

June 2020

The Clarion Newsletter — Volume 35, Number 6

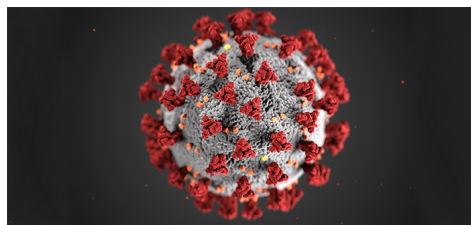
No General Meeting in June

As a reminder, there is no MVBA General Meeting in June. Please join us on Tuesday, July 21st at 7:30pm for our next MVBA General Meeting. The July 21st meeting will be held virtually. Details regarding this general meeting will be posted in the July 2020 Newsletter.

Please pay special attention to the links in the sections below with a wealth of information on the COVID-19 virus and resources available to you.

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.



Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information

Baltimore City continues to deal with the far-reaching impact of COVID-19. As of today, Friday, June 19th, Baltimore City has 6,937 COVID-19 cases and 298 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 couple of 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 June, 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 City Moves to Phase II Opening

Below please see Mayor Jack Young's announcement today, Friday, June 19th:

While we continue to work to combat the spread of [#COVID19](#), I am pleased to announce **Baltimore City will be shifting into its second phase of reopening businesses and services effective at 5 p.m. today**. Last Friday, June 12th, Baltimore City entered Phase I of reopening.

The shift into Phase II of reopening allows a number of businesses and services to resume, provided they abide by capacity and safety restrictions. This step permits certain activities to begin reopening, but it does not mean all activities will reopen immediately.

At this time, Baltimore City Rec And Parks Pools and Playgrounds remain closed. Loosening

restrictions does not mean that these activities are risk-free. Residents should continue wearing face coverings, practicing social distancing and other mitigation efforts.

Effective Friday, June 19th, Baltimore has moved into Phase 2

Continue to wear a face covering in public, and maintain 6 feet of distance from others.



Bernard C. "Jack" Young
Mayor

Phase 1

Phase 2: We are here

Phase 3

Phase 2

Aquariums/Museums

Open to public 50% max occupancy

Casinos

At 50% capacity with safeguards in place (face masks, social distancing, wiping frequently touched surfaces)

Childcare Facilities

Allowed 15 individuals per classroom (previously 10 per classroom)

Fitness Centers

Open to public 50% maximum occupancy

Food Services Establishment

(Restaurants, bars, clubs, social clubs with dining facilities). Open to public with indoor seating 50% capacity

Libraries

Open to public 50% max occupancy

Non-essential offices

Open to public with max 50% occupancy; telework still strongly recommended

Personal services

Beauty salons, barber shops, tattoo parlors, tanning salons, massage parlors, and establishments that provide esthetic services or provide nail technician services open - max 50% capacity, appointment only

Pools

Indoor and outdoor pools, aquatic centers - max 50% occupancy

Recreational establishments

(Bowling alleys, bingo halls, pool halls, roller skating rinks, social and fraternal clubs). Open to public with 50% max occupancy

Religious Facilities

Reopen for indoor services, total number of people not to exceed 50% max occupancy

Retail Establishments and Malls

Reopening of shopping centers (malls) with one or more enclosed pedestrian concourses may open to general public - 50% capacity

Sports gatherings (Indoor and outdoor)

May resume sporting activities, at 50% indoor capacity, outdoor at 100%, but not open to the general public. Indoors, social distancing must be maintained and for all and to the extent possible, face coverings should be worn.

Youth Camp programs (Indoor and outdoor)

No group of campers and staff to exceed 15 at any given time (previously 10 per group).

Youth sports gatherings (Indoor and outdoor)

Youth and amateur sports gatherings and events may resume sporting activities, at 50% indoor capacity, but not open to the general public. Social distancing must be maintained and for all and to the extent possible, face coverings should be worn.

Zoo

Open to public 50% max occupancy

Updated June 19, 2020
coronavirus.baltimorecity.gov

BALTIMORE
CITY HEALTH
DEPARTMENT

Office of
Performance
& Innovation



MVBA Presents Mount Vernon Live Stream

As mentioned last month, MVBA wants to support the creative community in Mount Vernon while bringing a little cheer to everyone's week.

During this period of Social Distancing, on Fridays, we will Live Stream at 7pm with some of our favorite performers on [MVBA Facebook](#), unless otherwise stated. These are performers who have supported and entertained us over the last few years at Oktoberfest and at many other local venues. It is our turn to help support them while our restaurants, bars, and venues are closed.

SHOW SOME LOVE!

Please consider tipping the performers and share this Live Stream to brighten someone's week.

Tipping information (Venmo/Cash App) will be posted during and after the Live Stream.





