GVS Board of Trustees: September 8th, 2026, Meeting Agenda

Scheurer Room 6PM – Jennings Java (See the GVS Website for Zoom Instructions)

BOT: Anthony Meyer, Anne McGee, Scott Glaser, Cynthia Watson, Robert Caplin, Michael Cornelis, Michael Gallaugher, Jessica Flemming, Jeff Lamb, James Nichols, Courtney Thraen, Mary Connolly Ross, Lucy Whittier, Sherri Lazear, Jennifer Clark

Call to Order	**Anthony Meyer**
Public Participation	**TBD**

NOTE: PLEASE KEEP YOUR COMMENTS TO 2 MIN

Staff Reports **(Written and Oral)**

Executive Director	Courtney Thraen
Communication/Membership	Rachel Lewellen

Officer Reports (Written and Oral)

Presidents Report	Anthony Meyer (Anne as proxy)
*Motion to approve Statement of Use	
Vice President Report	Anne McGee
Secretary Report	Cynthia Watson
*Motion to approve August Minutes	
Treasurer Report	Scott Glaser
*Motion to approve August Report	
*Motion to approve +$20K for Expanded Roof Budget	
*Motion to accept the Gift for Visitor Center	

***Committee Reports**

- Meeting House Master Plan ○ Visitor Center	Mary Ross (oral)
- HPAC	M Gallaugher (written)
- ODC	James Nichols (oral)
- Sidewalks	Tyler Mason (written)
- GVBC	R Caplin (written)

Old Business

New Business

German Village Society
Executive Director's Report
September 7, 2026

I. Organizational Development and Operations

a. **The GVS Menu of Services** was fleshed out in more detail in the Mid-Year Report, and I'm working staff to ensure support interactions are documented and that we can pull testimonials to start telling natural sounding stories about our work.

b. **Member Database –** The CRM exploration team has held two meetings to polish our rubric and demo questions. Three demos have been scheduled for the month of October.

c. **Digital Front Door** – We have started to better organized our website's navigation menu (thanks to Rachel), and we'll be looking at better fleshing out our webpage content thereafter to make it more interactive.

II. Tourism (YTD through August 4, 2026):

a. 1,124 visitors across 492 groups. June, July, and August accounted for 643 visitors, or 57% of the total.

b. 28% were from Ohio, followed by Pennsylvania and Michigan among identified U.S. states.

c. Nearly 8% were international visitors, led by France, Germany, and Canada.

d. 23% discovered GVS through tourism-related research; 15% came through word of mouth; and 6% found us directly through our website.

e. 28% stopped in because they were visiting family and friends in the area. 22% came in because they were on a Midwest road trip.

III. Development Benchmarks

a. Taking lead on Oktoberfest from a back-end GVS systems set-up while Rachel is taking point on Monster Bash and Village Lights!
b. I've asked a few members of the Society to assist with fleshing out our Sponsorship Booklet in the months of September and October so that the finished product can be released before year end. This will also enable creation of specific verticals to ask for Oktoberfest and Monster Bash as there is already strong support for Maifest, HGT, and Village Lights.
c. I'll be using some content from the Mid-Year Report to deliver packets to current and prospective donors as we get to know more residents/landlords in our Village. This impact report will also be used to garner funds from non-members who have taken advantage of GVS services from Jack, Kristy, and Ronan.

IV. Outreach / Engagement

a. A resident requested that the Board provide a position statement on Zone In Phase Two. This request is being referred to the HPAC meeting on September 28th for movement back to the Board in October.
b. We're completing a feasibility assessment for the Revolving Loan Fund to support private properties from the National Preservation Partners Network.
c. In light of the Historic Preservation Modernization Initiative, we released the Scope of Work recently in N4N. Jack Doran, our Architectural Preservation Specialist, is releasing a survey to property owners / contractors on the GV COA process.

Rachel Lewellen | Communications & Membership Manager –
August 2026 Staff Report

Report Summary

July-beginning of August has been busy with continued progress across communications, membership engagement, and event preparation.

Neighbors 4 Neighbors continued to perform well, sending 27,600 emails and achieving a 3% click rate. Communications work included building website pages for Ronan's America 250 chapters and documenting the ongoing ADA curb project through photos and video to keep neighbors informed.

Membership engagement remained steady, with 380 members now logged into GrowthZone. Continue to assist in the search for a new CRM system, along with regular membership support and renewal outreach. GVS's total membership is 532 households. GVBC total 102.

Also continued work on event preparation for Boogie for the Bricks, Oktoberfest, and Monster Bash, including branding, sponsorship materials, social media, and event planning. Volunteer coordination, Meeting Haus rentals, and intern supervision will continue throughout the month.

Communication

Neighbor 4 Neighbor (N4N): Edited and provided content for August- Sept newsletters.

Members2Members:

GVBC monthly meeting reminders and communications.

Website & BoT Reports:

Ongoing updates: Events; prepared board packets, email, and printed reports. Reworking the menu on the main page to reflect institutional work.

Operations:

GrowthZone: Upkeep of records, membership acknowledgement.

Events:

Oktoberfest – Design logo, branding guidelines, continue to work on posters, social media, and website sponsor list.

Monster Bash – Meeting with Co-Chairs, Andrew Ford & Jeff Lamb – theme and graphic design. Host information meeting August 31 @ 6 pm - Host Mixer Sept. 22 – Tickets on Sale to Mason + on Sept 10, public on Sept 17. Currently 8 confirmed stops. Chairs working on getting more.

Membership:

Attended GVS membership committee meetings. A committee member is continuing to call lapsed members, working with him to get those contacts renewed. Working with Courtney to determine a new CRM.

