

**German Village Society Board of Trustees
May 13, 2024, Meeting Agenda**

Schuerer Room 6 pm - German Village Meeting Haus
See GVS Website for Zoom-in instructions.

**Called to order
Public Participation**

Mike Cornelis, President

- Anthony Hartke, Chair of German Village Commission

Executive Director's Report (written report)

Sean Kessler

Staff Reports:

Comm. and Membership Engagement (written report)

Rachel Lewellen

Historic Preservation & Civic Relations Manager (written report)

Crystal Coon

Report of the Officers

President's Report

Mike Cornelis, President

Vice President's Report (written report)

Liz Newton, Vice

President

Secretary's Report

Anne McGee, Secretary

Motion: Approve April 8, 2024, GVS Board Meeting Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Anthony Meyer, Treasurer

Motion: Approve the May 2024 Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports:

Community & Quality of Life

Visitors Center (written report)

Barbara Young

Parks and Public Spaces Committee (written report)

Carol Mullinax

German Village Business Community (written report)

Cynthia Watson

Art Committee (written report)

Jordanne Renner

Advocacy

Parking (oral report)

Tim Bibler

Fund Development

Events

Maifest Legends & Legacys 5-2-2024

Pre Tour 2024 6-22-24 (oral report)

Haus & Garten Tour 6-23-24

Andrea Ford & Helen Speiser

Lindsey Turner & Ben Chapman

Carmen & Michael Wood

Membership (written report)

Jonathan Hoag

Governance Long-Range Planning Committee (written report)

Liz Newton

Old Business

New Business

Adjournment

Executive Director Report – May 2024

Operations

Spartan IT has completed shifting digital file storage on the T drive to SharePoint for better accessibility and security. The staff is now in the process of setting up 2 factor authentication.

Staff's Growth Zone (GZ) training is ongoing with a goal of July 1 to be up and running. GZ will function in the ways that Donor Perfect has in the past, but with added benefits like a member portal that will give members an easier way to see their transactions as well as provide a member directory. Once migration is complete, income/expense processes will be updated.

We have received 3 quotes for upgrading IT capabilities in the conference room. This is being discussed by Executive Committee which will make its recommendation to the full board for approval.

The BOT Treasurer has prepared a list and rough drafts of financial and risk management policies. Staff will take the next steps to investigate which policies are in current files. Existing policies will be centralized on SharePoint so that they are available for the corresponding committees to review. The National Council of Nonprofits will be used as a resource to supplement policy development when no existing policies are found.

Quality of Life

2024 Haus und Garten Tour and Pre-Tour sales are in full swing and successful so far.

Maifest was a huge success as we continue the events of Historic Preservation Month – kudos to Crystal and all were involved with events so far.

The On the Bricks Festival planning is progressing. The Arts Committee will put out the artist call this week and infrastructure quotes are being collected.

Activity at the Meeting Haus has ramped up with the return of the GV Farmers Market. This in addition to other rental possibilities should bring many eyes to GVS for the remainder of 2024.

Currently searching for new Monster Bash Chairs.

Preservation Education

HP Month in full swing. Maifest Gala and Caretakers Awards successful. Educational aspects for the remainder of the Thursdays in May.

Finances

ED continues conversations with potential sponsors for all events and has submitted grant proposals. ED is working with the Board Treasurer and Finance Committee and consulting with finance professionals to make sure that all investments are in the right place to maximize returns in various accounts.

Rachel Lewellen
Communication | Membership Engagement Staff Report
May 13, 2024

Communication

Neighbor 4 Neighbor - continue to create and edit the weekly e-newsletter:

Website: Created new event page for Haus und Garten events. Update add add events

Donor Perfect/GrowthZone: Continue the weekly coaching sessions to migrate data and train on GrowthZone, Susan and I will be attending weekly coaching sessions, through July 1st.

Social media:

Membership Development

Membership Committee: meeting May 1, 2024 @ 5pm - * see Chairs report * Many events scheduled for this summer (see below). Also, planning a phone banking for May – BOT calling lapsed members.

Planning of Member-Only activities for 2024:

Bloodies & Bagels during H&G Tour 6/23

Movie on the Platz Wed. 7/24

Private museum tour (August)

Village Lights members-only pre-event.

New membership cards continue to go out to members.

Events

H&G: Attending bi-weekly H&G meetings and marketing committee. Created and continue to maintain ticketing and sponsorship forms for Maifest and H&G PreTour Patrons. Volunteer signup form created and monitored for signup.

