



July 2020

The Clarion Newsletter — Volume 35, Number 7

General Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, July 21st, 7:30pm

Please join us on Tuesday, July 21st at 7:30pm for our next MVBA General Meeting that will be held remotely via Zoom. Here's the Zoom information for attending:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83586043284?pwd=dzc3SXZPMzVSQ1JpdVJrZzMrMTBodz09>

Meeting ID: 835 8604 3284

Password: 344089

Join via Dial-in Only

Telephone: +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 835 8604 3284

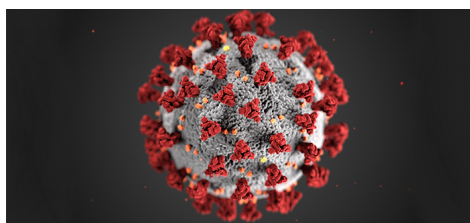
Password: 344089

This month, we welcome **Kristin Speaker**, Executive Director of Charles Street Development Corporation as well as **Matthew Achhammer**, Baltimore City Liquor Board Community Liaison. We'll receive information on the Designing for Distance Initiative to support communities with social distancing as well as other community updates.

And 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.

To all of our community residents, businesses, and institutions, thank you for continuing to be an important part of the Mount Vernon community. We continue to send you our best wishes during this challenging time.



Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information

Baltimore City continues to deal with the far-reaching impact of COVID-19. As of July 19th, Baltimore City has 9,433 COVID-19 cases and 361 deaths. For health resources on COVID-19, the City, State and Federal Government all have information on their websites:

- [Baltimore City Health Department](#)
- [Maryland Department of Health](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

As mentioned over the last few months, Baltimore City has launched an [online COVID-19 Dashboard](#) to see the number of COVID-19 cases, with breakdowns by race, zip code, age, gender and number of cases over time. Be sure to check it out, if not already done so.

To learn more about COVID-19 from the above-listed agencies, check out the websites via the links provided above. 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.

Wishes of good health to everyone!



Supporting Local Businesses Now

It's even more important now to support our local businesses. Whether it's buying groceries, prepared foods, wine/beer/liquor, toiletries, cleaning products, clothing----and even masks, **show your support by purchasing items locally**. Be sure to call the store and/or visit their website beforehand. And some stores even deliver!

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

Current & New MVBA Business Members

This month of July, we want to give another **SHOUT OUT** to all of our local MVBA businesses to say **THANK YOU** for what you do and **WE ARE THINKING OF YOU AT THIS TIME** as you endure these extremely challenging times. Please contact us at business@mvba.org if you would like us to post any information (ads, news, etc.) for your business.

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 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.



Baltimore Restaurant Week

July 24th through August 2nd

Enjoying Summer Restaurant Week 2020 does not mean you have to dine-in. Many restaurants are offering carryout deals. Look for the carryout icon on the restaurant profile page.

Baltimore Summer Restaurant Week July 24 - August 2, 2020. 10 days of dine-in and carry-out deals from Baltimore's best restaurants.

To view menus and make reservations visit www.baltimorerestaurantweek.com

Remember, support our local restaurants!



Mount Vernon Children's Park Now Open

The Baltimore City Recreation & Parks ([BCRP](#)) [Plan for Reopening](#) allowed for playgrounds to open on July 13th, including our very own Mount Vernon Children's Park. The park is now open from 9am until 8pm daily.

New to the park this year is a 10-foot shade umbrella which was placed in the lower level by the playground equipment and splash pad. The umbrella was purchased after a successful GoFundMe campaign. The MVBA Children's Park Committee would like to thank the following donors for their support:

- Courtney Bettie
- Scott Brillman
- Barbara Brooks
- Kimberly Canale
- Jack Danna

- Gabrielle Finck
- Andrew Lowrey
- Sadia Marks-Arnold
- Aileen Prior
- Caroline Reisfeld
- Sarah Raser
- Kerri Shannon
- Liana Smith
- Lauren Stachowiak
- Ryan Sturm
- Nicole Taylor Zahouni
- The Wilkes School

The Midtown Community Fund helped facilitate the GoFundMe campaign, and Chase Street Accessories created a beautiful plaque to help us commemorate the donors. We hope neighborhood families can safely enjoy the park for the remainder of the summer.

