

**German Village Society Board of Trustees
April 8, 2024, Meeting Agenda**

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

Called to order

Liz Newton, Vice President

Public Participation

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

Administrative Assistant (written report)

Susan Carmichael

Report of the Officers

President's Report

Mike Cornelis, President

Vice President's Report

Liz Newton, Vice President

Secretary's Report

Anne McGee, Secretary

Motion: Approve March 11, 2024, GVS Board Meeting Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Anthony Meyer, Treasurer

Motion: Approve the April 2024 Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports:

Community & Quality of Life

Visitors Center (written report)

Barbara Young

Parks and Public Spaces Committee (written report)

Katharine Moore

Advocacy

Parking

Fund Development

Events

Maifest Legends & Legacys 5-2-2024

Andrea Ford & Helen Speiser

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

Lindsey Turner & Ben Chapman

Haus & Garten Tour 6-23-24 (written report)

Carmen & Michael Wood

Membership (written report)

Jonathan Hoag

Old Business

New Business

Adjournment

Please stay for Long-Range Planning Session

German Village Society
Board of Trustees

Minutes of the Meeting of
March 11, 2024

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by President Mike Cornelis and it was noted that the Owl (room camera) was not functional and repair or replacement was being considered.

There was no public participation.

Executive Director Report: Sean Kessler referred to his written report previously submitted electronically and highlighted the following: the GVS website has been updated and edited; the staff is working with Spartan for cyber security training. GVS is moving to new software to track financing and development with a membership portal to replace DonorPerfect and consolidate Constant Contact. The new product Growth Zone is more intuitive and easier to use. Staff reviewed four different products prior to selecting Growth Zone.

Report of the Officers:

President: Call out to Crystal Koon for the new exhibit in the Visitor Center featuring Women's History Month. Kudos!

Secretary: Anne McGee reported that a copy of the meeting minutes for February 12, 2024 were submitted to the Board for review in the packet and moved for acceptance by the board. (McGee/Meyer)

MOTION: To accept and approve the minutes for the meeting of February 12, 2024.
Motion passed without exception.

Treasurer: Anthony Meyer reported that a copy of the Treasurer's Report for March 2024 was submitted to the Board for review in the packet and moved for acceptance by the board. (Meyer/Newton)

MOTION: To accept and approve the Treasurer's Report for March 2024.
Motion passed without exception.

Vice-President: Liz Newton referred to the summary of the long-range planning discussion which was included in the board packet. Further discussions are planned for April and July with an off-site retreat planned in September.

Committee Reports:

Historic Preservation (written report submitted) There was a presentation by Susan Kenny from Historic Landmarks, Zoning Columbus meeting to be held March 14 at 5:30 at city council chambers. Still concerned about damage to the brick streets by construction vehicles.

GVBC. Discussion regarding short-term rentals and consideration of asking owners to join GVBC or adding an additional fee to benefit GVS. There appear to be more than 90.

Maifest Co-chair Andrea Ford announced that the signature event for historic preservation month will be held May 2 at the Highline on High Street. They had secured two legacy sponsors Atlas Butler and VB Accounting. Tickets go on sale March 14. The event will highlight legends of the village with video, easels and artifacts. There will be food and drink.

Pre-Tour Co-Chair Lindsey Turner confirmed that 20 hosts have been secured with 280 seats. Trying to lock in 2-3 more hosts and finalizing planning for cocktail party prior to dinners. On tour are 8 houses, 2 gardens and 2 non-residential sites.

ODC Chair Jess Fleming gave updates for 2024 board election. Five members have terms expiring and there will be a call for nominations in Neighbors 4 Neighbors.

Old Business:

Follow up to inquiries regarding gas meter replacements at during last month's public participation. Columbia Gas liaison has been contacted and we have received digital information for meter program and there is still option to convert to brick if sidewalk is dug up. Will give heads up when next project is scheduled.

Sean and Mike are seeking bids to replace A/V equipment.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:54

Operations

The website is complete and running!

Continuing to work with Spartan IT on staff cybersecurity training as well as shifting digital file storage to Sharepoint for better accessibility and security.

Staff and the Board Treasurer have been working with Accounting Solutions in search of better financial tracking and development software to fit our needs. Any changes that are made will be shared with the board and will fall within the approved 2024 budget. UPDATE: we are transitioning to RAMP software for expenses and have chosen Growth Zone (GZ) to replace Donor Perfect (DP). GZ will function in the ways that DP 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 to both platforms is complete, income/expense processes will be updated.

Gathering more quotes for upgrading IT capabilities in the conference room. Will present to Executive Committee and then the full board once a recommendation has been made.

