs and amenities to be recommended for the budget. They've gone through 8 of 12 so far, with Moeller Park still to come. There is info on their website



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(columbussouthside.org) if anyone is interested. Moeller had a ton of requests in the survey! They'll be putting together a final tiered list of priorities in their October meeting.

Is the park attached to Southwood School in the 12 parks being evaluated? It has a city park sign. Erin is going to look into it. There are 2 baseball diamonds, but it's otherwise undeveloped.

## **7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MERION VILLAGE FESTIVAL**

This Sunday from noon to 6pm. We still need volunteers – sign up on our website. All volunteers will get a swag bag! There's a silent auction going on online that will close Sunday at 5:30pm. There are 40 baskets right now and a few more will be posted on Sunday. There will be over 80 vendors, 3 breweries, 4 food trucks, children activities, dancing, aerial act at 4:30, 5 bands, and yoga from 11-12. It'll also be a great day to become a member – there is a one day promotion where it's good through the rest of this year AND all of next year. Bring a blanket and hang out!

## **MERION VILLAGE AUTUMN YARD SALE**

Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 3pm. There are 3 weeks left to register! The link to sign up is on our website and Facebook. It's free for members and \$5 for non-members. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for more information!

## **NOMINATION COMMITTEE**

Treasurer, Secretary, and Member-at-Large are all up for election this year! We need a committee to coordinate everyone running for positions and announce them at the October meeting so we can vote in November. They'll also count the votes in November. Email us or fill out the form on our website if you're interested in the committee or one of the open positions!

## **VOLUNTEER FOR SOUTH HIGH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

South Central Commons has positions left for volunteers for the October 11<sup>th</sup> football game from 5:30-9pm. Let us know if you're available to volunteer!

## **OPEN FLOOR FOR QUESTIONS, CONCERNS AND COMMUNITY INTERESTS**

- Don't forget to sign up for community rewards programs! Kroger, Amazon, GoodSearch, and GoodShop all donate money to us each quarter, based on how many people choose MVA as their nonprofit. These programs add no cost to you!
- Columbus Outdoor Pursuits – Nonprofit that's existed since the 1930s. They do bicycle tours of Scioto river valley, hikes, paddles, kayaking, and more. They recently submitted a grant proposal to serve Ohio for Make a Difference Day on October 26<sup>th</sup> by clearing litter that would be entering our waterways. If they receive the grant, they'll be organizing litter pickup opportunities where they'll supply everything and just need volunteers. Keep this in mind! They'll send out more info later. Their goal, ultimately, is to adopt the South High Street corridor to maintain this area as entryway to our community. Their activities are all on their website and there's also a startup java shop on the property.

## **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES & EVENTS**

Saint Mary Farmers Market | Saturdays till October 5th (9 – 12 PM) at Saint Mary School German Village

7<sup>th</sup> Annual Merion Village Festival | September 8th (12 – 6 PM) at Moeller Park

Merion Village Block Watch Meeting | September 10th (6:30 - 7:30 PM) at Parsons Branch Library

Scioto Fest | September 12-15th (Various Times) at Scioto Audubon

PAMA Monthly South Side Happy Hour | September 17th (5 - 7 PM) at Dawghouse Pizza & Bar

Village Connections Monthly Brunch | September 19th (10:30 AM) at Scrambler Marie's Livingston

South Side Area Commission Monthly Meeting | September 24th (6:30 - 8 PM) at Parsons Branch Library

Merion Village Autumn Yard Sale | October 5th (9 – 3 PM) throughout Merion Village

## **GENERAL REMINDERS**

- ✓ 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 join the MVA and signup for our monthly newsletter!



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- ✓ 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](http://www.311.columbus.gov)

**NEXT MONTHLY ASSOCIATION MEETING:** Wednesday, October 2nd | 7:15 PM at MVA Info Center (1330 S 4<sup>th</sup> St)