Baltimore City Council Updates

- The next City Council Meeting is **Monday, June 22nd**. It will occur digitally and you will be able to watch it on **CharmTV Channel 25** or you can call **(408) 418-9388 (Access code: 716 793 854)** to listen to the meeting.
- Council Hearings are being held virtually. You can see a list of all hearings here.
- The Board of Estimates continues to meet weekly on Wednesdays--also meeting virtually. It can be viewed on CharmTV.



Census 2020

Not too late to complete your 2020 Census!

The [2020 Census](#) completion deadline date was April 1st. BUT, it's still not too late to submit your census information. **We're only at 51.5% compliance---goal is 73%!**

Baltimore wants to make sure that **Everyone Counts**. Accurate census numbers impact funding and representation for Baltimore. **It is essential that everyone participates in the Census**. Please help your community and our City by completing the census---and it's easy and takes little time to complete. Go to [2020 Census](#).



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.

Given the current lock-down environment with fewer people on the street, some opportunistic developers and contractors have been taking extreme liberties to do unpermitted work.



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



Midtown Community Benefits District Service Update

First, we'd like to thank all of you for being great partners during this truly unusual and difficult time. Throughout the past few months and the COVID pandemic, our priority has consistently been the safety of our employees and our constituents.

We also want to wholeheartedly thank each of you who have pitched in and volunteered to keep the community looking clean and green! You have mulched, pulled weeds, planted trees, picked up trash, cleaned fountains, shared Facebook posts and information, notified us of problem areas, and so much more. We are glad to have such committed neighbors and look forward to

continuing to do great work with you.

As the city and state continue moving into various phases of reopening, we are also adding back in additional service and staff. We continue to assess our service and how we provide it so we can protect our employees and constituents, and follow government and health department regulations, procedures, and guidance.

As of June 15th, we are providing the following:

- ✓ 6 days per week service
- ✓ Emptying 153 corner cans 6 days per week
- ✓ Detailed cleaning of gutters and sidewalks in all four neighborhoods (both mechanically and by hand)
- ✓ Responding to service requests for cleaning hot spots and high traffic areas
- ✓ Picking up loose trash in the parks and medians
- ✓ Dropping off mulch for community volunteers to spread in parks
- ✓ Weeding in parks, medians, and greenspaces
- ✓ Watering street and park trees
- ✓ Cleaning and trimming tree pits
- ✓ Providing community safety patrols

We have been providing all of these services on a limited basis throughout the pandemic, but we are closer now to full staff and full service hours. Please be patient with us as we continue to add staff back in and increase their hours so they can safely provide service to the district.

Please know we will constantly monitor government and health department regulations, and should at any time they recommend we downgrade our service, we will notify you of such.

Please also note that closures of our partner agencies can impact our ability to provide service.

Please know we are still unable to provide bulk trash removal service just yet, but are hoping to do so in the near future. We would ask that if you are able to do so, please take your bulk items to one of these DPW's citizen drop-off sites (*available for recycling & bulk drop-off*):

Sisson Street Citizen Drop-off Center
2840 Sisson Street | M-F 9am-5pm

Northwest Transfer Station
5030 Reisterstown Road | M-Sa 7am-5pm

Quarantine Road Landfill
6100 Quarantine Road | M-Sa 9am-5pm

If that is not possible, please contact us at (410) 528-1512 or service@midtowncommunity.org to be added to the bulk trash waiting list. We will contact you once we are able to provide a pick-up date.

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak at the DPW Eastern Sanitation Yard, we are pleased to offer a one-time RECYCLING ONLY Pickup Event. (see linked event for details) --

> <https://facebook.com/.../one-time-recycling-pi.../18338090309146> <--

If you would like to volunteer with Midtown, sign up for our newsletter at ---

> <http://eepurl.com/gzLb7H> <---, or if you have service requests, reach out to us at service@midtowncommunity.org.

We will continue to post updates on Facebook and via our newsletter. Please feel free to share and repost. Thank you again for working with us as we all make our way through this pandemic.

We look forward to continuing to provide service in the district, and working closely with you to keep our community clean, safe, and green.



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 July

- General Meeting | Tuesday, July 21st, 7:30pm

Everyone, enjoy your weekend!

CONTACTS 2020

Officers

President	Michele Richter	president@mvba.org	Directors
Vice President	Wesley Stuckey	vicepresident@mvba.org	Mario Brandhorst
Treasurer	Onahlea Shimunek	treasurer@mvba.org	Julie Canard
Development Officer	Steve Shen	development@mvba.org	Jack Danna
Secretary/Information Officer	—	secretary@mvba.org	John Molino
			Scott Ponemone
			Lex Wiesand

Committees

Architectural Review	Steve Shen	arc@mvba.org	Ex-Officio
Business	Onahlea Shimunek	business@mvba.org	Jason Curtis
Children's Park	John Molino	childrenspark@mvba.org	Jack Danna
Clean + Beautiful	Michele Richter	cleanandbeautiful@mvba.org	Steve Johnson
Community Service + Engagement	—	community@mvba.org	Brian Levy
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	

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](#)