

MVSNA



MOUNT VERNON SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

www.mvsna.org

Spring 2010

Next MVSNA Meetings

March 16th, April 20th

& May 18th at 7:30 pm

Yale Lofts - 437 New York Ave NW

New York Ave between 4th & 5th in the Lobby Common Room

3/16 Agenda

- Public Safety Report
- 2010 MVSNA Board election
- Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans
- Northwest One Library - Tony Ross
- 5th & Eye Project/Parking lot - Holland Development, Donahoe, DMPEd Clint Jackson, MVT CID Bill McLeod
- McKennas Wagon Update - Merc Fox

4/20 Agenda

- Ward 6 Councilmember Tommy Wells (tentative)
- 2010 MVSNA Goals

5/18 Agenda

- Stuart Development Company - 400 & 500 Blks of NY

MVSNA meets regularly on the **3rd Tuesday** of the month at **7:30pm**. Meeting location is at the Yale Loft Condo, **437 New York Ave NW** in the lobby common room unless otherwise noted. MVSNA boundaries cover the Mount Vernon Square Historic District & the Mount Vernon Triangle. For more info please visit www.mvsna.org

Community Calendar

Mar 16 - MVSNA Mtg, Yale Lofts, 437 NY Ave NW, 7:30pm

Mar 24 - DNA/PSA 101, Calvary Church, 8th & H Sts. NW, 6:30pm

In memory of Miles Groves

Mar 30 - CCCA, Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th Street NW, 7pm

Apr 7 - ANC 6C Planning & Zoning, NPR, 635 Mass. Ave NW, 7pm

Apr 7 - ANC 2C Mtg., Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th Street NW, 6:30pm

Apr 8 - PSA 308 Mtg., Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th Street NW, 6:30pm

Apr 13 - DNA/PSA 101, Calvary Church, 8th & H Sts. NW, 7pm

Apr 14 - ANC 6C Mtg. Heritage Found. 214 Mass Ave NE, 7pm

Apr 17 - MVSNA Spring Cleanup, 4th & M, 8AM

Apr 20 - MVSNA Mtg, Yale Lofts, 437 NY Ave NW, 7:30pm

Apr 27 - CCCA, Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th Street NW, 7pm

May 5 - ANC 6C Planning & Zoning, NPR, 635 Mass. Ave NW, 7pm

May 5 - ANC 2C Mtg., Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th Street NW, 6:30pm

May 11 - DNA/PSA 101, Calvary Church, 8th & H Sts. NW, 7pm

May 12 - ANC 6C Mtg. Heritage Found. 214 Mass Ave NE, 7pm

May 13 - PSA 308 Mtg., Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th St NW, 6:30pm

May 18 - MVSNA Mtg, Yale Lofts, 437 NY Ave NW, 7:30pm

MVSNA Co-Sponsors Forum With Chief Judge

On March 4, MVSNA co-sponsored a forum with the Chief Judge of the D.C. Superior Court, Lee Satterfield, who was joined by his colleague, Judge Ronna Beck for a lively and informative discussion with the community. The judges answered the reported misperception that members of the court are not from the District. While D.C. Superior Court judges are appointed by the President, there is a residency requirement. Most are from the District, including Chief Judge Satterfield and have spent their entire careers practicing law here.

When asked how the District's criminal justice system can be improved, the judges focused on juvenile justice. D.C. Superior Court judges have no role in sentencing juvenile offenders - it is up to the D.C. government. According to Judge Satterfield, the District's juvenile facility is too small and overcrowded, which may result in early releases. While there is a juvenile facility for boys, there is no facility for girls. Judge Satterfield suggested the need for a larger facility with more educational programming.

Is there a revolving door? With the exception of possession of an unlicensed firearm, most gun and other violent crimes are subject to mandatory minimum sentences. Judge Beck noted that mandatory minimums are a useful tool for prosecutors in reaching pleas. There is no minimum sentence for simple gun possession which led to substantial debate and discussion on the impact of guns on our neighborhood.

The District has no control over those who it puts in prison. Since the District closed Lorton Correctional Complex in 2001, D.C. inmates are scattered among federal prisons across the country. While the District saves money (transferring prison expenses to the feds), there is a downside. The District has no role in the rehabilitation, training, or education of DC residents in prison. They may come back worse than they went in. Isolated and effectively sent to Siberia, they are cut off from their families. This further tears the District's social fabric.

The District appears to lack firm statistics as to what happens after an arrest. For example, legislators and judges do not know how many gun cases are "no papered," pleaded down, went to trial, resulted in acquittal or resulted in convictions. They lack hard numbers as to how DC's mandatory minimums are applied or the average gun possession sentence. I have alerted Councilmembers Mendelson and Evans to federal funding available to the District for such research and data collection. It is troubling that our councilmembers develop policy in the dark.

The forum was co-sponsored with the Convention Center Community Association and Blagden Alley Association. Our thanks to CCCA President Martin Moulton for organizing the event.

Keep up to date with community news & events!

Your **Public Neighborhood Blog**: lifein.mvsna.org

(that means **YOU** can contribute!)

Neighborhood Listserve: groups.yahoo.com/group/mvsna/

(instantly email ~500 of your closest neighbors!)

The Triangle blog: mvtriangleblog.com (All the LATEST news!)

Don't know which Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) & Police Service Area (PSA) covers your house or condo?

Fear not! Handy maps available here: mvsna.org/map/

Street Sweeping will resume March 22nd!

2010 Election is upon us! Nominations for the 2010 MVSNA Board were announced at our January meeting and Elections will be held at the March 16th meeting. If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact us. We have 5 Officer positions and 6 At-large positions. The 2010 officer slate: President: Cary Silverman, 1st VP: Merc Fox, 2nd VP: DeeDee Slewka, Treasurer: Rickey Williams, Corresponding Secretary: Si Kaillian, Recording Secretary: Jefferson Parke, At-Large: Lydia Goring, John Thompson, Warren McBroom, Jonathan Cohen & Rob Amos. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.



