



NEWSLETTER

July 2019

The Clarion Newsletter — Volume 34, Number 7

## General Meeting

Tuesday, July 16th | 7:30pm

As a reminder, our next MVBA General Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, July 16th** beginning at 7:30pm at 12 W. Madison Street (corner of Madison & Morton Streets). Please use the side entrance on Morton Street to enter. At this meeting, we will be joined by Seawall for a presentation on the planned redevelopment of Lexington Market.

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.

## New MVBA Business Members

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Each month, we recognize new businesses that join MVBA membership.

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 businesses in the neighborhood to join MVBA by clicking [HERE](#). If you have any questions on membership, please reach out to our Membership Committee Chair, Julie Canard at [membership@mvba.org](mailto:membership@mvba.org).



## Transform Lexington Market

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Seawall will be joining us to discuss their plans for the redevelopment of Lexington Market. For more information on the market's transformation, please [click here](#).

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## Accepting Candidate Nominations for Board Positions

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### ELECTED OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

With the November 19<sup>st</sup> MVBA Board Elections approaching, we are currently accepting nominations for serving on the MVBA Board. The four (4) board positions including President, Vice President and Directors (2) are up for election:

#### **President** *(serving 2-year term)*

*Michele Richter, President*

The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association.

Additional Responsibilities include:

- *The President shall preside at all Board and General Membership meetings of the Association.*
- *The President shall have general management and direction of the activities of the Association and all powers ordinarily exercised by the President of an organization.*
- *The President shall prepare the agenda for all meetings of Directors and the general membership, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors and shall call special meetings of the members and directors, consistent with the bylaws.*

- *The President shall sign all contracts and agreements in the name of the Association following a resolution of the Board of Directors.*
- *If the amount or scope exceeds approved budgets, the President shall sign all notices, checks, drafts, warrants, or other orders for the payment of money which are drawn, and also signed by the Treasurer.*
- *The President shall serve as the representative of the Association at meetings and in discussions with public and private agencies, unless the Directors authorize a special committee or individual to represent the Association.*
- *The President shall have such other powers and duties as may, from time to time, be assigned by the Board of Directors.*

Time Commitment for Position:

*30+ hours per week*

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### **Vice President** *(serving 2-year term)*

*Wesley Stuckey, Current Vice President*

The Vice President shall, in the absence of the President, perform all duties and have all the powers of the President.

Additional Responsibilities include:

- *The Vice President shall also have such additional powers and duties as may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors.*

Time Commitment for Position:

20+ hours per week

*Note: Officers (includes President and Vice President) shall be a property owner, business owner, and/or tenant within the boundaries of the Association who have demonstrated a longstanding commitment of at least two (2) years to the community through an existing track record of service on the Board or on Committees, unless waived by two-thirds (⅔) of the board members eligible to vote. No officer may hold more than one office concurrently.*

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**Director** *(2 positions serving 3-year term)*

*Teddy Davidson & John Molino, Current Directors*

The purpose and function of the Board of Directors of the Association shall be to provide advice and consent to the President in the day-to-day management of the Association's affairs.

Additional Responsibilities include:

- *Meeting and acting as a board and adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of meetings and management of the Association as are deemed proper, not inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Association.*
- *Participate in the planning of the meetings of the Association and to prepare recommendations for the membership.*

- *Approve the expenditures funds by the officers of the Association and to approve and adopt a budget for the Association each year.*
- *Receive an annual statement of income and expense and provide for its audit.*
- *Act on behalf of the issue(s) at a general meeting of the full membership.*
- *Execute such additional duties as may be required by the bylaws, as amended from time to time.*

Time Commitment for Position:

*10+ hours per week*

## **APPOINTED OFFICERS**

As per the newly approved bylaws, the following three Officer positions will be appointed by the Board of Directors following the November 19th General Election:

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### **Secretary/Information Officer** *(serving 2-year term)*

*New Position, No Current Appointment*

The Secretary/Information Officer shall retain accurate records of all Board and Membership meetings of the Association.

Records both digital and physical shall be accessible to board members and shall be transferred to a newly elected

Secretary/Information Officer upon commencement of that member's term. The Secretary/Information Officer shall keep a record of those members who attend each meeting. In the event of a vote challenge, it shall be the responsibility of the

Secretary/Information Officer to ascertain from a review of the membership rolls and membership cards whether an individual is entitled to vote. Unless waived, the minutes of the preceding Board and Membership meetings shall be read at each Membership meeting of the Association and submitted to the membership for their approval or amendment. The Secretary/Information Officer shall be responsible for maintaining and updating all social media accounts and promoting the interests of the Association in the digital domain.

Time Commitment for Position:

*15+ hours per week*

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### **Development Officer** *(serving 2-year term)*

*New Position, No Current Appointment*

The Development Officer shall be responsible for representing and promoting the interests of the Association regarding historic preservation, development, and zoning matters.

Additional Responsibilities include:

- The Development Officer will oversee the work of the Chairs of the Architectural Review, Development and Zoning Committees, if such Chairs are appointed by the President. If no Chair is appointed to any of the three committees, the Development Officer shall act as Chair of that committee.