Quality of Life

2024 Haus und Garten Tour house roster is complete and pre-tour dinner roster is nearly complete. Patron tickets on sale (internal push has begun). Anyone who has not been contacted that is interested in hosting a Pre-Tour dinner, contact the Meeting Haus and we can put you in touch with the correct people.

Maifest planning is coming along very well due to the hard work of the planning committee.

On the Bricks Festival planning is underway and community stakeholders have been contacted. Working with Arts Committee and looking forward to a great event.

Preservation Education

The HP Committee has been very helpful in presenting the priorities going forward and this was very helpful in the onboarding of the Crystal. She will be very involved with the committee going forward.

HP Month planning busy planning out the month of May with will include a kick-off Gala, educational lunch and learn opportunities, and Caretakers Awards.

Financial Stability

ED continues conversations with potential sponsors for all events. Rental income could be on the rise with many organizations interested in using the Fest Hall in 2024.

Rachel Lewellen

Communication | Membership Engagement Staff Report

April 8, 2024

Communication

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

Website: Improvements and migration is finished. Still updating any issues we are discovering as I explore the site. Created new event page for Maifest events as well as Haus und Garten events.

Donor Perfect/GrowthZone: Have begun 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 April 3, 2024 @ 5pm - * see Chairs report * Many events scheduled for this summer (see below) Also, planning a phone banking for later this month – BOT calling lapsed members.

Items to go on sale in VC March. GV branded coffee from a local roaster (Monocle Coffee Co), t-shirt & sweatshirt with art by Columbus artist, and signature candle with a partnership with Tiki Botanicals “Cottage Glow” and Beyond the Bricks book by John Clark. GVS members receive 10% off purchases.

Planning of Member-Only activities for 2024:

Spring Sporting event: Baseball game in May,

Bloodies & Bagels during H&G Tour

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 early signup. Met with designer for H&G collateral – logo, postcards, invitations, poster & program.

Crystal Coon
BOT Preservation Staff Report
April 2024

Tasks

- Moved Property Files into my office
- Continues preservation of Special Collections
- Wrote two articles for N4N
- Began H&G Program Writeups
- Deaccessioned items from the collection
- Wrote captions for Maifest Media w/ focus on 12 landmarks and legends of GV
- Organized programming for 5 weeks in Historic Preservation Month
- Attended H&G property history library day
- Began planning Reciprocal Membership Program
- Completed a full Property History for 582 S Sixth Street
- Ordered Caretaker and House Plaques

Meetings

- 1 GVC monthly meeting
- 1 GVC monthly hearing
- 2 HP Event Planning meetings
- H&G Committee Meeting
- Historic Preservation Committee Meeting
- GVS BOT meeting
- Weekly staff meetings
- Nicole Ursin – Archives Meeting
- Columbus Landmarks – Preserve Cbus Conference Speaking Invitation
- Adam Stevens – Donation of scanned materials
- Josh Matzinger – CJE Restoration (HP Month events)
- John Clark – Maifest Content

Assistance

Assisted a few people with various preservation issues (window replacement, fences, COA Application procedures etc.)

GVC Update

The German Village Commission met Wednesday afternoon, March 6, 2024. Members approved 5 Certificates of Appropriateness with specific alterations, ratified staff-approved certificates, continued 3 applications, and recommended 1 variance.

German Village Society
Membership Committee Report
March 11, 2024

Membership Drive

Annual February membership drive month had a successful push to gaining, upgrading and renewing memberships with the early 2024 membership income closely tracking 2023 and budget.

Member Events

Maifest - Members will benefit from having early access and discounted tickets to the new signature event.

Clippers Baseball Game - Currently being planned with the Clippers for a date in May. Discounted tickets, and group seating for members interested in participating. Final date to be announced soon.

Bloodies & Bagels – Back again from 2023, Kick off Haus und Garten tour day with complimentary bloodies & bagels hosted by Giancarlo and Tim

Movie on the Platz – BYOB & Chair! – Join neighbors for an evening on our favorite platz. Movie poll to come.

Columbus Museum of Art – Private tour of the museum targeted for August 2024

Next meeting

April 3rd @ 5:00 pm. Open to the public

Committee Members

Anne McGee
Giancarlo Miranda
Jonathan Hoag
Norm Hall
Rachel Lewellen
Tim Morbitzer
Tommy Lyons

Information to disseminate to the committee:

April 1, 2024

List of Meetings Attended

Tour related:

St. Mary's March 22nd -- Met with Hanna and discussed tour and route. She is still working on determining if we can offer tours during Pre-Tour. We are a definitive go on the Sunday tour.