GVBC Membership:

Membership	Count of Membership
GVBC Membership - Level 1	56
GVBC Membership - Level 2	21
GVBC Membership - Level 3	15
GVBC Membership- Comp	10
Grand Total	**102**

GVS Membership:

Membership Type	2/9/26	4/14/26	5/12/26	6/9/26	7/13/26	8/10/26	9/8/26
Household	213	213	217	211	216	225	227
Individual	179	181	178	182	187	194	196
Mason	57	57	58	59	58	59	62
Builder	28	26	26	25	25	24	26
Archivist	13	14	14	14	14	14	14
Preservationist	5	4	3	3	3	3	3
Caretaker	2	3	3	3	3	3	3
Honorary Member	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Totals	498	499	500	498	507	523	532

Additional Tasks:
Visitor Center Volunteers: Daily point-of-contact volunteers; interviewing and onboarding new volunteers.
Village Engagement Committee representative
Coordinated rentals and use of Meeting Haus. Art Committee, Village Moms, Garten Club + Actors Theatre use
Assisted members with our menu of services as needed.
Supervising Communications OSU student internship

GVS Board of Trustees: Aug 11th, 2026, Meeting Agenda

Scheurer Room 6PM – German Village Meeting Haus (See the GVS Website for Zoom Instructions)

BOT: Anthony Meyer, Anne McGee, Scott Glaser, Cynthia Watson, Robert Caplin, Michael Cornelis, Michael Gallaugher, Jessica Flemming, Jeff Lamb, James Nichols, Courtney Threan, Mary Connolly Ross, Lucy Whittier, Sharri Lazear, Jennifer Clark

Call to Order — **Anthony Meyer**
Public Participation — **TBD**
NOTE: PLEASE KEEP YOUR COMMENTS TO 2 MIN

Staff Reports **(Written and Oral)**

Executive Director	Courtney Thraen
Communication/Membership	Rachel Lewellen
Historic Preservation	Courtney Thraen
Advocacy	Kristy Ramey

Officer Reports (Written and Oral)

Presidents Report	Anthony Meyer
Vice President Report	Anne McGee
Secretary Report	Cynthia Watson
*Motion to approve July Minutes	
Treasurer Report	Scott Glaser
*Motion to approve July Report	
*Review of Statement of Understanding for Boogie for Bricks	

Committee Reports

- Meeting House Master Plan
  - Visitor Center — Mary Ross (written)
  - Building Committee — Scott Glaser (oral)
    - Roof/Security/Scheurer Room
- H&G Tour — Lucy Whittier (oral)
- GVBC — Robert Caplin (written)
  - *Motion to approve changes to Visitor Map
- HPAC — M Gallaugher (written)
- ODC — James Nichols (oral)

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting Notes 8/11/2026

- **Call to Order – Anthony**
- **No Public participation**
- **STAFF REPORTS**
    - **ED Report**
        - **Review of headlines for projects in flight and functional area work in progress**
        - **Mike G – locating and scanning of prior sidewalk survey for ongoing use**
- **OFFICER REPORTS**
    - **Presidents Report**

- Dianna Flora and Carmen Wood will support ballot counting for upcoming board elections.
- Membership system – reviewing current system and future needs.
- Institutional Voice Framework and Gift Acceptance policies:
    - Following discussion, Scott motioned passage of the Institutional Voice Framework, Mike G 2nd (Motion Passed 100%)
    - Discussion took place on the Gift Acceptance Policy:
        - Anne asked if we could discuss real-life examples of the policy in action - examples were discussed.
        - It was noted that we already have a separate Bequests policy passed by the Board earlier this year.
        - Motion was made to adopt the gift policy with a minor edit to section 3.3. Sherri 2nd. Jim opposed and suggested more polishing. Motion passed.
            - Edit to Section 3.3 (first paragraph) is to add the BOLDED words below to the reviewed draft: "Operational Threshold (Under $10,000): Contributions under $10,000 carrying suggested designations will be routed to existing, pre-approved Operational **and/or Designated** funds or processed as unrestricted donations. Mass-market ticket sales and standard event sponsorships below this floor are processed as routine operational revenue."
        - This and other policies will be subject to periodic review, including by Finance Committee, and further proposed changes may be brought forward for Board consideration.
- Succession planning – Anthony will release this survey for an update.
    - **Vice Presidents Report – lots of work and momentum in key priorities, focus on fund raising**
    - **Secretary – Motion to pass last months minutes /Cynthia – Mary 2nd, Motion passed**
        - **LRP – New Adds for consideration, Website enhancement for volunteers, and Fall event season would like to have incremental outdoor/Platz electricity**
    - **Treasurer – June and July Reports up for approval. We are on track to our operating budget!**
        - **See reporting for H&G and Boogie for Bricks**
        - **Motion – Cynthia, Jim 2nd, Motion passed for both months**

- **Statement of understanding for Boogie on the Bricks. Work in flight for the future expansion of this project**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Meeting House – Roof timeline in work considering recent storms, security upgrade start date in Sept**
- **HG Tour – Hindsight meeting occurred and lots of great updates and next year announcements will be made asap.**
- **ODC – Election process ongoing for next 2 weeks. Announcements will be made at Sept meeting. October meeting – newly elected BOTs will be in seat and recommended slate of officers for vote**
- **GVBC – Mike G motion for map, listing on map will now be a benefit. As of 2027 if a business is not a member, they will not be on the map. Goal would be to transition into a business to become a member.**
    - **2nd Lucy, motion passed, One opposed**
    - **Anne – recommendation to implement and measure.**
    - **Anthony motion to adjorn. Mike G second**

German Village Society

August 2026 Financial Summary

Board of Trustees
September 8, 2026

Character lives on.





Headlines

- **YTD net operating income is +$34K against a +$42K budget.**
  - In-Kind contributions continue to be tracked in a more disciplined and timely way, resulting in total revenues and expenses both materially exceeding budget and LY. The better comparisons exclude the in-kind activity.
  - Operating Revenues excluding in-kind total $387K vs. $413K budget (-$26K) and $379K last year (+$9K).
  - Operating Expenses excluding in-kind total $354K vs. $371K budget (-$18K) and $319K last year (+$35K, largely from earlier in the year due to short staffing a year ago).
  - The net $9K shortfall to budgeted operating income compares to -$11K as of June month-end, and now reflects all material transfers between operating and designated funds.

	2025 YTD Actual	2026 YTD Budget	2026 YTD Actual	'26 Var to LY	'26 Var to Budget
TOTAL REVENUES	$407,215	$443,550	$492,246	$85,031	$48,696
Revenues excl. In-Kind	*$378,928*	*$413,550*	*$387,433*	*$8,505*	*($26,117)*
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	$347,580	$401,466	$458,729	$111,149	$57,263
Expenses excl. In-Kind	*$319,293*	*$371,466*	*$353,916*	*$34,623*	*($17,550)*
NET OPERATING INCOME	$59,635	$42,084	$33,517	($26,118)	($8,567)

- **Event updates:**
  - Total Boogie for the Bricks event revenues of ~$31K are being matched by Lisa Stein and Craig Colvin (not yet booked/received). $7,500 of the proceeds have been shifted into GVS operations (as budgeted) as of August close.