Crystal Coon
BOT Preservation Staff Report
May 2024

Tasks

- H&G Program Writeups
- Continued preservation of Special Collections
- Wrote two articles for N4N
- Created 12 posters for Maifest of Landmarks and Legends
- Posted to Social Media on HP Content
- Created Sponsor Logo Displays for Maifest
- Contacted all Caretaker Award Recipients
- Worked on full property histories for 7 House Plaques
- Prepped for HP Lunch and Learn Events
- Additional Maifest Detail Preparation
- Contacted H&G Homeowners regarding Program Writeups

Meetings

- 1 GVC monthly meeting
- 1 GVC monthly hearing
- 2 HP Event Planning meetings
- 2 H&G Committee Meeting
- Historic Preservation Committee Meeting
- GVS BOT meeting
- Weekly staff meetings
- Bill Mains and Lisa Stein – Sidewalk Incentive
- Katherine Moore – Schiller Park Archive Files
- Connie Swain and Katherine Moore – tour of Schiller Park
- Cynthia Hunt and John Clark – Caretaker Awards

Assistance

Assisted dozens of people with various preservation issues (window replacement, fences, COA Application procedures etc.). Assisted several people with research requests and archival information

GVC Update

The German Village Commission met Wednesday afternoon, April 3, 2024. Members approved 8 Certificates of Appropriateness with specific alterations, ratified 13 staff-approved certificates, continued 2 applications, and recommended 2 variances, and moved the GVS Brickline Project to the Staff Approvable list.

German Village Society Board of Trustees

FY24 GVS Long-Range Planning Committee Discussions

February 12 and April 8 Meetings' Summaries begin on page 2.

Objectives:

To sustain regular Board dialogue about strategic topics and welcome the broadest participation possible

To lay the groundwork for the *September Board Retreat* at which we will set priorities for committees' work and inform the Executive Director's budget development for next fiscal year

FY24 Work Plan

The Long-range Planning Committee welcomes all board members and relies on the active participation and input of committee chairs, officers, and executive director.

Given the challenge of coordinating the schedule of many participants, the committee will "piggy-back" on the dates of the German Village Society (GVS) board meetings *once a quarter*, meeting immediately after the official board business is finished.

The GVS executive committee will strive to conclude official board business on those dates expeditiously to conserve as much time as possible for the planning discussions. The discussions will be structured to conclude no later than 8pm.

The meeting agendas will highlight selected opportunities, threats, or capabilities and explore priorities and strategies in a 12-36 month timeframe that position GVS for success.

Dates for Planning Discussions:

- √ Monday, February 12, 2024 – External Landscape (Opportunities and Threats)
- √ Monday, April 8, 2024 – GVS' Health as a Nonprofit Business
- Monday, July 8, 2024 – *following* Board business meeting: Lessons Learned
- Monday, September 9, 2024 – *4-6pm before* Board business meeting

Planning Committee Meetings

GVS Purpose: *To steward German Village's special urban, communal, historic way of life for the benefit of its residents, businesses, and visitors*

GVS Organizational Imperative: *To become resilient and financially sustainable*

Monday, April 8, 2024 Discussion: **GVS' Health as a Nonprofit Business**

Concluding Thoughts Upfront:

Many strengths are evident in GVS with its passionate volunteers, scale of activity, and dedicated, professional staff. We greatly appreciate our Executive Director's leadership. An external rubric for evaluating nonprofit effectiveness offers many immediate and actionable ideas for change.

Near-term Actions: As we re-build from the pandemic years, we have an opportunity to sharpen our focus on GVS' historic preservation mission and improve GVS operations by adopting nonprofit best practice and modernizing infrastructure, process, and policy under Executive Director leadership. Modernizing board operations is also a priority.