During the Tour

Ticket holders will enter at 700 Third Street

- Balloons will mark the entrance.
- Ticket holders will walk through the main entrance, then the lobby.
- Student ambassadors will
 - direct ticket holders through the route
 - will hand Ticket Holders a map of the campus with tour route.

If Saturday PreTour is determined a go, it may or may not include Heritage Hall (w/stained glass). Sunday yes to hall

St. Mary's has graciously agreed to:

- promote H&G Tour in their marketing
 - H&G will need to connect Hanna with marketing team, and particularly Sara Irvin
 - will sell tickets if helpful

St. Mary's would be interested in holding a Pre-Tour dinner next year. Would invest monies available, work with a partner to share expenses...

Franklin Arts Glass ,March 27th – met with Andrea Helf Reid and Gary Helf.

They will do tours (Sunday only)

- Timed tours on the hour (total of 7 tours)
- Tour size – 15ppl
- Need to devise process – Publicize, tours on the hour, or provide a link to sign-up
- Will need 2 or 3 volunteers.

Appreciation Event:

Jim Keny, Keny Galleries, March 29, Preview of Provincetown Print Makers.

I will get out the save the date.

Jim will open the back garden and set up a bar and bartender, do flowers etc...

Edward Searle will sponsor bites and wines.

Actionable Items:

Program Photo – Tour chairs, full Committee Photo [April 23rd at 5:00](#)

Staff Photo date _____?

- Anyone I should add before I send out an email to the committee?
- Pick a location- [Meeting Haus](#)
- Rain date. How does either ~~April 30~~ or [May 7th](#) sound? Maifest is May 2rd.

Committee Members:

Carmen Wood reginacarmen1@icloud.com;

Sean Kessler skessler@germanvillage.com;

Susan Carmichael scarmichael@germanvillage.com;

Crystal Coon ccoona@germanvillage.com;

Michael Wood mswood@outlook.com;

Lindsey Turner lindsey.jay.turner@gmail.com; benc7586@gmail.com benc7586@gmail.com;

'Brittany Gibson' brittanymgibson@gmail.com;

Hartke, Anthony - (Ohio) hartkeas@gmail.com;

Darci Congrove darci.congrove@gmail.com;

John Clark johnclark43206@gmail.com; Jan Clark janclark43206@gmail.com; Chris

Hune clh203@gmail.com; '

Anthony Meyer' anthony.meyer@outlook.com;

Thomas Tyler Mason thomastylermason@gmail.com;

Elizabeth Burson

Map, home entrances for Rachel

- Beth needs to walk the homes to determine we have the best entrance location so that there are no errors on map.
- Beth will have all Haus Captains identified by [April 15th](#).
- We will send out a sign-up document for Homeowners to choose day and time slot.
 - Pick a 2-week period (can we offer a weekend date this weekend, April 6 or 7?)
[End of April and First week of May](#)
 - Identify total of Day and Time options (late afternoon/early evening and/or weekend). [2 weekdays, one weekend](#)
 - Determine time increments [1 hour](#)

Ask Brittany, Sean and Rachel to include me in next Program Meeting.

***Yellow – H&G, Committee support required**

Parks, Public Spaces, and Community Events Committee

I. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Linda Friedman

II. Member Reports:

Actors' Theatre

German Village Garten Club

Jane Forbes

St. Mary Church and School

Frank Wickham

German Village Society

Rachel Lewellen

Friends of Schiller Park

Katharine Moore

Highfield Garden

Connie Swain

German Village 9

Michael Cornelis

Fun Committee

Angela Petro

Huntington Garden

Linda Friedman

Village Connections

Donald Wiggins

Connect2Protect Block Watch

Dee Debenport

Village Moms

Brittany Gibson

Laia Caplin

III. Columbus Recreation and Parks

Suzanne Schwartz

IV. Old Business

V. New Business

Parks, Public Spaces and Community Events Committee
March 7, 2024

Members Present: Frank Wickham, Katharine Moore, Jane Forbes, Linda Friedman, Rachel Lewellen, Suzanne Schwartz, Laia Caplin, and Donald Wiggans

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m. by Katharine.

February 1, 2024 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved (Suzanne moved, Jane seconded).

Actors' Theater

No report

German Village Garten Club

Jane distributed a written report which outlines the upcoming events for the Garten Club, including planting of pansies in the Third Street planters, Frank Fetch clean up and planting dates, and the Garten Markt.

St. Mary Church and School

Frank reported a fundraiser is scheduled for 3/16, limited to 100 guests, for the school. He also noted the dialogue between the Diocese and the church on who is responsible for what is ongoing, the upcoming concert will feature the Columbus International Childrens Choir, school enrollment for the 2024/2025 session is underway (500+ students), the playground is working out well, the clinic is open for anyone up to 21 years old with an appointment, and for the first time since 1970 the church is financially sound.