Visit <https://mountvernonchildrenspark.org> or follow the park on social media for park updates.



Accepting Candidate Nominations for Board Positions - Directors

We are currently accepting nominations for two (2) Director seats for serving a 3-year term beginning on January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2023.

Following is a list of responsibilities for the Director position:

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

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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If you're interested in one of the Director positions, please complete a short questionnaire at <http://mvba.org/election2020/> and upload a resume with your experience demonstrating how you would be a good candidate for one of the Director seats. You'll hear from the Nominations Committee by early September regarding your interest as well as any follow-up questions.

The Board's slate for the elected positions will be selected in early September. The candidates will be given a few minutes to speak and present themselves at the September 15th General Membership Meeting as well as at the November 17th General Membership Meeting & Election.



Baltimore City Council Updates

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- The next City Council Meeting is today, **Monday, July 20th**, and all Council Hearings continue to be held virtually. You can tune into Monday's City Council meeting at 5:00PM [online](#) or on CharmTV (Channel 25/1085HD). A list of [all of the hearings can be viewed here](#).
- The Board of Estimates continues to meet weekly on Wednesdays--also meeting virtually. It can be viewed on [CharmTV](#).



Tree Wells & Sidewalks | Clean-Up Weeds

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The tree wells and sidewalks throughout the community are really looking wild with highly grown weeds. Please clean up the tree wells and sidewalks in front of your properties. After all, it is your responsibility.

Do your part to get our community looking good----we really need everyone's help on these efforts!



Reminder to all Mount Vernon Residents on Unpermitted Work

Please photograph and report any unusual construction or demolition activity to stewardship@mvba.org 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.





#Artscape at Home

Artscape, Baltimore's largest and most beloved annual arts festival, was originally scheduled for July 17-19, 2020. While the festival's cancellation is disappointing, due to COVID-19 pandemic, it is not devastating. Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts will highlight Artscape virtually through social media during the original dates of the festival (July 17-19, 2020). Join in on the fun by using #ArtscapeAtHome to show your best Artscape Memories!

Visit artscape.org for more information.



Homelessness, Panhandling & Loitering

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.

Coming Up in August

- No General Meeting in August

Everyone, enjoy your summer!

CONTACTS 2020

Officers

President	Michele Richter	president@mvba.org
Vice President	Wesley Stuckey	vicepresident@mvba.org
Treasurer	Onahlea Shimunek	treasurer@mvba.org
Development Officer	Steve Shen	development@mvba.org
Secretary/Information Officer	—	secretary@mvba.org

Directors

Mario Brandhorst
Julie Canard
Jack Danna
John Molino
Scott Ponemone
Lex Wiesand

Committees

Architectural Review	Steve Shen	arc@mvba.org
Business	Onahlea Shimunek	business@mvba.org
Children's Park	John Molino	childrenspark@mvba.org
Clean + Beautiful	Michele Richter	cleanandbeautiful@mvba.org
Community Service + Engagement	Lex Wiesand	community@mvba.org
Development	Steve Shen	development@mvba.org
Dog Park	Marci Yankelov	dogpark@mvba.org
Grants	Jack Danna	grants@mvba.org
Liquor Review	Michele Richter	liquor@mvba.org
Marketing + Promotions	Wesley Stuckey	marketing@mvba.org
Membership	Julie Canard & Lex Wiesand	membership@mvba.org
Parking + Transportation	Steve Johnson	parking@mvba.org
Safety	Vicki Schassler	safety@mvba.org
Trees + Greening	MJ Dame	trees@mvba.org
Zoning	Steve Shen	zoning@mvba.org

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](#)