- **Our asset base of ~$1.94M is up $248K to last year, and cash is in good shape.**
  - Operating cash totals $147K compared to $148K as of last year 8/31. There's also ~$92K in Operations funds in CDs.
  - Total cash, including designated/restricted funds, is $1.55M, +$264K to LY.
  - In August, GVS received a $100,000 cash gift in support of the Visitors Center Renovation that is now reflected in that designated fund.

- **2025 audit process nearing completion – statements have been reviewed and are being finalized along with our 990 form.**

Revenues – YTD August

	2025 YTD Actual	2026 YTD Budget	2026 YTD Actual	'26 Var to LY	'26 Var to Budget
GVS Membership Dues	*$88,587*	*$94,000*	*$73,123*	*($15,464)*	*($20,877)*
GVBC Membership Dues	*$4,600*	*$4,800*	*$4,275*	*($325)*	*($525)*
MEMBERSHIP DUES	$93,187	$98,800	$77,398	($15,789)	($21,402)
Sponsorships	*$67,066*	*$70,500*	*$88,600*	*$21,534*	*$18,100*
Admissions & Tickets Sales	*$162,440*	*$167,300*	*$162,326*	*($114)*	*($4,974)*
Advertising	*$10,625*	*$11,000*	*$8,750*	*($1,875)*	*($2,250)*
ADMISSION & EVENTS	$240,131	$248,800	$259,676	$19,545	$10,876
CONTRIBUTIONS	$36,453	$52,500	$39,789	$3,337	($12,711)
IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS	$28,287	$30,000	$104,813	$76,526	$74,813
Rental Income	*$4,253*	*$6,600*	*$4,887*	*$633*	*($1,713)*
Tour Income	*$0*	*$0*	*$0*	*$0*	*$0*
Merchandise Sales	*$3,577*	*$4,850*	*$1,753*	*($1,824)*	*($3,097)*
Other Income & Interest	*$1,327*	*$2,000*	*$3,930*	*$2,603*	*$1,930*
OTHER INCOME	$9,158	$13,450	$10,570	$1,412	($2,880)
TOTAL REVENUES	**$407,215**	**$443,550**	**$492,246**	**$85,031**	**$48,696**
Revenues excl. In-Kind	***$378,928***	***$413,550***	***$387,433***	***$8,505***	***($26,117)***

NOTE: The January 2025 deposit of a $10,000 rental check from the 2024 GV Farmer's Market Platz rental has been adjusted out of the LY numbers for better comparability.

- TOTAL revenue shows a large pickup to both budget (+$49K) and LY (+$85K) due to much more rigorous and timely booking of in-kind income versus prior years.
- The more relevant comparison, excluding in-kind activity, shows YTD revenues +$9K to LY but ($26K) below the budget.
- Versus last year, event revenue growth is more than offsetting the reported drop in membership revenues.
- The shortfall to budget largely reflects Membership Dues (some of this is timing and will be made up in Q4) and $10K from HGT.

Expenses – YTD August

- Overall expenses are being well managed against our budget.
- TOTAL expenses appear to be way up to LY and budget due to the more complete and timely recording if in-kind activities.
- As with revenues, the better comparison is made excluding the in-kind expenses. On this basis, expenses are +$35K to LY, driven by full staffing as well as event, IT, and administrative expenses. The entire $35K increase to LY was in Q1. We've run flat since then.
- Against our budget, expenses (excluding in-kind) are DOWN $18K, driven by staffing/salaries.
- OTHER NOTES:
  - Bank fees are DOWN $5K due to lower digital transaction fees.
  - Repair & Maintenance will likely continue to run high due plumbing, elevator, and other building needs. In October, we will recommend a transfer from Building Maintenance Fund to cover the accumulating repair expenses.
  - Printing & Postage is up to budget and LY due to the new/annual Sponsorship Booklet + increase in MaiFest investment. But total admin expenses are down $4K to budget.

	2025 YTD Actual	2026 YTD Budget	2026 YTD Actual	'26 Var to LY	'26 Var to Budget
Salaries & Bonus	*$131,308*	*$160,820*	*$150,420*	*$19,111*	*($10,400)*
Payroll Taxes	*$9,865*	*$12,018*	*$11,506*	*$1,641*	*($512)*
Benefits	*$18,624*	*$23,452*	*$19,951*	*$1,327*	*($3,501)*
Training & Dev't	*$192*	*$1,350*	*$280*	*$88*	*($1,070)*
TOTAL SALARIES & RELATED	$159,989	$197,640	$182,156	$22,167	($15,484)
Hardware/Software	*$16,064*	*$18,264*	*$17,849*	*$1,785*	*($415)*
Internet	*$1,060*	*$1,136*	*$1,156*	*$96*	*$20*
Maintenance	*$5,705*	*$5,864*	*$7,050*	*$1,345*	*$1,186*
IT EXPENSES	$22,829	$25,264	$26,055	$3,226	$791
Acc'g & Audit Fees	*$32,900*	*$36,000*	*$33,450*	*$550*	*($2,550)*
Bank & Payroll Fees	*$14,373*	*$13,120*	*$8,381*	*($5,992)*	*($4,739)*
Insurance Expense	*$5,589*	*$7,200*	*$8,698*	*$3,109*	*$1,498*
Licenses, Fees, & Permits	*$1,354*	*$1,445*	*$1,216*	*($138)*	*($229)*
FINANCIAL EXPENSES	$54,216	$57,765	$51,745	($2,471)	($6,020)
Cleaning	*$7,432*	*$7,334*	*$6,034*	*($1,398)*	*($1,300)*
Landscaping	*$1,219*	*$1,333*	*$1,531*	*$312*	*$198*
Repair & Maintenance	*$2,470*	*$3,300*	*$8,680*	*$6,209*	*$5,380*
Utilities	*$6,877*	*$7,600*	*$7,525*	*$648*	*($75)*
Security & Storage	*$1,708*	*$2,110*	*$3,109*	*$1,402*	*$999*
OCCUPANCY EXPENSES	$19,705	$21,677	$26,878	$7,173	$5,201
Printing & Postage	*$6,123*	*$11,370*	*$12,313*	*$6,190*	*$943*
Supplies	*$4,186*	*$6,600*	*$4,138*	*($49)*	*($2,462)*
Advertising	*$5,022*	*$7,400*	*$6,367*	*$1,346*	*($1,033)*
Dues & Memberships	*$1,320*	*$1,100*	*$2,460*	*$1,140*	*$1,360*
Gifts & Awards	*$5,193*	*$5,600*	*$3,046*	*($2,147)*	*($2,554)*
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	$21,843	$32,070	$28,324	$6,480	($3,746)
IN-KIND EXPENSES	$28,287	$30,000	$104,813	$76,526	$74,813
Food & Beverage, Sponsor Dini	*$15,931*	*$16,450*	*$17,886*	*$1,955*	*$1,436*
Equipment Rental	*$8,394*	*$8,700*	*$5,490*	*($2,903)*	*($3,210)*
Transportation/Towing	*$4,175*	*$4,200*	*$4,479*	*$305*	*$279*
Misc / Legal Expense	*$12,212*	*$7,700*	*$10,903*	*($1,309)*	*$3,203*
OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES	$40,711	$37,050	$38,759	($1,952)	$1,709
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	**$347,580**	**$401,466**	**$458,729**	**$111,149**	**$57,263**
Expenses excl. In-Kind	***$319,293***	***$371,466***	***$353,916***	***$34,623***	***($17,550)***