Essential Long-term Strategies: Priorities include: (1) Articulating a clear historic preservation vision and developing and sustaining funding streams and the historic preservation programs and partnerships that further it; (2) Developing a system of measuring and communicating impact in a polished way, including budgeting for marketing.

~~~~~

#### **Meeting Summary:**

The discussion focused *internally*, on our organization's strengths and weaknesses, using the lens of nonprofit best practices. The meeting's objective was to generate ideas for near-term adaptations and longer-term strategies for GVS.

Objective material for evaluating a nonprofit business' effectiveness is abundant. Two organizations in particular are rich with resources and best practices for all aspects of managing -- Board Source and the national Council of Nonprofits:

- <https://www.councilofnonprofits.org/running-nonprofit>
- <https://boardsource.org/>

Community foundations and wealth management firms (e.g., Fidelity Charitable) also evaluate nonprofit organizations' effectiveness, offering questionnaires that can be used by donors or for self-reflection.

Given GVS' size and current state, four essential attributes for nonprofit effectiveness were used to frame the discussion, with descriptive questions to prompt conversation during the time available.



## **I. Mission is valuable and makes an impact.**

- Is the Mission clear, well-defined, achievable?
- Is the Mission well-matched to GVS' size & resources?
- Is the Board diverse? Does it reflect the community served?
- Are staffing and programs aligned to the mission?

### Discussion included observations that:

Tenants and Landlords are not currently treated as stakeholders, they have distinct needs that could be addressed, and they comprise ~53% of German Village residents so they should be represented on the GVS board and in membership. There's a misperception that renters cannot be members. It was identified that GVS could scout among these stakeholders for members and that outreach to them could leverage groups like Prost, the Farmers Market, and welcome packages from Realtors. Block captains/ambassadors were noted to be effective recruiters as well.

It was noted that GVS continues to struggle to articulate its historic preservation mission and demonstrate its accomplishment with tangible evidence. There is a need to elevate historic preservation as GVS' primary identity (vs. social events organizer). Opportunities to do so include expanding the Brick Sidewalk restoration program, Brickline signage, and Maifest Preservation month activities. The GVS' new website and QR codes are seen as great improvements in articulating GVS' mission. While GVS has historic preservation assets (e.g., archives), they need to be "packaged" into coherent preservation programs. Confusion persists between the identities and missions of GVS and the City of Columbus' German Village Commission. GVS' role in historic preservation includes: education; advocacy; assisting residents in navigating city process; and programs preserving our historic fabric.

## **II. Finances are transparent, well-managed, sustainable.**

- Are the funding streams consistent and reliable to carry out work? How diversified are the revenue streams?
- Is it clear that money is spent on top priorities, in a way that reflects GVS historic preservation mission?
- Are there deficits over multiple years?
- How much does the organization have in liabilities?
- Are funds tracked in a detailed way, meeting modern accounting practices?

### Discussion included observations that:

GVS has transparent, detailed accounting, does not run deficits year over year, and uses an accounting firm and independent auditor.

GVS needs to diversify its funding streams. Possibilities include rental income, major donor campaign, and endowment investment income. A compelling and specific historic preservation vision could crystallize GVS' mission and be the target of a major capital campaign. It would also be advisable to develop a specific historic preservation wish-list of smaller projects to solicit donors (e.g., Frank Fetch park improvements, Schiller lighting).

One problematic foundational issue identified with GVS' budget is the lack of a marketing budget in support of GVS' mission. The desirability of hiring a marketing firm was discussed to develop and disseminate clear, coherent messages, educate and tell stories, and tap revenue beyond the membership. We can further leverage the fact that German Village is a Columbus asset/economic engine and part of the larger tourist/resident experience as a whole.

## **III. Impact is observable and measurable.**

- Are the impacts GVS wants to make observable?

- Does GVS measure its impacts, with clear metrics for success?
- Does GVS self-evaluate and improve?
- Is GVS collaborating with partners to avoid duplication of effort and amplify impacts?
- Does GVS actively advocate to bring about long-term change?

Discussion included observations that:

GVS will resume publishing an annual report detailing its impacts and mission-driven programs (like Maifest). It will be an appropriate time to establish clear metrics and measures that illustrate GVS' story as a nonprofit enacting its historic preservation mission. Discussion included ways in which to highlight partners in the GVS mission, including in the Neighbors for Neighbors newsletter. A strategic look at current and potential partnerships in historic preservation will be undertaken now that our staff includes a historic preservation advocate.

#### **IV. People, Processes and Tools enable the business.**

- Are Board committees active and support the Exec. Director's goals?
- Are processes evaluated on an annual basis?
- Do GVS operations reflect modern practice?
- Do staff have the skills, knowledge, and experience-base to perform?
- Is Board member onboarding and training robust and consistent? Does the Board employ best practices in its operations?

Discussion included observations that:

GVS needs to modernize its business operations and equipment and maintain its facility. Equipment needs span the gamut of computer hardware and software, network, cybersecurity, and audiovisual equipment.

Discussion touched on developing policy collaboratively with the Executive Director and the importance of engaging staff to understand needs and preferences and to leverage more fully their professional skills, knowledge, and experience-base.

Board operations is outdated (last handbook was 2014) and the organizational development committee is in the process of reviewing and updating the Board handbook, policies, code of conduct, committee charters, and on-boarding. A practice of board self-evaluation is easy to adopt, with plentiful examples and resources available. Board committees vary in their activities and focus.



## Monday, February 12, 2024 Discussion: External Opportunities and Threats

### Concluding Thoughts Upfront:

*Near-term Actions:* (1) Sharpen GVS value-propositions and key messages to attract members and donors, capitalizing on increased number of tourists and residents. (2) Engage diligently with City and City GV Commission on policies to ameliorate the impact of public and private development and short-term rentals, developing an action plan for consistent advocacy.

*Essential Long-term Strategy:* Develop a German Village “Master Development Plan” that excites donors for a capital campaign; synchronizes various ideas for capital and infrastructure improvement for the neighborhood while protecting its historic fabric; and provides a single song-sheet for GVS conversations with the City, developers, stakeholders, and adjacent southside neighborhoods about private-public partnerships.

