MVBA Newsletter | April 2021



No General Meeting in April

As a reminder, there is no general meeting in April. Please join us on Tuesday, May 18th at 7:30pm for our next MVBA General Meeting. The May 18th meeting will be held remotely via Zoom; more details on this meeting will be provided in next month's newsletter.

As always, our general meetings are free and open to the public, members and non-members alike. Please join us to discuss important issues and events related to our Mount Vernon community.

Please reach out to us with any questions. The email directory is available at the bottom of the newsletter.



Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information

Baltimore City continues to deal with the impact of COVID-19. As of April 19th, Baltimore City has 49,234 COVID-19 cases and 899 deaths. For health resources on the virus, the City, State and Federal Government all have information on their websites:

- Baltimore City Health Department
- Maryland Department of HealthCenters for Disease Control and Prevention

As a reminder, Baltimore City continues to update their online COVID-19 Dashboard. Be sure to check it out!

To learn more about COVID-19 from the above-listed agencies, check out the websites via the links provided above as well. Information continues to change on a frequent basis, so please continuously visit these websites--lots of valuable information!

Additionally, please check out our MVBA Facebook page for information.

Continued wishes of good health to everyone!



Mayor Scott's Phase I Restrictions Continue

_

Baltimore City continues to remain under Phase I restrictions per Mayor Scott's most recent executive order effective March 26th. Under Mayor Scott's executive order, the following restrictions are in place:

Health Indicator Assessment Period: Will decrease from every four weeks to a reevaluation every two weeks.

Gatherings: Gatherings will need to comply with any relevant capacity based upon the space in which they're located.

Religious Facilities: Limited to 50% of maximum occupancy.

Retail Establishments and Malls: Limited to 50% of maximum occupancy.

Indoor Recreational Establishments: All indoor recreation sites except for hookah/cigar lounges will be allowed to reopen at 50% capacity. Hookah and cigar lounges may operate retail areas at 50% capacity, but no smoking is allowed on site.

Outdoor Recreational Establishments: Limited to 50% of maximum occupancy.

Organized Amateur Sports: Allowed with certain guidelines in place.

Fitness Centers: Limited to 50% of maximum occupancy. Fitness classes are allowed -- 10 person limit or 25% capacity, whichever is greater -- social distancing and masks required.

Casinos: Limited to 50% of maximum occupancy. Dining areas allowed to reopen, following the requirements of foodservice establishments.

Foodservice Establishments: Outdoor dining can resume at 75% capacity. If space is tented, the tent needs to be open on <u>all sides</u>. Indoor dining can resume at 50% capacity.

Bars without food licenses will also be allowed to reopen -- 75% outdoors, 50% indoors. Removal of one-hour time limit for foodservice establishments. Carry-out, delivery, and drive-through service may continue. All foodservice establishments must keep a log of contact information for patrons and staff for contact tracing purposes.

Personal Services: Limited to 50% of maximum occupancy. Staff must wear face coverings at all times while indoors. Services must be provided on an appointment-only basis, and a log must be kept of names of customers, staff providing services, and other residents who enter the shop.

Libraries: Limited to 50% maximum capacity.

Museums, Zoos, Aquariums: Limited to 50% of maximum occupancy.

Theaters and Outdoor Entertainment Venues: Live streaming of performances is allowed. Exemption on mask order on performers for live and live streamed performance with appropriate mitigation barriers in place. Indoor theaters are limited to the lesser of 50% occupancy or 100 persons. Outdoor entertainment venues are limited to the lesser of 75% occupancy or 250 persons.

For more information on this executive order, please click here.





Encourage MVBA Membership

_

Folks, encourage your neighbors and other businesses in Mount Vernon to become members of MVBA. It is only \$20 for Individuals and \$50 for Businesses, per year, to become a member. We welcome all residents and businesses in the neighborhood to join MVBA by clicking HERE.

Also, if you're membership expired, it's not too late to rejoin!

If you have any questions on membership, please reach out to our Membership Committee at membership@mvba.org.



Continue Shopping Locally in 2021

As we now welcome Spring, please continue to support your local businesses—shop locally! Whether it's buying groceries, prepared foods, wine/beer/liquor, toiletries, cleaning products, clothing—and even masks, show your support by purchasing items locally.

Keep giving that **LOVE** to our Mount Vernon businesses!



Need Children's Park Committee Volunteers

The MVBA Children's Park Committee is looking for more volunteer members. The committee, which is also registered as a "Friends of" volunteer group with Baltimore City's Recreation and

Some of the activities of the committee involve:

- Locking and unlocking the park
- · Keeping the park clean
- Keeping the park green (gardening, weeding, watering plants)

Parks department, handles the stewardship of the Mount Vernon Children's Park.