Balance Sheet Summary

- Operating cash totals $147K as of August 31 against $148K last year. Total cash, including board designated and permanently-restricted funds, is $1.55M, up $264K to last year. Total assets of $1.94M are +$248K to LY.
- Boogie for the Bricks designated account reflects event revenue of ~$31K less $7,500 allocated to operations and minimal expenses. Match committed by hosts Lisa Stein & Craig Colvin are not yet reflected. Ad hoc committee is reviewing future sidewalks program evolution, and BftB funds will be shifted to a designated sidewalks and related infrastructure repair fund by 11/30 in accordance with the event Statement of Understanding.
- VC Renovation fund now totals $147K, inclusive of an additional $100K in gifts received in August. $50K in pledged funds not yet received is NOT yet reflected in the balance sheet.

ASSETS

	Y/E 2024	August 2025	Y/E 2025	August 2026
Cash: Operations Chkg + Petty Cash	**$75,701**	**$147,610**	**$103,860**	**$146,918**
Cash - Board Designated Checking	$192,200	$185,156	$183,296	$440,843
Meeting Haus Maintenance/Replacement	*$280,044*	*$284,832*	*$302,732*	*$231,289*
Village Singers Fund	*$23,395*	*$22,395*	*$22,098*	*$21,598*
Warner Maintenance Fund	*$288,863*	*$306,298*	*$324,690*	*$347,106*
Cash - Other Board Designated	$592,303	$613,525	$649,519	$599,993
Cash: Total Board Designated	**$784,502**	**$798,681**	**$832,816**	**$1,040,836**
Cash: Huntington Garden ***(Perm Restricted)***	**$317,248**	**$335,420**	**$345,360**	**$357,469**
TOTAL CASH	**$1,177,451**	**$1,281,712**	**$1,282,036**	**$1,545,223**
Accounts Receivable	$600	$3,107	$5,500	$0
Chase CD's - Historic Preservation	$146,485	$146,485	$150,416	$102,975
Chase CD's - Operations	$89,069	$89,069	$91,426	$91,801
Gift Cards	$3,184	$6,411	$65	$65
Prepaid Expenses & Other	$1,548	$0	$2,829	$1,799
OTHER CURRENT ASSETS	**$240,886**	**$245,073**	**$250,236**	**$196,640**
Building & Land	$835,785	$835,785	$835,785	$835,785
Leasehold Improvements	$210,759	$227,369	$227,369	$277,601
Furniture & Equipment	$255,939	$255,939	$255,939	$257,388
Accumulated Depreciation	($1,160,450)	($1,173,703)	($1,175,839)	($1,189,092)
Net Intangible Assets	$15,535	$15,535	$12,140	$12,140
FIXED ASSETS	**$157,567**	**$160,924**	**$155,393**	**$193,822**
TOTAL ASSETS	**$1,575,905**	**$1,687,709**	**$1,687,665**	**$1,935,685**

	Y/E 2024	August 2025	Y/E 2025	August 2026
Art Committee	$1,282	($810)	$1,215	$1,051
Boogie for the Bricks	$0	$25,385	$7,135	$22,406
Building & Maintenance Cash Fund	$0	$0	$0	$64,910
Council of Historic Neighborhoods	$1,539	$1,539	$1,539	$1,539
For the Good of the Neighborhood	$67,507	$57,467	$57,467	$56,559
Frank Fetch Park/Maintenance	$50	$50	$50	$50
Fund for Historic Preservation	$26,149	$23,662	$23,880	$51,235
German Village Business Community	$69,404	$62,135	$62,831	$69,564
Huntington Garden/Maintenance	($257)	($6,566)	$758	$6,653
Sidewalk Repairs	$17,243	$13,143	$15,443	$10,643
Southside Stay	$8,830	$7,805	$8,056	$7,805
Village Singers	$453	$1,347	$1,397	$1,417
Visitors Center Renovation	$0	$0	$3,525	$147,013

LIABILITIES

	Y/E 2024	August 2025	Y/E 2025	August 2026
Accounts Payable	$3,906	$9,709	$2,385	$31,687
Credit Card Liability	$1,297	$6,319	$5,246	$5,177
Prepaid Dues	$10,068	$0	$0	$0
Other Liabilities	$0	$0	$0	$457
CURRENT & OTHER LIABILITIES	**$15,270**	**$16,029**	**$7,631**	**$37,321**
Unrestricted/Temp Restricted Earnings	$9,000	$9,000	$9,000	$9,000
Restricted Earnings	$957,242	$957,242	$957,242	$957,242
Retained Earnings	$556,626	$593,613	$593,613	$713,793
Net Income	$37,766	$111,825	$120,180	$218,330
EQUITY	**$1,560,634**	**$1,671,680**	**$1,680,035**	**$1,898,365**
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	**$1,575,905**	**$1,687,709**	**$1,687,665**	**$1,935,685**

MaiFest Snapshot

	MaiFest					
	Actual 2025	**Budget 2026**	***YTD 2026 per QB***	**Projected 2026**	***Proj Var to Budget***	***Proj Var to LY***
Admission/Event Income	$11,310	$16,500	*$23,780*	$13,385	*($3,115)*	*$2,075*
Advertising Income	$0	$0	*$0*	$0		
Contributions	$9,687	$9,000	*$0*	$11,990	*$2,990*	*$2,304*
In-Kind Donations	$6,390	$6,500	*$21,213*	$21,213	*$14,713*	*$14,823*
Sponsorship	$22,000	$22,000	*$27,650*	$28,150	*$6,150*	*$6,150*
Total Income	**$49,387**	**$54,000**	***$72,683***	**$74,738**	***$20,738***	***$25,351***
Excluding In Kind						
Subcontractor	$0	$0	*$306*	$306	*$306*	*$306*
Food/Beverages	$6,040	$6,500	*$6,706*	$5,599	*($901)*	*($441)*
Gifts & Awards	$500	$1,500	*$281*	$281	*($1,219)*	*($219)*
In-Kind Expense	$6,390	$6,500	*$21,213*	$21,213	*$14,713*	*$14,823*
Miscellaneous Expense	$1,000	$1,000	*$1,300*	$2,400	*$1,400*	*$1,400*
Printing/Signage	$317	$500	*$1,280*	$1,298	*$798*	*$981*
Supplies	$0	$0	*$18*	$18	*$18*	*$18*
Total Expenses	**$14,247**	**$16,000**	***$31,103***	**$31,115**	***$15,115***	***$16,868***
Excluding In Kind						
Net Operating Income	**$35,140**	**$38,000**	***$41,580***	**$43,624**	***$5,624***	***$8,484***

HGT Snapshot

	Actual 2025	Budget 2026	Projected 2026	To Date 2026 (QB)
Admission/Event Income	$150,841	$150,000	$126,925	$134,035
Advertising Income	$6,600	$7,500	$10,200	$6,200
Contributions	$3,069	$0	$3,000	$0
In-Kind Donations	$26,368	$22,000	$83,472	$83,333
Sponsorship	$40,652	$46,000	$53,000	$50,000
Total Income	**$227,530**	**$225,500**	**$276,597**	**$273,568**
Excluding In Kind	***$201,162***	***$203,500***	***$193,125***	***$190,235***
Advertising	$3,022	$4,000	$4,965	$4,892
Equipment Rental	$5,336	$5,500	$4,393	$3,540
Food/Beverages	$6,690	$7,000	$7,884	$8,242
Gifts & Awards	$2,900	$3,000	$1,751	$1,751
In-Kind Expense	$26,368	$22,000	$83,472	$83,333
License/Fees/Permits	$785	$800	$492	$488
Miscellaneous Expense	$0	$0	$1,500	$1,547
Printing/Signage	$5,984	$6,000	$6,817	$6,868
Security	$743	$800	$1,040	$1,040
Supplies	$1,169	$1,500	$244	$1,002
Transportation/Towing	$4,175	$4,200	$4,479	$4,479
Total Expenses	**$57,172**	**$54,800**	**$117,036**	**$117,182**
Excluding In Kind	***$30,804***	***$32,800***	***$33,564***	***$33,849***
Net Operating Income	**$170,358**	**$170,700**	**$159,561**	**$156,386**

Note: 2024 Net Operating Income was $134,362

- HGT 2026 was budgeted flat to LY's net income of ~$170K. (Note LY was a major jump from 2024's $134K.)
- Revenues from Pre-Tour and Tour tickets was off to plan and LY, but advertising and sponsorship revenue increases helped offset those drops.
- In-Kind revenues and expenses reflects much more accurate tracking, in line with tighter policy adherence and requirements from our audit partners.
- Total net income of ~$160K would be ~$11K below plan/LY (-6.5%).

Building Updates

- Roof project has begun
  - HVAC removed from VC roof. Roof replacement scheduled to start Wednesday 9/9.
  - VC portion should be complete within 2-3 days (with favorable weather). Building expected to reopen middle of next week.
  - Other portion (over restrooms, lobby, main stairwell) expected to be completed late September/October. No impact to operations is expected.
  - Final estimates plus scope expansion to slate roof repair total $9K above $50K board authorization. We seek Board approval for a total increase of $15K to cover that + potential "day of" surprises.
- Sump / drainage repairs
- Electrical project
  - Platz power outlet expansion
  - Sump backup power supply
- Security / building access project
- Pricing window replacement costs
- Recommend annual preventive maintenance program on HVAC and slate roof (like we have on the elevator)
- Visitor's Center Renovation update (Mary)

THE GERMAN VILLAGE SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING (SOU)

Board Acceptance of $100,000 Visitor Center Renovation Designated Gift

Donors	Anonymous
Gift Amount	$100,000
Payment Method	Physical check
Designated Fund	German Village Society Visitor Center Renovation Designated Fund
Related Agreement	Designated Gift Agreement dated August 25, 2026

Purpose

This Statement of Understanding documents the German Village Society Board of Trustees' review and acceptance of the $100,000 charitable contribution from Anonymous for the German Village Society Visitor Center Renovation Designated Fund. It is intended as an internal governance record supporting acceptance and implementation of the executed Designated Gift Agreement.

Board Understanding and Acceptance

- The Board accepts the $100,000 gift for the German Village Society Visitor Center Renovation Designated Fund, subject to the terms of the executed Designated Gift Agreement.
- The gift is donor-designated and shall be used for the charitable purpose of the Visitor Center renovation rather than for unrestricted general operations.
- GVS retains responsibility and control over administration and expenditure of the gift. The donor designation establishes the charitable purpose but does not give the donors day-to-day operational control over GVS, its employees, vendors, or project decisions.
- No additional restrictions or conditions apply beyond those contained in the executed Designated Gift Agreement.
- No goods or services are expected to be provided to the donors in exchange for the gift.
- GVS may publicly recognize Anonymous for the gift but will not publicly disclose the donation amount, consistent with the executed agreement.
- GVS will maintain **~~establish~~** appropriate accounting records to separately identify and track the use of designated gift in accordance with donors' intent per the Designated Gift Agreement **~~designated gift, expenditures, and remaining fund balance~~**.
- If the designated purpose is fully satisfied or becomes impossible, impracticable, unnecessary, unlawful, or inconsistent with GVS's charitable mission, any remaining funds will be administered in accordance with the changed-circumstances and unused-funds provisions of the Designated Gift Agreement.

Board Authorization

By approving this SOU, the Board of Trustees authorizes GVS staff and officers to receive and deposit the $100,000 check; record the contribution as a donor-designated/restricted gift in accordance with applicable accounting practices; establish the Visitor Center Renovation Designated Fund or equivalent project accounting code; issue the appropriate charitable gift acknowledgement; and administer expenditures consistent with the Designated Gift Agreement and GVS policies.

Board Action

Motion: To accept the $100,000 gift from Anonymous Donor for the German Village Society Visitor Center Renovation Designated Fund pursuant to the executed Designated Gift Agreement and to authorize staff to implement and administer the gift consistent with its terms.

Board Meeting Date: _____

Vote: _____ For _____ Against _____ Abstain

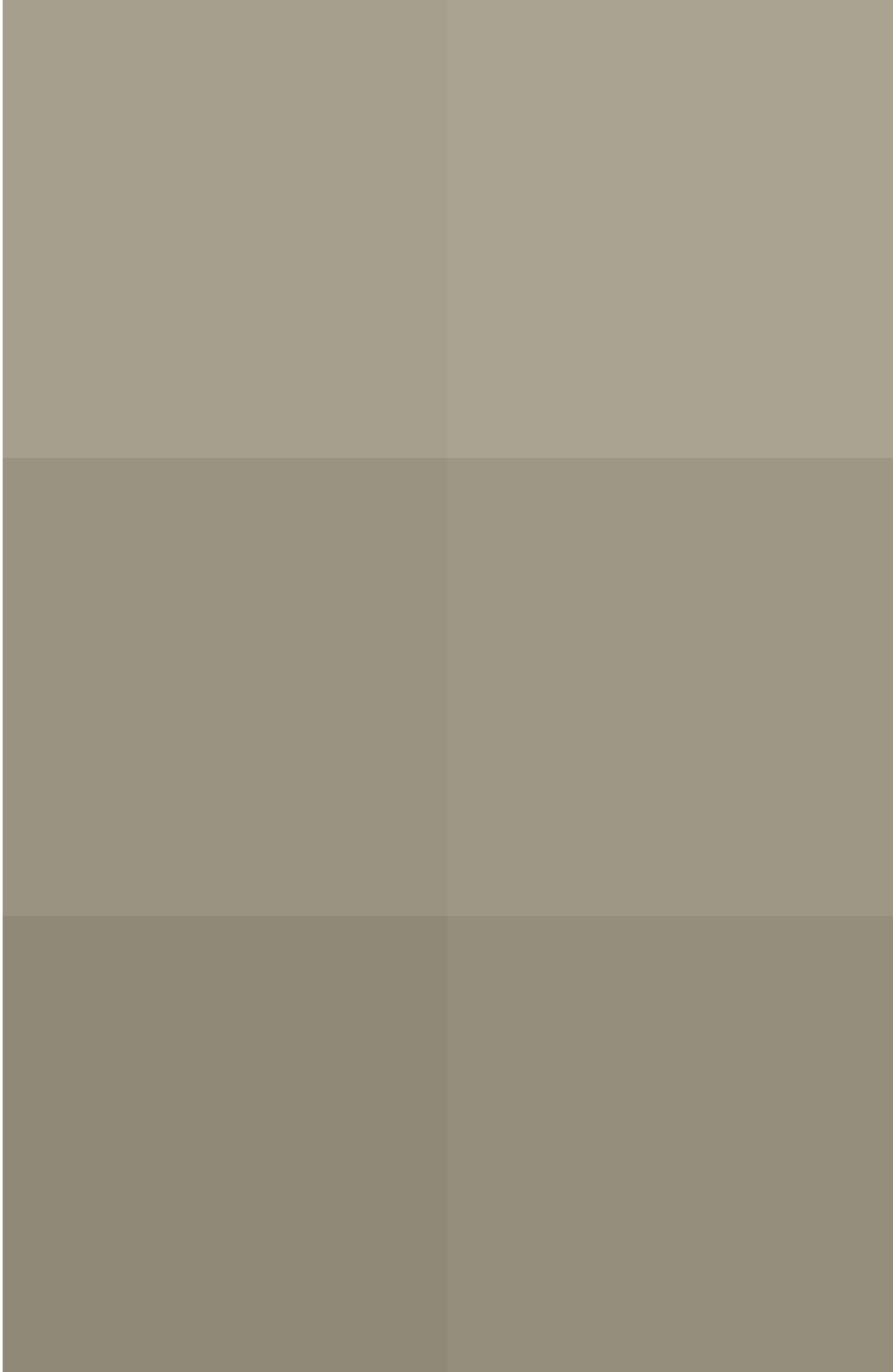
Board President / Chair: _____

Secretary / Recording Officer: _____

Internal governance record - to be retained with the executed Designated Gift Agreement and Board minutes.







GVS Historic Preservation + Advocacy Committee Meeting Minutes

August 24, 2026 | 6:00 p.m. | German Village Meeting Haus

Committee Leadership: Robert Caplin, Advocacy Chair, chaired the meeting in the absence of Historic Preservation Chair Michael Gallaugher.

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Robert Caplin called the meeting to order at approximately 6:02 p.m. Attendees introduced themselves.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

The July 27, 2026 meeting minutes were presented for approval. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The motion passed.

3. GVS Staff Report

Kristy Ramey and Courtney Thraen provided updates on current Advocacy and Historic Preservation matters.

311 Community Meeting: GVS has scheduled a community session with City of Columbus 311 personnel for October 6 at the Meeting Haus. Staff has obtained year to date 311 data for the German Village boundary and will use the information to help develop the program. Discussion will include effective use of 311, duplicate requests, unresolved complaints, deteriorated properties, and methods for escalating recurring neighborhood concerns.

Street Lighting: The City is undertaking a citywide conversion from sodium streetlights to LED fixtures. GVS has contacted the City regarding resident concerns about brightness and light intrusion into homes. Staff is seeking information regarding shields and other possible mitigation.

Columbia Gas: Infrastructure work continues throughout the neighborhood. GVS continues communicating information regarding restoration and concrete to brick sidewalk conversion opportunities. Staff is also following specific concerns regarding meter placement.

ADA Ramps: The City provided an extensive update regarding active and upcoming ADA ramp work. Staff will distribute additional information regarding project locations and scheduling. GVS is working to coordinate additional review of completed and planned work with City personnel.

Parking: Staff completed follow up with respondents to the recent parking survey who indicated willingness to provide additional information. Responses were forwarded to the

Parking team for review. Discussion included lost parking spaces, enforcement concerns, employee and business parking, and the need for more precise location specific information.

Neglected and At Risk Properties: The Thurman Avenue properties have been referred to the City Attorney's Office, with no additional action reported as of the most recent staff inquiry. Staff has also developed a tracking system for other deteriorated and potentially at risk properties.

At 788 S. Fifth Street, the property remains subject to an unsafe order and ongoing proceedings. The current COA relates to proposed removal of a deteriorated rear portion of the structure rather than demolition of the entire house. Staff will continue monitoring the COA and related court proceedings.

Tree Canopy: GVS continues working with City Forestry on opportunities to expand the neighborhood tree canopy. Work is being divided between larger canopy locations and medium and smaller planting opportunities. Volunteers will review the City's vacant tree site information, site constraints, appropriate tree sizes, and property owner considerations.