German Village Society

Rachel reviewed several upcoming events including auditions for Actors Theater on 3/16-3/17, the last public meeting on the parking study on 3/20, and the Cake Hound Easter Egg Hunt on 3/24. She also noted there is an exhibit on German Village Women on display in March in honor of Women's Month and plans are underway for the May Fest events which will focus on historic preservation and feature a gala and Caretakers recognition on May 2.

Friends of Schiller Park

Katharine reported the tree trimming project by the Columbus Division of Forestry is ongoing. She also noted the island has experienced a lot of erosion and is on the city's project list for pond review, tree mulching is scheduled for May and tennis and pickleball courts can be reserved with a permit.

Arboretum Fund

No report

Highfield Garden

No report

German Village 9

No report

Fun Bunch

No report

Huntington Garden

Linda reported David continues to weed and the target for Deadheaders to return is the second week of April. Suzanne asked if there was any type of poster about the garden available that could be posted at the Rec Center and Frank noted the Church would also be interested in a flyer. Linda said she would try to put something together. Suzanne also asked about the possibility of a gardening event with the Center camp attendees; Linda said she would discuss this with David.

Village Connections

Donald reported 2023 was a good year, the new data system for scheduling and the new financial data base are working well, the Board has five new members and Chair, and the new location at Livingston Methodist Church is working well and providing more access to possible clients.

Connect 2 Project Block Watch

Katharine reported the last Parsons Avenue Stakeholders meeting was rough with residents and service-providers struggling to communicate. The group was organized to create a venue for communication and problem-solving...there have been some positive outcomes, but the shooting at Whittier and Parsons the day before the meeting had everyone on edge.

Columbus Recreation and Parks

Suzanne reported the summer camp registration filled immediately, Girls Empowerment is scheduled for March 16, a variety of new classes are being planned (hockey, roller skating, etc.) and the Center will have glasses for the upcoming eclipse.

Village Moms

Laia distributed their March committee report recapping February events and listing upcoming events for spring. She also noted the March 24 Easter Parade in the Park and noted they are looking for volunteers to help.

Old Business

New Business

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m. (?)

Submitted by Linda E. Friedman, April 3, 2024

Parks, Public Spaces & Community Events Committee

Village Moms report - April 2023

March 11 executive committee meeting notes

Events

***recap* March**

- **24** – Easter Parade in Schiller Park
 - Looking for additional candy/goodie “stops” along the route to be able to put this on; all neighbors who appreciate Village kids are welcome to pitch in – please reach out to villagemomscbus@gmail.com for more information
- **27** - quarterly New Village Moms meetup

April

- **20, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.** - Swaperoo at Germania Sport & Singing Society
 - Kids' used clothing, toy & gear sale with all items from village-area families and sales open to anyone.
 - See page 2 for full information. Please help us get the word out. This is open to anyone!

May

- **TBD** - T-Ball (Alli leading)
 - 20 kids ages 3-6; 6 or so weeks; pay for T-shirts; sign up coaches before making the session happen

Other notes

It's beginning to look a lot like playground season! We are interested in any and all updates Friends of Schiller or any other PPSCE contacts have related to the gameplan for playground improvements.

About us: If you're a mom in Columbus' German Village/Schumacher Place/Merion Village area — yes, this village is for you! We're looking to meet each other, share suggestions and just generally make life in our area that much better for ourselves and our kids. It takes a Village Mom!

Exec committee: Laia Caplin, Brittany Gibson, Karen Hines, Jamie Norckauer, Katie Strimbu, Alli Yoakam

FIND US

Email: villagemomscbus@gmail.com

Facebook: Village Moms

Instagram: [@village_moms](https://www.instagram.com/village_moms)

Venmo: [@VillageMoms](https://www.venmo.com/VillageMoms)



Village Moms' spring in-person Swaperoo sale is back! This is a chance for parents, caregivers and friends — invite everyone you know! — to buy and sell used (and sometimes new) kids' clothing, toys and gear from **20** German Village/Schumacher Place/Merion Village-area families. (Yes, 20!)

Clothing sizes range from newborn to 9/10. Almost all clothing is priced at:

- \$1 ONESIES, SHIRTS, BOTTOMS, PJs
- \$3 SWIMSUITS, DRESSES, JACKETS, SWADDLES

We are excited to put this event on at Germania Singing & Sport Society! The event will be inside & out, weather permitting. Plan to spend some time checking out their space, letting the kids run around in the grass & grabbing a drink!