~~~~~

Meeting Summary:

The discussion’s focus was on the *external* landscape — understanding circumstances that create opportunities and threats for our historic preservation and community life missions and for GVS as a nonprofit business. The meeting’s objective was to generate ideas for near-term adaptations and longer-term strategies for GVS.

Pre-read and supporting material:

- February 2023 GVS Board Retreat summary
- Nationwide Children’s Master Facilities Plan: <https://www.nationwidechildrens.org/about-us/future-of-pediatric-care/facilities-expansions#:~:text=Expanding%20Care&text=New%20facilities%20will%20include%20an,areas%20of%20leadership%20in%20pediatrics>.
- Columbus Interstate split: <https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/about-us/traffic-advisories/district-6/ramp-up-update>
- Re-Attaching Historic Neighborhoods to Downtown Columbus: <https://www.youtube.com/@cbusmetroclub>
- VisionZero Columbus: https://www.columbus.gov/uploadedFiles/Columbus/Departments/Public_Service/Vision_Zero/Vision%20Zero%20Columbus%20Action%20Plan%202023-2028.pdf
- German Village Tree Inventory: https://columbusrecparcs.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/German-Village_Summary-Report_Final.pdf
- Amtrak: <https://www.morpc.org/news/amtrak-expansion-in-ohio-what-comes-next/>
- https://columbusunderground.com/two-mile-bike-and-pedestrian-loop-planned-for-downtown-bw1/?utm_source=email&utm_campaign=urbanist
- 2022 Downtown Columbus Strategic Plan <https://columbusunderground.com/city-council-supports-downtown-plan-recommendations-bw1/>

On-going and emerging changes in/around Columbus have the potential to impact (favorably or unfavorably) German Village:

- Nationwide Children’s Expansion has the potential for increased traffic density and 2-way traffic on Livingston, and also a threat of infill near Bendi and Boss.

- ODOT's split of Columbus interstates 70/71 creates new traffic patterns, relieving Livingston congestion with closure of direct exit/on- ramps.
- VisionZero Columbus focuses on pedestrian and cyclist safety and traffic-calming and - slowing measures, which are sorely needed on Whittier, 3rd St, and Grant.
- Columbus is focusing on Connectivity among neighborhoods:
 - Historic Neighborhood "Re-attachment" to Downtown outlined in CDDC 2022 *Downtown Strategic Plan* illustrates taller *Cap buildings* on northside of Livingston at 3rd and 4th Streets
 - State of Ohio's Development of "Cap" overpasses at Front and High Streets create Cap parks/green space.
 - COTA Transportation Corridor plan identifies 3rd Street and 4th Street.
 - Columbus Downtown Development Corporation (CDDC) and City plan 2-mile Capitol Line bike and pedestrian path that will have a German Village "spur" at Livingston
- Private development accelerates during a time of shifting representation on City Preservation Commissions:
 - Developments in Merion Villages, Schumacher Place create load on sewer and electric
 - Whittier Peninsula development will increase traffic on Whittier through German Village
 - High Street site at former Copious will be residential tower with heights taller than German Village
- Expansion of St. Mary's School German Village will draw more long-term renters and potential for sponsors, donors and good-neighbor agreements/partnerships
- Columbus' population growth generally and the greater Connectivity throughout Columbus create expanded audiences to attract to German Village Society's mission and events
- German Village Tree Inventory & Columbus Master Plan creates opportunity to advocate to the city for wider city street tree lawns and to homeowners for planting more/better trees on their private property
- The increasing number of Short-term Rental properties requires more GVS engagement of the city about enforcement of licensure code, parking requirements, and absentee landlords.
- Overhead telephone, cable, and electric wires cause visual pollution and ugly tree-pruning, detracting from German Village appearance: an opportunity to advocate to the City and PUCO.

German Village Society
Board of Trustees

Minutes of the Meeting of
April 8, 2024

Present: Nelson Genshaft, Anthony Meyer, Anne McGee, Jess Fleming, Cynthia Watson, Jonathan Hoag, Lindsey Turner, Liz Newton, Jeff Stavroff
Via Zoom: Jim Nichols, Mike Cornelis, Helen Speiser
Absent: Kathleen Kaufman, Tim Bibler, Andrea Foard
Staff: Sean Kessler, Rachel Lewellen, Crystal Koon

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Vice-President Liz Newton.

Public Participation

Carol Ross from St. Mary's announced that the Farmer's Market will start May 4 and that they are at capacity for vendors. She thanked GVS for the use of the platz. The market will run on Saturdays from 9am-1pm until November 23.

It was noted that Neighbors have been experiencing sewer backups on Purdue Alley for the past 3 weeks.

Executive Director Report: Sean Kessler referred to his written report previously submitted electronically and highlighted the following: the GVS website is completed though they are experiencing some quirks with Wordpress; and they have received three quotes to update IT and AV capacities of the meeting room.

Staff Reports: Both Rachel Lewellen and Crystal Koon submitted written reports. Rachel emphasized the need for more volunteers in the visitor center.

Report of the Officers:

President: Mike Cornelis announced that Bill Curlis has resigned from the board. Upon consulting with the ODC it was determined that the Bylaws allow for us to wait until next election cycle to fill the position. Cornelis also announced that nominations for Caretaker of a Legacy Awards were being sought, details available in Neighbors 4 Neighbors.

Vice-President: Liz Newton announced that a planning committee session would be held after the business portion of the meeting. All are welcome and encouraged to participate.

Secretary: Anne McGee reported that a copy of the meeting minutes for March 11, 2024 were submitted to the Board for review in the packet and moved for acceptance by the board. (McGee/Fleming)

MOTION: To accept and approve the minutes for the meeting of March 11, 2024.

Motion passed without exception.

Treasurer: Anthony Meyer reported that a copy of the Treasurer's Report for April 2024 was submitted to the Board for review in the packet. He noted that the positive income is reflective of event income from H&G Patron ticket sales and Maifest. He moved for acceptance by the board. (Newton/Genshaft)

MOTION: To accept and approve the Treasurer's Report for April 2024.

Motion passed without exception.

Committee Reports:

Preservation. No reports

Community & Quality of Life:

Visitor Center - written report

Parks and Public Spaces- written report

Advocacy- Jeff Stavroff stated that they are reaching out to contacts at the city regarding Zoning and will also communicate with other neighborhood groups

Parking- Tim Bibler reminded all that there is a parking meeting May 1 at 6:30 in the Fest Hall, all are welcome

Fund Development:

Maifest - Encourage all to buy tickets

PreTour- Lindsey Turner reported that they have secured 22 dinner hosts and 370 seats. Written descriptions will go out soon. Cocktail party is in planning stages. Seeking volunteers.

H&G- written report

Membership- Written report. Reminder that GVS outing to the Clippers game is May 5 at 1:00

Governance: No Reports

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Motion to Adjourn at 6:24pm (Genshaft/McGee)

German Village Society

Treasurer's Report

May 8, 2024, Board Meeting

Highlights from the April 2024 Financial Statements

Cash balances as of April 30, 2024

Total Bank Accounts holds \$1,437,069.91 which is comprised of short-term, Board Designated Accounts and long-term funds, Board Designated Investment Funds and Permanently Restricted Investment Funds.

Board Designated Accounts hold a combined balance of \$573,507.09. These accounts serve as repositories for funds allocated by the board for specific purposes, promoting various community initiatives. Here is a breakdown of the major balances:

Operations Accounts: ensure smooth day-to-day operations, the Operations Checking Accounts maintain a combined balance of \$221,108.97. This sum is divided into an Operations Account of \$132,474.62 for regular expenses and an Operations Contingency Account of \$88,634.35 for unforeseen needs.

Fund for Historic Preservation: \$174,278.20 - This account is a donor designated fund established generated through the 43206 TEA fundraiser. Funds are primarily designated to the Brick line project and focus on conserving and maintaining the historical integrity of our community.

German Village Business Community: \$71,188.15 - This account fuels initiatives that enhance and support the vibrancy of the German Village business district.

For the Good of the Neighborhood: \$67,506.55 - This account funds various programs and projects that benefit the overall well-being and progress of our neighborhood.

Sidewalk Repairs: \$23,800.00 – This account funds the brick sidewalk repair grant program.

By maintaining dedicated accounts for these initiatives, the board ensures transparency, accountability, and efficient management of the allocated funds.

Board Designated Investment Funds safeguard \$565,163.90 for the long-term benefit of our community. These funds, carefully invested by the board, ensure sustained support for crucial initiatives. Here is a glimpse into the 3 major funds:

Meeting Haus Maintenance/Replacement Fund: \$271,874.66 - This fund prepares for the future by accumulating resources for the eventual replacement or substantial renovation of the Meeting Haus, a cornerstone of our community activities.

Brent Warner Maintenance Fund: \$270,485.29 - This fund honors the legacy of Brent Warner by securing the long-term financial stability and proper maintenance of his donated property, contributing to the community's well-being.

Village Singers Fund: \$22,803.95 - This dedicated fund fosters a vibrant cultural scene by providing ongoing support to the cherished Village Singers choral group.

By establishing and managing these investment funds, the board demonstrates its commitment to responsible financial stewardship and ensures resources are available to meet crucial needs, both present and future.

Permanently Restricted Investment Funds safeguard \$298,298.92 for the long-term benefit of our community. These funds, established with the intent of perpetuity, generate sustainable income that supports crucial initiatives. Here is a glimpse into the major fund:

Alberta Stevens Huntington Garden Fund: \$298,298.92 - This generous donation established a permanent endowment that provides ongoing financial support for the maintenance, development, and educational programs of the beloved Alberta Stevens Huntington Garden, a cherished community treasure.

By establishing and managing these permanently restricted funds, the board ensures that resources are available to meet crucial needs in perpetuity, fostering a vibrant and sustainable community for generations to come.

Investment results for the long-term funds are as of March 31. Please note that the changes in market fluctuation lag one month on the internal GVS financial statements, as the Huntington reports are not available until the second week of the month. To provide financial statements for the monthly board meetings, we book the adjustments in the month following.

Annual Operating Budget

The 2024 cash basis operating budget has \$432,168 of income, which includes \$271,550 of special event revenue, \$106,000 of membership revenue (individual and business), and \$24,000 of contributions, along with smaller amounts for advertising and miscellaneous revenue. Total expenses are budgeted at \$431,900. The largest expense categories are payroll, utilities for the Meeting Haus, bookkeeping and audit fees, insurance, and computer related costs. The budgeted net operating income for 2024 is \$268.

The net operating income figure does not reflect interest income earned on GVS investment accounts, market increases in the value of investment assets, or depreciation expense, which is a non-cash charge.

April Operations Budget

For April, our cash-based operations saw Income of \$69,020.18 vs budgeted Income of \$57,619.84 and Expenses of \$28,338.66 vs budgeted Expense of \$28,631.67, resulting in a Net Operating Income of \$40,681.52 vs budgeted Net Operating Income of \$28,988.17, generating a positive variance over budget of \$11,693.35.

Key Drivers of the Variance:

- Admission/Event Income: Maifest and Haus und Garten PreTour Patron ticket sales contributed \$49,675.00 vs a budget of \$32,210.00 in April resulting in a positive variance of \$17,465.00
- Membership Dues: Membership exceeded budget; \$8,258.60 vs a budget of \$5,000.00 resulted in a positive variance of \$3,258.60.
- Sponsorship: Generated \$7,500.00 vs budget of \$17,666.67 resulted in a negative variance of (\$10,166.67).

Overall, April's positive performance reflects strong operational efficiency and exceeding revenue goals.

Method of Accounting

Note that both accrual and cash basis reports are provided in the board packet. This written report reflects only cash basis reporting, which is a more useful management tool.

Events

GVS generates a sizable portion of its annual income through large-scale events. This year, we're excited to present both our signature fundraiser Haus und Garten Tour, and the Monster Bash. Additionally, we are expanding our fundraiser portfolio with two new endeavors – Maifest, a Historic Preservation event and the On the Bricks Arts and Music Festival. Please note the addition of the GVS Events Budget vs Actual file which has been newly added to the BOT financial packet. The addition of the file is to provide transparency and accountability to the key fundraising event budgets.

Financial and Risk Management Policies

The finance committee, with assistance from the Executive Director, is in the process of reviewing and versing the GVS Financial and Risk Management policies. Activities are underway to centralize existing policies to an internal SharePoint site. Additionally, the finance committee and Executive Director have committed to leverage resources available from the National Council of Nonprofits to supplement our policies.

Thank you!

We genuinely appreciate the ongoing support from our members, sponsors and volunteers and are looking forward to seeing you at the German Village Society Meeting Haus, committee meetings and events.

Anthony Meyer, Treasurer 05/12/24

APRIL 2024 - German Village Visitor's Center Statistics

Day of the Month	Closed, Holiday or Snow	J Clark - GV Stories BTB \$22	Candle \$24	Coffee 1/2 lb bag \$18	Sweatshirt \$40	T-Shirt \$15	Visitors - Neighborhood	Visitors - Pick up Packages	Visitors - Packages Delivered	Phone calls for info.	Looking for GVS Staff	Yoga	Other	Packages Delivered to GVS	Packages Picked up by Members	Volunteer Hours M-F = 7 Sat = 4 Sun = 3
1	MONDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	6	8	2	0	3	0	0	6	10	10.5
2	TUESDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	11	2	5	0	1	11	0	15	2	7.0
3	WEDNESDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	7	14	7.0
4	THURSDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	2	4	0	0	6	5	10	5	7.0
5	FRIDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	16	4	2	1	2	0	0	7	10	7.0
6	SATURDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	4.0
7	SUNDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	3.0
8	MONDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	2	1	3	5	2	0	0	8	2	10.5
9	TUESDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	13	2	3	1	0	0	0	12	2	3.5
10	WEDNESDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	5	7	4	0	0	0	0	4	10	7.0
11	THURSDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	4	3	1	0	0	0	4	13	7.0
12	FRIDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	9	1	5	2	0	0	0	7	1	7.0
13	SATURDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
14	SUNDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	23	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	3.0
15	MONDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	2	12	1	0	0	1	12	3	10.5
16	TUESDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	7	5	1	0	0	0	0	4	8	0.0
17	WEDNESDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	2	4	2	2	0	0	0	7	8	3.5
18	THURSDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	2	3	2	0	1	0	1	5	6	3.5
19	FRIDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	10	5	15	0	2	0	0	15	8	7.0
20	SATURDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.0
21	SUNDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	5	1	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	3.0
22	MONDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	16	13	2	1	4	0	0	15	27	10.5
23	TUESDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	12	10	4	0	3	12	3	7	18	10.5
24	WEDNESDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	4	5	11	4	0	0	0	14	0	10.5
25	THURSDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	3	2	0	1	4	0	15	4	0	7.0
26	FRIDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	18	3	5	5	6	0	0	5	0	7.0
27	SATURDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	23	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	4.0
28	SUNDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	10	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	6.0
29	MONDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	10	4	7	2	5	0	0	11	5	10.5
30	TUESDAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	4	4	2	1	2	0	4	4	6	3.5

NOTE: Gross sales for April 2024 was \$220. Detailed daily information was not available when preparing this report.

TOTAL \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 214 110 97 28 35 41 29 186 169 184.5

Parks, Public Spaces and Community Events Committee
April 4, 2024

Members Present: Katharine Moore, Jane Forbes, Linda Friedman, Rachel Lewellen, Connie Swain, Suzanne Schwartz, Laia Caplin, Brittany Gibson, and Donald Wiggans

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m. by Katharine.

March 7, 2024 Meeting Minutes

The minutes, as amended by Katharine, were approved (Suzanne moved, Jane seconded).

Actors' Theater

No report but Katharine reported Carol will be returning as Chair at our next meeting.

German Village Garten Club

Jane reported the Third Street boxes have been planted with pansies, a contract for watering the boxes has been signed with David Gaumer, and a call for volunteers for Garten Markt will come out soon.

St. Mary Church and School

No report

German Village Society

Rachel reported MaiFest activities will be held every week with activities announced in Neighbors for Neighbors, on May 25 Haus & Garten tickets will go on sale to the public, the Society website has been revised, and the customer relationship software is being changed to be more membership friendly.

Friends of Schiller Park

Katharine submitted a written report noting the Beech trees along the Schiller promenade have been trimmed, with girdling roots removed, compacted soil broken up and mulch applied. She also reported the Pub Quizzes have wrapped with all three very well attended.

Arboretum Fund

No report

Highfield Garden

No report

German Village 9

No report

Fun Bunch

No report

Huntington Garden

Linda reported gardening officially starts next week. She also distributed posters about Huntington Garden and noted she and David would be willing to provide tours to kids per Suzanne's request.

Village Connections

Donald reported the group will receive funding (\$12,500) from the state budget and there was a well-attended St. Patrick's Day luncheon.

Connect 2 Project Block Watch

No report

Columbus Recreation and Parks

Suzanne reported the winter classes have wrapped up, the Girls Empowerment event went very well with 59 attendees and lots of activities, the Easter Egg hunt was move to the two gyms because of rain and was attended by about 275 kids, the upcoming half marathon will result in access to the parking lot will be blocked despite scheduled classes, a senior clay hands class is upcoming, and construction of the new building bathroom entrance hopefully will start next week.

Village Moms

Laia distributed their April committee report highlighting the success of the March 24 Easter Parade in the Park and their upcoming Swaparoo on April 20.

Old Business

New Business

The meeting was adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Submitted by Linda E. Friedman, April 29, 2024

GVBC Board Report May 2024
Cynthia Watson Co-Chair

A select but energetic group met 4/23 to talk about current business and updates for the 2024 year for their business! We asked for their feedback on how the GVS could support their community of businesses to help them achieve their goals. Each business has unique goals and challenges, but overwhelmingly we heard to maximize the tools we have in place! Put more money and effort behind the social media sites, website, emails, events, maps. We will be discussing the specifics in our next meeting (to be scheduled) and this will include using some of the money in the GVBC account.

Hello from GVS Arts Comm! Apologies for the extreme tardiness here—

We kicked off 2024 without a hitch! Larry Hamill's show in February, the Goodwill Art Studio exhibition for March & April alongside a special studio invite for the German Village Community.

The biggest takeaway for the above is that the Arts Comm would like to see more GVS present-board members included- at opening receptions/special events...

I've established an account for GVS Arts Comm at Culver Art & Frame/International Moulding— this is where literally all framers in town get their supplies— now we can skip that step and go straight to the source and have Tony's work framed for significantly less.

The May 1st install for the May Exhibition was a grand success!

Loaded with fabulous works of art from past-to-present GVS Arts Comm members— **We hope you check it out!**

May 7th hasn't happened yet, but that is the opening reception— we are trying a different day/time to see if we can rally more GVS folk to attend. (Fingers crossed!)

Moving forward, May will be the Invitational Exhibition on the calendar— the National League of American Pen Women will be showing in May 2026, and I am talking with the RISD Alumni Association about the May 2025 invitational.

The Arts Comm patiently awaits the graphics/copy for the On The Bricks festival so we can push out a Call-for-Artists to both enter the juried exhibition and/or be an artist on Mohawk showing/selling their creations.

June/July will be the Treasures from the Archives exhibition- with an additional push in the HGT programming/info—

A Call for Proposals for 2025/2026 exhibitions will be going live sometime early summer—

August is the Juried Exhibition with a VIP reception for On The Bricks that Friday (23rd), and then open to the public on the day-of festival (24th).

End of September, the FotoFocus Biennial Exhibition with Tony Mendoza will be installed—

October 5th is the big opening soiree — The Arts Comm charges all board members to attend & promote this event! I applied for this opportunity on behalf of the Arts Comm/GVS and received a grant from FotoFocus to offset some of the exhibition costs (Tony's fee for speaking, framing of his works to be shown, etc)— 20-30 FotoFocus staff and VIP members will be at this event, spotlighting GVS and the show worldwide— *it would be terribly tragic if GVS board members were not there to support this.*

I cannot emphasize how incredible this is for GVS.

November is the Morris Jackson exhibition

December we are shaking things up and having a new artist who also sells cool things show— the opening will be during Village Lights where cool artsy gifts will also be for sale.