Historic Preservation Modernization: GVS submitted a public records request for the scope of work associated with the City's Historic Preservation Modernization consultant, Quinn Evans. Staff reported that the consultant's engagement is expected to focus on Commissioners and selected organizational stakeholders, while Councilmember Dorans' office is expected to undertake broader public outreach. GVS is also preparing a survey regarding residents' experiences with the Certificate of Appropriateness process.

4. Advocacy

Parking and Traffic Safety

The committee discussed the Parking team's effort to document specific locations where parking spaces may have been lost following implementation of the new parking program and related signage.

The City has indicated willingness to review documented locations. Mohawk and Lansing was discussed as an example where the City previously marked a potential correction that was not completed. The City has agreed to investigate that location.

Members discussed the importance of supplementing general survey responses with photographs, measurements, and exact locations.

City Mobility & Parking representatives are expected to attend the September 1 German Village Business Community meeting to gather feedback from local businesses.

Infrastructure and Right of Way

LED Streetlights: Members discussed the new LED fixtures, including brightness, color temperature, and impacts on nearby residences. GVS will continue seeking information regarding shields and potential mitigation.

Flooding, Sewers and Drainage: Members discussed recent flooding and drainage problems affecting several neighborhood locations, residences, businesses, and St. Mary School. Several members provided examples of recurring standing water and flooding. Staff will continue seeking additional information from the City regarding infrastructure conditions and current work.

ADA Ramp Work: The committee discussed ongoing work and concerns involving restoration, cheek walls, sidewalk conditions, and impacts to adjacent historic features. Staff is working to coordinate additional review with City project personnel.

Columbia Gas: Members discussed temporary asphalt patches, restoration of brick sidewalks, and meter placement. Staff reported that temporary areas are expected to be restored as the project progresses.

2027 Water Main Project: Staff reported that a significant City water main replacement project is anticipated beginning in 2027, primarily affecting Schumacher Place and portions of southeast German Village. The project may extend for approximately 18 months. GVS will continue seeking information regarding construction scheduling, parking, property access, and restoration.

Neglected and At Risk Properties

The committee discussed the importance of identifying and tracking properties before deterioration reaches an emergency stage.

Staff's new deteriorated properties tracking system was discussed, along with the possibility of creating a simple GVS website submission mechanism through which residents could report potentially at risk properties for review and tracking.

Members also discussed specific properties of concern for possible staff follow up.

Tree Canopy

The committee received an update on coordination with City Forestry. Jay Casey is working on larger canopy opportunities, while volunteers will assist with medium and smaller planting locations.

The City's vacant tree location information will be reviewed to identify appropriate tree sizes, physical constraints, utilities, and other site considerations before outreach to affected property owners and prioritization with the City.

5. Board Update and Institutional Voice Framework

The committee discussed the recently adopted GVS Institutional Voice Framework.

The framework affirms the German Village Commission's regulatory authority to interpret the German Village District Guidelines and make design review decisions while preserving GVS's independent advocacy role to identify and communicate instances where Commission actions, procedures, or decisions visibly diverge from the Guidelines. Official Society positions and formal critiques are communicated through authorized GVS representatives. Individual members retain the ability to participate as private citizens.

The committee discussed how this framework was being utilized in connection with the Cedar Square proposal and an upcoming special meeting of the GVS Board of Trustees.

6. Historic Preservation

Cedar Square

The committee discussed the pending Cedar Square proposal and concerns regarding its compatibility with the German Village Guidelines, including height, scale and massing, relationship to surrounding historic structures, and overall compatibility with the district.

Members discussed the importance of broader neighborhood awareness and participation in advance of the next German Village Commission meeting.

Committee members specifically requested that the GVS Board of Trustees consider an institutional position regarding the current Cedar Square proposal and consider endorsement of the existing neighborhood petition. Robert Caplin agreed to bring those requests forward for consideration at the special Board meeting.

Members also discussed the importance of attendance and participation by residents and GVS leadership at the upcoming German Village Commission meeting.

Staff reported that architectural massing illustrations of the proposed project had been developed internally and could be provided to committee and Board leadership for consideration.

Sidewalk Repair and Restoration Incentive Program

Staff reported that six sidewalk projects have been completed through the program in 2026, with additional projects underway.

Staff also reported that approximately $31,000 was raised through a recent fundraiser, with additional matching support pledged for infrastructure related purposes. Additional information regarding the use of those funds will follow.

Brickline

The committee received a brief update regarding ongoing coordination with participating properties and planned signage installations.

Historic Preservation Modernization

The committee further discussed the City's Historic Preservation Modernization initiative and its relationship to other ongoing City planning efforts.

Staff will distribute the Quinn Evans scope of work once received through the pending public records request.

Zone In Phase II

The committee discussed newly released Zone In Phase II materials and potential implications for German Village and surrounding areas, including proposed zoning changes affecting Thurman Avenue and other areas adjacent to or within the historic district.

Public comment was scheduled to open August 25. Members emphasized the importance of understanding the proper process for submitting comments so that they become part of the official public record.

GVS will continue monitoring the proposal and communicating opportunities for public participation.

GVC Records and COA Process

The committee discussed efforts to preserve and improve access to historic German Village Commission agendas, minutes, and related public records.

Staff also reported that GVS expects to release a survey during the week of September 7 regarding residents' experiences with the COA process, including clarity of requirements, predictability, transparency, and ease of navigating the process.

7. Education and Future Programming

Members discussed potential speakers and educational programming for future meetings. Suggestions included programming regarding historic masonry and brick restoration and Columbus architectural and neighborhood history.

The committee also discussed the potential for the future GVS Visitor Center to support preservation education, presentations, panel discussions, and recorded programming.

8. New Business

No additional new business was brought forward.

9. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

September 2026 BOT update:

Brick Sidewalk Incentive Program
Chair, Tyler Mason

During August, one additional sidewalk project was completed on Lazelle Street. This project restored an existing brick sidewalk and was completed as a **brick-to-brick** replacement.

As of **August 31, 2026**, the program has supported **6 completed projects** since January 1, 2026, consisting of:

- **4 brick-to-brick** restoration projects
- **2 concrete-to-brick** conversion projects

In addition, there are currently **4 approved applications** that have not yet been completed:

- **4 concrete-to-brick** conversion projects

The program continues to see strong homeowner interest in preserving and restoring the historic brick sidewalks that contribute to the character and walkability of German Village.

GERMAN VILLAGE BUSINESS COMMUNITY

September 2026 Meeting Notes

Tuesday, September 1, 2026 | 9:00 a.m.
German Village Meeting Haus + Zoom
Chair: Robert Caplin

GVBC met September 1 with strong attendance from neighborhood businesses and organizations. Special guests included representatives from the City of Columbus Division of Mobility and Parking Services and Columbus Division of Fire.

1. City of Columbus Parking

Representatives from City Mobility and Parking Services joined GVBC to discuss the German Village parking program and its impact on businesses.

Program Evaluation: The City reported that the current parking program has been fully implemented for a little over one year and is now undergoing evaluation. Updated parking-demand data has been collected, and the City is gathering resident and business feedback before considering potential changes. Representatives acknowledged that areas of high demand remain and that the permit program was not expected to resolve every parking issue.

Business Permits: Members raised significant concerns about the current limit of 10 business/employee permits, particularly for larger employers. Book Loft, Katzinger's and Actors' Theatre described operational difficulties associated with employee parking and three-hour restrictions. Business permit pricing is tiered, with the full allotment of 10 permits described during the meeting as totaling approximately $1,000. GVBC will obtain the official fee schedule and rules from the City.

Parking Displacement: Members reported increased parking pressure on streets immediately outside the permit zone, raising the question of whether some demand has been shifted rather than eliminated. The City indicated that this feedback is relevant to its current evaluation.

Tickets and Appeals: City representatives explained that inadvertent license-plate entry errors may qualify for a one-time courtesy recommendation for dismissal through the appeal process. Members were encouraged to appeal citations when an identifiable error has occurred.

Markings and Signage: Members reported that marked parking spaces along portions of Third Street have improved parking efficiency. GVBC/GVS will also continue separate work with the City concerning sign placement and opportunities to recover legal parking spaces.

2. Membership, Map & Outreach

The GVS Board of Trustees approved GVBC's recommendation that inclusion on the official German Village map return to being a **GVBC membership benefit beginning with the 2027 edition**.

The upcoming Fall/Winter 2026 map remains under the existing policy. Current nonmember businesses represented on the map will receive advance notice and an opportunity to join before the 2027 edition.

GVBC and GVS staff are developing new recruitment materials, including a membership-benefits piece and a simpler handout/postcard for direct business outreach.

Members also discussed the existing $100, $250 and $500 membership levels. The group recognized that the additional benefits at the higher levels can be difficult to distinguish from the core membership. One concept is to eventually position higher levels more clearly as increased support for GVBC/GVS, historic preservation and neighborhood advocacy. The broader GVS membership structure remains under review.

3. Fall/Winter 2026 Map

Work is underway on the Fall/Winter map, with printing targeted for September.

The map team is addressing space constraints while attempting to preserve existing listings. If reductions are necessary, discussion centered on first evaluating nonmember businesses located furthest outside German Village.

Updated membership information and business websites will be incorporated where possible. The team also discussed opportunities to focus future editions more closely on German Village businesses and provide more useful information about member businesses.

The previously approved **2027 map advertising rate of $200** was reaffirmed, with advertising expected to open in January on a first-come, first-served basis.

4. Upcoming GVBC Mixer

The next quarterly GVBC Mixer will be:

September 22 | 6:00–8:00 p.m.
Hosted by Neal Raffensberger

GVS trustees will also be invited, providing an opportunity for Board members and business members to connect informally.

GVBC is seeking an indoor host for the following winter mixer. Interested businesses should contact GVBC or John Edinger.

5. 2027 Strategic Planning & Budget

GVBC began discussing priorities for the 2027 budget and longer-term use of the committee's designated funds.

Rather than simply maintaining the accumulated balance, members discussed potential investments that could provide lasting value and visibility for the business community while supporting the GVS mission. Potential areas include tourism, membership development, business engagement, historic preservation, collaborative programming and a possible future presence within the renovated Visitor Center.

Members also expressed interest in exploring a shared GVBC fundraiser or community initiative. No funding decisions were made.

6. Upcoming Events & Collaboration

Members discussed several upcoming opportunities:

- **German Village Garden Club Gnome Gala — September 11**
- **Oktoberfest — September 19**, with business sponsorship and participation opportunities
- **Monster Bash — October 17**, including potential business stops and sponsorships
- **Village Lights**, including discussion of a possible business/neighborhood holiday decorating initiative
- **Garden Club Gnome Project**, with interest in greater GVBC/business collaboration in 2027

7. Business Fire Inspections

Representatives from the Columbus Division of Fire's Fire Prevention Bureau joined GVBC to discuss commercial inspections and concerns raised by neighborhood businesses.

Increased Inspection Activity: Fire representatives explained that the apparent increase largely reflects expanded inspection capacity. The dedicated Fire Prevention operation has grown substantially since approximately 2017–2018, allowing more consistent geographic

assignments and annual commercial inspections. Many requirements now being identified are longstanding code provisions rather than new requirements.

Compliance Process: For conditions that do not pose an immediate danger, Fire representatives emphasized that the objective is generally compliance rather than immediate punitive enforcement. Businesses typically receive time to correct violations and undergo reinspections. When a business demonstrates good-faith progress—such as engaging contractors, architects or the Building Department—the Division can continue working with the business toward compliance.

Historic Buildings and Basement Storage: Members discussed the particular challenges of applying fire-code requirements to older German Village buildings. Fire representatives explained that longstanding use of a basement for combustible storage does not necessarily mean that use was included in the building's approved plans or occupancy.

Depending on the property, solutions may include fire-rated construction, sprinkler protection, reduced combustible storage or another approved approach.

Importantly, Fire representatives also discussed the possibility of **property-specific alternative compliance or variance pathways** in appropriate circumstances. One example involved enhanced early fire detection combined with appropriate storage clearances, aisles and other safety measures. Such an approach would require coordination with a design professional, Columbus Building and the appropriate state review process and is not guaranteed.

GVBC will continue working constructively with Fire Prevention while gathering information from businesses about their inspection experiences.

8. Fire Inspection Survey

GVBC reviewed a draft survey intended to identify whether businesses are experiencing common issues involving inspections, notice, correction requirements, timelines, financial impacts or operational impacts.

The survey will be refined before distribution. The goal is to develop useful data that can distinguish isolated situations from broader patterns and support fact-based discussions with the City.

9. Adjournment

Next Meeting:
Tuesday, October 6, 2026 | 9:00 a.m.
German Village Meeting Haus + Zoom