Seller registration has closed but volunteer signup is open — check out the German Village Area Swaperoo Facebook page or email villagemomscbus@gmail.com for more info.

Please donate to Village Moms anytime to help cover our rental fee and our continual efforts to better the neighborhood for moms and families: **@villagemoms** on Venmo (last 4 digits 5825).

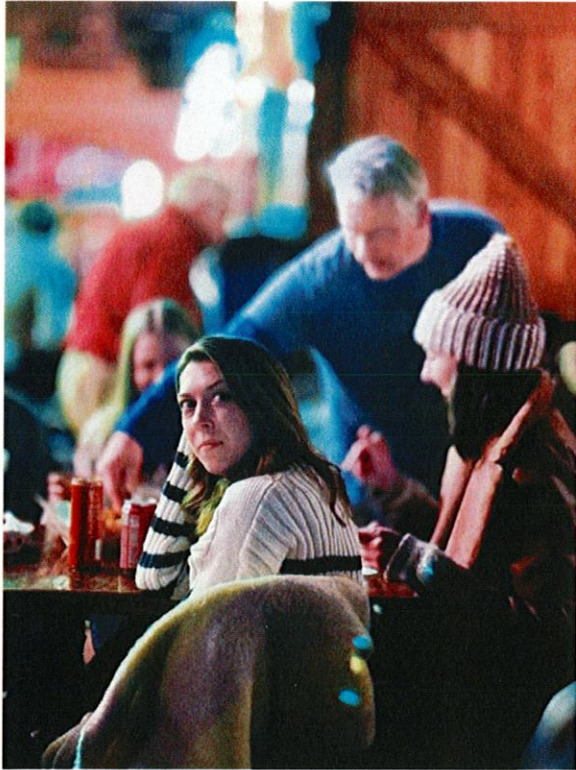
Friends of Schiller Park

April 4, 2024

March was arbor month in Schiller Park! After a three-week pruning project undertaken by the Forestry Division, the Friends of Schiller followed up with Beech tree project along the Schiller promenade. Nathan Ames of Ames Arboreal Group brought a team to trim unruly limbs, detach girdling roots, and hand-remove the sod. With an air knife -- a safe, non-destructive excavation tool, the compacted soil was broken up and, finally, mulch was laid. The project was thoughtfully designed to preserve the health and vitality of the trees and to extend the lifespan of these community gems.

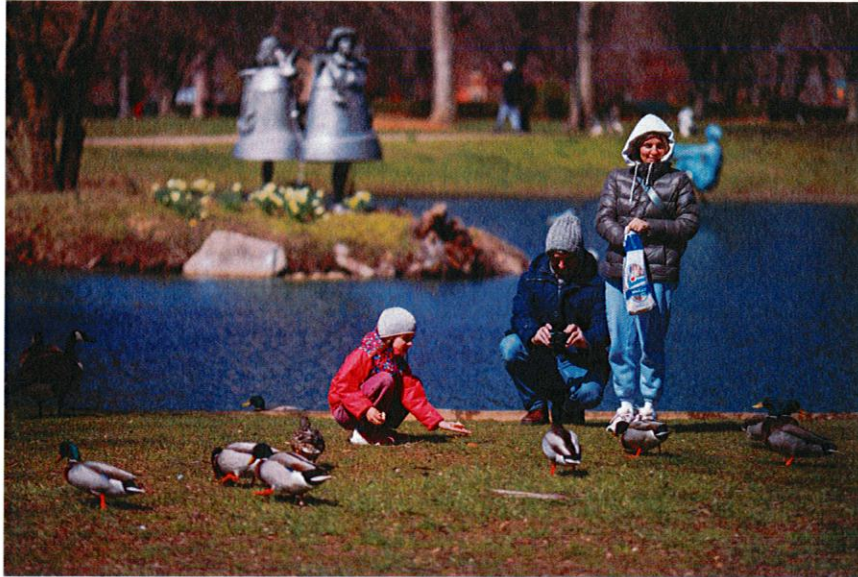


We also wrapped up our three-month series of Pub Quizzes, really pleased that the crowd grew each time. The City Park Squatters took first prize (FOSP bottle openers and a dose of pride), but everyone went away knowing more about Friends of Schiller Park, so our mission was accomplished. Everyone involved had buckets of gratitude for all of the work Jan and John Clark put into creating the quizzes. I'm sure we have done something along the way that they didn't do heavy lifting on...but I can't think of an example!



The Irvin PR team did the company proud!

Robert Caplin does an amazing job with social media for the Friends...one public service effort centered on the never-ending effort to curb the feeding of geese at the pond. This is what he witnessed:



And this is what he posted:

