

MVSNA



MOUNT VERNON SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

www.mvsna.org

March 2008

Next MVSNA Meeting

Tuesday, March 18th, 7:30 pm

Metropolitan Community Church
Corner of 5th & Ridge Streets NW

Agenda:

- Public safety/crime report: MPD Officers from 1st & 3rd Districts invited.
- Zoning Presentation - Mt. Lebanon Church & Mission First Development, Morgan Street project
- Historic Presentation - 444 M Street NW
- 2008 MVSNA Goals

Upcoming Events

- Mar 18 - MVSNA Meeting, MCC Church, 5th & Ridge, 7:30pm
- Mar 19 - Shaw Crime Forum, Scripture Cath., 801 O St NW, 7pm
- Mar 25 - CCA Meeting, Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th St NW, 6:30pm
- Mar 29 - 6C02 SMD, Mt. Lebanon, NJ Ave & Morgan St, 12 noon
- April 2 - ANC 2C Meeting, location TBD, 6:30pm
- April 2 - ANC 6C Planning & Zoning, SWW, 215 G St NE, 7pm
- April 8 - DNA Meeting, Chophouse, 509 7th St NW, 7pm
- April 9 - ANC 6C Meeting, 214 Mass Ave NE, 7pm
- April 10 - PSA 101 Meeting, Golden Rule, 1100 NJ Ave NW, 6pm
- April 10 - PSA 308 Meeting, Kennedy Rec, 1401 7th St NW, 6:30pm
- April 15 - MVSNA Meeting, MCC Church, 5th & Ridge, 7:30pm
- April 19 - Spring Cleanup, 4th & M, 8am

Message from the President

Last weekend, MVSNA's new Board of Directors met in a day-long retreat to reflect on the past year and discuss our priorities for the next twelve months.

In all respects, 2007 was a very successful year. After thirty years in existence, we finally incorporated. We expanded our boundaries to include the new blossoming Mount Vernon Triangle area, and with it, our board of directors to include residents of 555 Massachusetts Avenue, the Sonata, and City Vista.

We made vacant property and transportation issues our top priorities and we are moving forward. Over the course of the year, we developed a survey of all vacant houses and lots in the area finding that many are not taxed at the appropriate higher rate, had several meetings with Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs and other city government officials leading to reclassification of about a dozen properties so far, and received significant media coverage of this problem. We also published a lengthy report on pedestrian and vehicular safety, describing the problems at each of the dangerous intersections in our area and proposing solutions. We continue to pressure DDOT officials at every opportunity for implementation of changes that will make our streets safer.

We have worked hard to improve neighborhood safety, meeting regularly with police officials, advocated for immediate installation of ShotSpotter technology, and for more foot and bike patrols. I was pleased to learn in a meeting with our new leadership for Police Service Area 308, Lt. Micah Pate, that we will be receiving eight additional officers beginning this Sunday, and that officers stationed at fixed posts will have more flexibility to patrol the neighborhood. I was very happy to see officers walking the beat around Mt. Vernon Square last night, which makes it harder for drug dealers and gang members to avoid them in places where cruisers can't reach – we are making progress. Four months ago, Council Member Evans announced that ShotSpotter was on the way for our neighborhood. Dozens of shootings later we still await its arrival and we will keep the pressure on. We exposed problems with 911/311 responsiveness, contributing the District's decision to change to using 911 for all calls. Finally, we shut down Fun Fair Video, which the District had allowed to bring drugs and prostitution to the area for over a decade. Now, the fun has really begun, as we review proposals from numerous developers who are clamoring over the opportunity to bring new businesses and housing to 5th and I Street and much of the vacant property has gone up for sale.

Over the next year, we will continue to work for you on these issues and more. We need your help. Please consider volunteering your time and making a donation to the Association.

Happy Spring!

2008 Board of Directors

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Neighborhood News

ANC 2C Chair Doris Brooks testified before the DC Council

DC Council Chair Vincent Gray held a public roundtable hearing on Tuesday March 11th for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions in Wards 2 & 5. The community still has time to submit public comments regarding ANC 2C for the record. **Please submit written testimony to Christopher Murray cmurray@dccouncil.us by March 20th.** Video of Commissioner Brook's testimony is available online at: <http://chappleanc.com/shaw/20080311GrayANC2CHearing.html> or oct.dc.gov (channel 13 on demand.)

Mt. Lebanon Church Seeks to Develop on Morgan Street

Mt. Lebanon Church is seeking a special zoning exception to develop their long vacant building on Morgan Street NW into a mixed use 6 unit residential (workforce housing), community center, & CVS photolab & pharmacy training facility. They have been attending various community meetings and plan to present to MVSNA on March 18th in advance of their appearance before ANC 6C and the BZA in April. Many details and commentary are up on the blog at lifein.mvsna.org.

Development in brief

New Walker Jones School, Rec. Center & Library broke ground March 6th in the 1st phase of the NW One Development. Also the initial bids are in for the 5th & I Parcel RFP. Fun Fair is for lease & The Rogue is for sale. So is NPR - they plan to move to 1111 N. Capitol NE. O Street Market is going through Zoning. Safeway is due to open between June & August (possibly September.) They are pondering the installation of a ceiling according to Lowe Development. 444 M is on our agenda!

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Join MVSNA for 2008! We need volunteers for newsletter delivery and neighborhood events & projects. Help make a difference in your community! Go to www.mvsna.org or pick up a form at the next MVSNA meeting.

Residential Street Sweeping Resumes

Monday March 24, 2008
 9:00 AM
 Citywide

Weekly residential street cleaning operations resume Monday, March 24, 2008. Alternate-side parking restrictions during street sweeping hours will be in effect once again. Parking citations will be issued to vehicles parked during street sweeping hours in areas posted with "No Parking/Street Cleaning" signs.

Department of Public Works (DPW)

Please Note:

For City Services
Dial 311

Or visit
www.dc.gov

For Emergencies & Crime
Dial 911

Add your thoughts to the MVSNA neighborhood blog:
<http://lifein.mvsna.org>

To download an MVSNA membership form & view lots of neighborhood info:
<http://www.mvsna.org/>

To join the MVSNA yahoo listserv, go to:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mvsna/>

To **ADVERTISE** in this Newsletter, email niello8@yahoo.com or call 202.256.9193!

New Anonymous Police HOTLINE: (888) 919-CRIME

NEW Police Contacts

PSA 308 Lt. Micah Pate - (202) 506-0743, Micah.Pate@dc.gov	PSA 101 Lt. Gary Durand - (202) 698-0377, Gary.Durand@dc.gov	Yahoo Groups groups.yahoo.com/group/MPD-3d/ groups.yahoo.com/group/MPD-1D/
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