- Keeping the fountain in working order (turning on in May and off in September)
- Organizing goal-oriented fundraisers (i.e., Shade Umbrella, Little Free Library)
- Monitoring Facebook, e-mail, and other social media accounts
- Working with Midtown Benefits District Staff

This is not an exhaustive list, nor is it the sole responsibility of one volunteer. We have a great partnership with Midtown, and their staff help unlock the park and clean the park on a seasonal schedule. We also have a very knowledgeable volunteer that helps specifically with the splash fountain.

Traditionally, 2 or 3 families have made up the committee. As time goes by, people move away or little children become big children putting different time commitments and priorities on their parents. Every so often, responsibility of the park transfers from one group to another. We are nearing one of those transitions now and would like to add new members to the committee that are interested in helping with any of the activities listed above. If interested, please reach out to John Molino at childrenspark@mvba.org.

We would be happy to have you!



SPRING IS HERE!

Join Mayor Scott and the Department of Public Works on April 24, 2021 for the Mayor's Annual Spring Cleanup.

Due to the ongoing impact of COVID-19, Baltimore residents are encouraged to clean where you live – sweep around your properties, curbsides and alleyways; beautify your outdoor space and more.

Remember to wear your masks and to practice social distancing. #LetsMakeCleaningOurCityContagious

Spring Cleanup Registration Guidelines:

To register and receive bags for the Spring Cleanup, call 311 or use the BALT311 mobile app.

Spring Cleanup participants who call 311 to register will receive up to five (5) bags, per individual/per service request.

Bags will be available for pick up April 12 – 23 at the DPW's Sanitation Yards located at 111 Kane Street (9 a.m. - 2 p.m.) and 2840 Sisson Street (9 a.m. – 5 p.m.) Residents must provide the Service Request Number received at the time of 311 registration to receive Spring Cleanup bags.





Mayoral Spring Cleanup Day

Saturday, April 24th

Join your fellow neighbors in picking up trash, sweeping your sidewalks and alleys, and removing weeds from tree wells — beautify your outdoor space! If everyone takes care of their sidewalk and alley areas, our community will look amazing!

See information above for registering to receive trash bags. Please reach out to info@mvba.org with any questions regarding this cleanup day.



Residential Permit Parking Enforcement Still No Changes at this time!

_

As mentioned before, the Baltimore City Department of Transportation resumed parking enforcement of Residential Permit Parking on September 1st.

Permits that expired after March 2020 will be honored until the Governor lifts the Emergency Order.

Residents who live at an eligible RPP address can apply online immediately at pabc.thepermitstore.com for a new permit if you meet one of the following criteria:

- You are a new RPP customer who has not been able to purchase a permit due to the COVID-19 closure of PABC offices.
- You are an existing customer who has purchased a new vehicle or has new plates.
- You are an existing customer who moved from one RPP area to another. If you moved
 within the same RPP area, you may continue to use the decal and visitor permit(s) you
 already have.

Residents who qualify can apply immediately online at pabc.thepermitstore.com to have a permit mailed to them. The online application will allow residents to upload the required documents that are usually verified in person at the Parking Authority Office or at a Community Pickup. A Parking Authority team member will verify the documents online and mail residents their permits.

The Parking Authority Office, located at 200 W. Lombard Street, is now open on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Extended late-night hours and Saturday hours will not be available. The office will be open for residents who do not have online access or experience problems with the website.

For the safety of the Parking Authority employees and customers, the office will open with the

following restrictions:

- There will be a maximum of five customers allowed in the office at a time. Please form a line outside along the wall until you are called to come in.
- A mask or face covering must be worn at all times.
- A health screening will be required in the Arena Garage lobby closest to our office main entrance before you may enter the PABC office. If you do not pass the health screening, entry will be denied.
- Hand sanitizer will be available. Please use some when you enter.
- Please do not walk up to any employee desk. Please have a seat and wait to be called, as employees must wipe down surfaces between each customer.

This information will also be posted on their website. If you have any questions about address

eligibility, the online application, or their reopening procedures, please contact them at (443) 573-

2800 or email rpp@bcparking.com.



Baltimore City Council & Service Updates

_

- The next 2021 City Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 3rd at 5pm. Please
 note that all council hearings continue to be held virtually at this time. You can tune into
 the City Council meetings <u>online</u> or on CharmTV (Channel 25/1085HD). A list of <u>all of
 the hearings can be viewed here</u>.
- For more information on the Baltimore City Council, please visit them here.



Dealing with Graffiti in Mount Vernon

_

Graffiti in our neighborhood continues to be an issue. Good news though --- the City will be restoring the Graffiti Removal Service by no later than April 30th following Councilmen Costello and Stokes advocating on our behalf.

If you are a property owner and have received a Code Violation Notice and Order indicating you have 30 days to abate the violation, please reach out to your respective Councilmember to work

with DHCD (Department of Housing & Community Development) to have an extension granted until Graffiti Removal service has been full restored.



Picking Up After Your Dog in the Community

_

Please pick up after your dog. It's a city requirement in which you can be fined --- and it's common courtesy to your neighbors. Noone wants to step in dog mess. And did you know that rats are attracted to it and actually consume it?

Please be thoughtful to others in the community! MVBA thanks you in advance.



MVBA Tree Planting Event

_

Saturday, May 8th | 9am-12pm | 1010 Morton St.

_

Join us to take care of Mount Vernon's trees on Saturday, May 8th from 9am to 12pm. No tree planting experience necessary. We'll meet at Baby's on Fire at 1010 Morton Street.

This is a rain-or-shine volunteer event, so please dress for the weather. We recommend bringing a water bottle, wearing closed-toe shoes, and bringing work gloves if you have them. We will also have work gloves available.





Reminder to all Mount Vernon Residents

on Unpermitted Work

_

Please photograph and report any unusual construction or demolition activity

to <u>stewardship@mvba.org</u> as soon as you witness it, and all reports will be kept confidential.



As shown below, vinyl window replacement is not permitted; wooden window replacement is required given that Mount Vernon is a historic district.





MIDTOWN BALTIMORE

Keeping Midtown Clean, Green & Safe

Midtown Resource Guides

_

As part of an ongoing initiative to keep the District informed, Midtown has developed resource guides to help constituents understand the step-by-step approach to key topics Midtown Baltimore often addresses.

<u>Click here</u> for accessing the Resource Guides as well as how to contact Midtown for any concerns and/or requests.



Flower Mart at Home | MVP Conservancy

_

Friday, April 30th & Saturday, May 1st

Save the Date! and join the Mount Vernon Place Conservancy virtually on Friday, April 30th and Saturday, May 1st for their Flower Mart at Home. The Conservancy is planning this event celebrating Spring and the greening of the city.

For more information on this event, please visit them via their Facebook page <u>here</u>.

Coming Up in May

- FlowerMart at Home | April 30th & May 1st
- MVBA Tree Planting | May 8th
- MVBA May 2021 General Meeting | May 18th

Officers

CONTACTS 2021

President Michele Richter president@mvba.org
Vice President Wesley Stuckey vicepresident@mvba.org
Treasurer Angie Jackiewicz treasurer@mvba.org
Development Officer Steve Shen development@mvba.org
Secretary/Information Officer Susan Warren secretary@mvba.org

Marjil Casso John Molino Scott Ponemone Lex Wiesand

Directors

Clean + Beautiful Community Service + Lex Wiesand
Engagement Engagement
Development
Steve Shen
Dog Park
Marci Yankelov
Grants
Jack Danna
Liguor Review
Michele Richter

Marketing + Promotions Wesley Stuckey Susan Warren & Angie <u>membership@mvba.org</u> Jackiewicz Steve Johnson <u>parking@mvba.org</u>
Safety Vicki Schassler <u>safety@mvba.org</u>
Trees + Greening MJ Dame <u>trees@mwba.org</u>
Zoning Steve Shen <u>zoning@mvba.org</u>

Committees

Architectural Review Steve Shen <u>arc@mvba.org</u> Jason Curtis

Business Onahlea Shimunek <u>business@mvba.org</u> Jack Danna

John Molino <u>childrenspark@mvba.org</u> Steve Johnson. Business Onahlea Shimunek <u>flusiness@invoa.org</u> Steve John:
Children's Park John Molino <u>childrenspark@mvba.org</u> Steve John:
Clean + Beautiful Michele Richter <u>cleanandbeautiful@mvba.org</u> Brian Levy community@mvba.org development@mvba.org Marci Yankelov <u>dogpark@mvba.org</u> grants@mvba.org liquor@mvba.org marketing@mvba.org

To contact members by phone, call MVBA's main number 410-528-1919 and select the desired extension from the menu.— Mount Vernon-Belvedere Association, 1 East Chase Street, Suite 2, Baltimore, MD 21202 Unsubscribe