MVSNA

SPRING CLEAN-UP

In partnership with SMS Keep Shaw Beautiful Day



Saturday, April 17th, 8:00 am

Meet on the Corner of 4th & M Streets NW

Bring your rakes, brooms, gloves and enthusiasm!

Tools, Trash Bags, Mulch, Coffee & Food will be provided.

Bagged Trash will be picked up by DPW after 1:00pm at the following locations: 5th & M, 4th & M, NJ & Morgan

Celebrating Miles Groves 1952-2010

Recently the community lost one of its most ardent advocates: Penn Quarter resident, Downtown Neighborhood Association founder and president, Miles Groves. We were saddened to learn of his recent passing and our heartfelt condolences go out to his family. Miles was a truly wonderful activist who cared deeply about the neighborhood. He gave a strong voice to downtown residents and represented them well, with cooperation, competence, and a wonderful demeanor. He was so passionate about making this area a wonderful place to live and he will be missed like crazy. DNA will hold a meeting on March 24th in honor and memory of Miles and his selfless service to the community, it will be at Calvary Church, 8th & H Sts. NW, 6:30pm.



2009 Board of Directors

President

Cary Silverman
carysilverman@comcast.net

First Vice President

Si Kaillian
niello8@yahoo.com

Second Vice President

DeeDee Slewka

Corresponding Secretary

Jonathan Cohen

Recording Secretary

Jefferson Parke

Treasurer

Rob Amos
robamos@yahoo.com

At Large

Lydia Goring
John Thompson
Merc Fox
Warren McBroom
Ricky Williams

mvsna.org/contact/

Vote for Best New Shaw Business of 2009

Adu-Genet Cafe, 811 Florida Avenue, NW
Fasil Ethiopian Restaurant, 1608 7th Street, NW
Independence Federal Savings Bank, 1301 9th Street, NW
Little Ethiopia Restaurant, 1924 9th Street, NW
The Motley Bar, 1318 9th Street, NW
Old City Green, 902 N Street, NW
The Passenger, 1021 7th Street, NW
Rock Starr Inkk Tattoo Studio, 809 Florida Avenue, NW
Rucker International Barber Shop, 809 Florida Ave, NW
Salina Restaurant, 1936 9th Street, NW

To cast your vote, send an email to BestinShaw@gmail.com with the name of your favorite new retail business of 2009 in the subject line and your name in the message no later than 12:00 PM on Monday, March 22, 2010, in order for your vote to be counted. Only one entry per email address will be accepted.

The business that receives the most votes will be recognized as the Best New Shaw Business of 2009 at the Shaw Main Streets Annual Meeting on Wednesday, March 24, 2010, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at Old Dominion Brewhouse, 1219 9th Street, NW, in the new private party room (formerly Chan's Mongolian Grill and Tokyo Sushi Bar). The event is free, and no reservations are required.

The event will include a review of SMS' activities in the previous year, announcement of the Best New Shaw Business of 2009 award winners, election of SMS Board of Directors members, and a reception featuring food and beverages provided by SMS area businesses. For more information, contact Alex Padro at 202-265-SHAW or email ShawMainStreets@aol.com.

Police Contacts

PSA 308 (NEW!)

Lt. Jeffery Carroll - (202) 437-8198
jefferyw.carroll@dc.gov

PSA 101 (NEW!)

Lt. Eddie Fowler - (202) 425-2826
eddie.fowler@dc.gov
Lt. James "Bart" Dykes - (202) 904-6484

Police Yahoo Groups

groups.yahoo.com/group/MPD-3D/
groups.yahoo.com/group/MPD-1D/
MPDC.dc.gov

Neighborhood News

New Restaurant Opens Its Doors

Kushi has opened its doors in City Vista on K Street serving up delicious sushi, Japanese BBQ and Sake. Early reports are favorable, check it out! Also, a local Korean restaurant, Mandu, is aiming to open a location next to Kushi, rounding out the wonderfully extensive Asian restaurant varieties in the area. We look forward to it!

5th & Eye Parking Lot?

With the stalled real estate market hampering some progress, DC Gov. announced that they are converting the 5th & Eye lot to a for profit parking lot in the interim (the selected 5th & Eye developer anticipates groundbreaking in 2012.) Many residents were dismayed at this news and the sight of bulldozers implementing this plan. It will be a subject for intense discussion at the March MVSNA meeting where we will have the developers, the government & MVT CID.

Yale II Rises

Many neighbors have happily noticed one lonely crane in the air. It is for phase II of Yale Lofts and will be apartments. WBJ reported that Yale obtained financing through HUD. Residents have voiced concerns regarding the trucks entering the alley, lack of lighting and site security. MVSNA is working with Donahoe Construction to address these issues and they have been very responsive. Lighting should be installed shortly.

From Fox 5 News to Fancy Flats

444 M has shed its former notorious life as the crystal meth house, the falling down prostitute squatter house, & the forged permit house. It has been beautifully redeveloped into 10 condo units which have recently come on the market.

Working with McKenna's Wagon

Alex Rotan, Cmdr. Kamperin, Bill McLeod, Lindsay Buss from Martha's Table, Merc Fox, and others recently met & discussed 11 locations in the area for relocation of McKenna's Wagon. Martha's Table will narrow the list of potential locales and return it to the working group of for further investigation. The working group will report back to Martha's Table by March 31 to further narrow options and discuss next steps. Questions? Lindsay Buss can be reached at 328.6608 or lbuss@marthastable.org