Time Commitment for Position:

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### **Treasurer** *(serving 2-year term)*

*Onahlea Shimunek, Current Treasurer*

The Treasurer shall be responsible for fulfilling duties to ensure the Association remains in good standing as well as responsible for all funds in the name of the Association and shall deposit all funds in a bank designated by the Board of Directors. *(Candidates for Treasurer should have a financial or accounting background, give the fiduciary responsibilities of the position.)*

Additional Responsibilities include:

- *The Treasurer shall have major responsibility for the collection of dues each year and shall bring to each meeting of the Association, an up-to-date record of all paid and unpaid members.*
- *Unless specifically waived, the Treasurer shall make a report to the membership at least twice a year at an Association meeting of the financial condition of the Association.*
- *The Treasurer shall also prepare and submit to the Board a budget at the start of each year, projecting income and expenditures, which budget shall be adopted or amended.*
- *The Treasurer shall retain records of all transactions and prepare an annual report of the income and expenses and submit same to the Board of Directors.*



*Financial records both digital and physical shall be accessible to board members as necessary.*

Time Commitment for Position:

*15+ hours per week*

**Elected board members must be members in good standing who are eligible to vote and shall be a property owner, business owner, and/or tenant within the boundaries of the Association who have demonstrated a longstanding commitment to the community through an existing track record of service on Committees, by volunteering, and/or by improvement of properties in the community.**

**All board members are expected to act as a Chair/Co-Chair of a MVBA Committee. Additionally, all board members must disclose potential and real conflicts of interest to the Board and recuse themselves, if appropriate.**

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Are you interested in any of the above positions and are an active MVBA member? If so, please complete a short questionnaire at <http://mvba.org/election2019/> and upload a resume with your experience demonstrating how you would be a good candidate for that given position. Be sure to identify what position(s) you are interested in. You'll hear from the Nominations Committee before September regarding your interest as well as any follow-up questions.

All potential candidates on the Board's slate for the elected positions will be picked by September 3rd. These candidates will be given a few minutes to speak and present themselves at the September 17th General Membership as well as at the November 19th General Membership before the election. Be sure to mark your calendars for the November General Election taking place on Tuesday, November 19th starting at 7:30pm!

Applicants interested in any of the three appointed officer positions will be contacted following the Board's review and appointment.



## Homelessness, Panhandling & Loitering

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Officials at the Mayor's Office of Human Services would like our help tracking incidents of homelessness, panhandling

and/or loitering, as mentioned previously. By sending a quick email to the following email address:

**homelessoutreach@baltimorecity.gov** regarding your experiences with homelessness, panhandling and/or loitering, it gives officials an opportunity to track these incidents and begin outreach with the individuals, as necessary. Of course, please call 911 if there is an emergency.

***Please note that the City is able to receive email and voice-mail messages once again.***



## Baltimore City Council Legislative Updates

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The next Council Meeting is **Monday, July 22nd**. [Click Here](#) for the calendar for all upcoming Council Meetings and Hearings. All hearings and council meetings are open to the public. You'll need a photo id to enter City Hall.

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## Spruce Up Your Tree Wells!

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Please, please, please! Clean up your tree wells!

MVBA needs your help in sprucing up the tree wells in front of your building. A good number of tree wells in the community have weeds and lack mulch to keep them healthy.

Remember, it is the property owner's responsibility to keep the sidewalks and tree wells, in front of their property, in tip-top shape.

Additionally, if you are interested in participating in a tree well clean-up and/or would need help in getting bags of mulch transported to your property, please email the Clean & Beautiful Committee at [cleanandbeautiful@mvba.org](mailto:cleanandbeautiful@mvba.org).

Let's get our community looking its best!





## Keeping the Neighborhood Free of Trash

We need your help!

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We continue to receive complaints from folks in the community regarding how trash is not properly placed in containers, dog feces on the sidewalks, large furniture/bulk items left curbside, and loose cups/bags/food wrappers/etc blowing around.

Please help us and Midtown by keeping trash in the appropriate cans and off the street. If you see something, do something!

For information about bulk trash pick up, drop off centers, and recycling, visit our [Community Resources](#) page and look under TRASH.





## Artscape 2019

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July 19th — 21st

FRI: 11am-9pm | SAT: 11am-9pm | SUN: 11am-

7pm Charles Street at Mount Royal

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In perfect tradition, the scorching heat of summer in Baltimore is here for Artscape. For more information, visit [Artscape.org](https://www.artscape.org).



## Upcoming Business Round Table: Summer Quarterly Meeting

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Thursday, July 25th | 9-11am 12 W. Madison Street

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MVBA continues to welcome all local Business Owners to the next quarterly Business Round Table held on Thursday, July 25th from 9-11am at 12 W. Madison Street (*corner of Madison & Morton Streets*).

Also, save the date for our Fall 2019 Business Round Table on Thursday, September 26th from 9-11am.





Baltimore residents, offices, restaurants, hotels, and cultural institutions are adjusting to Coronavirus-related disruptions. We will continue to advocate for our restaurant community, share information when helpful, and assist with economic recovery when the time comes. #ProudlyBaltimore #BaltRW

RESTAURANT WEEK PARTICIPANTS - tag us with your plans to open/close/offer delivery or carryout, etc. and we'll share on the @BmoreRestaurantWeek Instagram page and Facebook.com/BaltimoreRestaurantWeek.

## Baltimore Restaurant Week

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August 2nd - August 11th

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Baltimore is a delicious city - seriously, it's the local mecca of food. Just last year, Thrillist named Baltimore one of "The Best Food City in Every State". If you aren't dining here, you are missing out.

**Enjoy two-course brunch and lunch menus from \$12-20, and three-course dinner menus from \$20-\$35.** The price points allows you to try somewhere new, go out to lunch, have a date night (or two). Make reservations early and often. [Click here](#) to see what restaurants are participating and get more information.

And don't forget to share your Baltimore Restaurant Week experiences on social media with the hashtag #BaltRW!



## Oktoberfest 2019



Oktoberfest this year will be held on Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. There will be plenty of amazing beer, delicious food, and festive Fall celebrations.

### **Save the date!**

We are very excited to continue to grow this event as a wonderful Fall festival that aims to promote local restaurants and small businesses in our community. In 2018, we saw over 2,000 visitors in the Oktoberfest Mount Vernon weekend. See you all there!

For any business, artist, restaurant/bar, or non-profit in Mount Vernon who would like to participate this year, please email [info@oktoberfestmountvernon.com](mailto:info@oktoberfestmountvernon.com) and/or [CLICK HERE](#) to fill out the vendor application.

If you are interested in being a sponsor for Oktoberfest Mount Vernon, please [CLICK HERE](#) to download the sponsorship opportunities PDF.

More info will be posted on [oktoberfestmountvernon.com](http://oktoberfestmountvernon.com) as we secure a lineup for entertainment and vendors.



## **Coming Up in August**

- **Baltimore Restaurant Week**

August 2nd to 11th (at participating restaurants)

- **No MVBA General Meeting in August!**



# CONTACTS 2019

## Officers

President	Michele Richter	<a href="mailto:president@mvba.org"><u>president@mvba.org</u></a>
Vice President	Wesley Stuckey	<a href="mailto:vicepresident@mvba.org"><u>vicepresident@mvba.org</u></a>
Treasurer	Onahlea Shimunek	<a href="mailto:treasurer@mvba.org"><u>treasurer@mvba.org</u></a>
Recording Secretary	—	<a href="mailto:secretary@mvba.org"><u>secretary@mvba.org</u></a>
Corresponding Secretary	Lex Wiesand	<a href="mailto:corrsecretary@mvba.org"><u>corrsecretary@mvba.org</u></a>

## Directors

Mario Brandhorst  
Julie Canard  
Jack Danna  
Teddy Davidson  
John Molino  
Steve Shen

## Committees

Architectural Review	Steve Shen	<a href="mailto:arc@mvba.org"><u>arc@mvba.org</u></a>
Business	Onahlea Shimunek	<a href="mailto:business@mvba.org"><u>business@mvba.org</u></a>
Children's Park	John Molino	<a href="mailto:childrenspark@mvba.org"><u>childrenspark@mvba.org</u></a>
Clean + Beautiful	Michele Richter	<a href="mailto:cleanandbeautiful@mvba.org"><u>cleanandbeautiful@mvba.org</u></a>
Community Service + Engagement	Teddy Davidson	<a href="mailto:community@mvba.org"><u>community@mvba.org</u></a>
Development	Steve Shen	<a href="mailto:development@mvba.org"><u>development@mvba.org</u></a>
Dog Park	Marci Yankelov Bea Harris	<a href="mailto:dogpark@mvba.org"><u>dogpark@mvba.org</u></a>
Grants	Teddy Davidson	<a href="mailto:grants@mvba.org"><u>grants@mvba.org</u></a>
Liquor Review	Michele Richter	<a href="mailto:liquor@mvba.org"><u>liquor@mvba.org</u></a>
Marketing + Promotions	Wesley Stuckey	<a href="mailto:marketing@mvba.org"><u>marketing@mvba.org</u></a>
Membership	Julie Canard	<a href="mailto:membership@mvba.org"><u>membership@mvba.org</u></a>
Parking + Transportation	Steve Johnson	<a href="mailto:parking@mvba.org"><u>parking@mvba.org</u></a>
Safety	Vicki Schassler	<a href="mailto:safety@mvba.org"><u>safety@mvba.org</u></a>
Trees + Greening	MJ Dame	<a href="mailto:trees@mvba.org"><u>trees@mvba.org</u></a>
Zoning	Steve Shen	<a href="mailto:zoning@mvba.org"><u>zoning@mvba.org</u></a>

## Ex-Officio

Jason Curtis  
Jack Danna  
Steve Johnson  
Brian Levy

*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](#)