

January, 2019



Dear Members:

Happy New Year! The Park was hopping last summer as we celebrated our 65th year! Thanks go out to all who helped during the past season, whether during a workday or as a volunteer at one of the many swim, tennis or social events that make the Park such a pleasant and memorable place.

First I would like to thank **Duncan Wilkinson** for his excellent leadership on everything from managing teenagers, volunteers, landscaping to fixing plumbing, electrical and construction problems. I would also express thanks to Treasurer **Nancy Carolan** and for keeping our board organized, our web site current and the Park financially sound. Nancy is leading our online-membership-management-system initiative.

Annual Meeting

- The annual membership meeting in February is an ideal forum in which to meet the Board members. **The Annual Meeting will be held at 7:45 PM, Wednesday, February 13th, downstairs in Room 19, St. Luke's Church, 8009 Ft Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22308. Sign in starts at 7:30 PM.**
- In the event Fairfax County Schools closes facilities due to inclement weather, the meeting will be postponed until Wednesday, February 20th, (same time and location).
- If you cannot attend, please consider using the **absentee ballot** or assigning your **proxy** to another member attending the meeting. In this way, you can still have your vote count, and help us assure a quorum necessary for approving this year's budget.

The meeting agenda will cover:

- Introduction and highlights from the 2018 Season
- Committee reports
- Election to the Board of Directors (nominee bios, an absentee ballot & proxy are enclosed)
- Presentation and approval by the membership of the 2019 budget
 - A copy of the proposed Budget for 2019 and a change to our by-laws are posted on the website for your review. Please take time to read them; we need your approval.
- Announcements
- Question and answer period

Dues

- **As always, the deadline for dues payment is April 1.**
- Please make every effort to pay your dues in a timely fashion, as **payments received after April 1 are automatically assessed a \$100 late penalty.** Please do not risk losing your membership by not paying on time.

Membership Termination

- **Please turn in your termination requests early to ease the anxiety of those on the waiting list. If you joined prior to 2018, you own a certificate and can get \$300 back if you notify us before April 1 here <https://mtvpa.com/membership/forms/leaving-mvpa/>.**
- Members planning to leave the Association prior to the start of the 2019 season must turn in their membership certificates **prior to April 1, to avoid a late penalty of \$100.**
- To leave MVPA, go online to <https://mtvpa.com/membership/forms/leaving-mvpa/> and fill out the easy online form.

Employment

- Applications for full-time, part-time or substitute positions are being accepted for **managers, lifeguards, gatekeepers, assistant swim and tennis coaches, and aqua aerobics instructors.**
- **Apply online** at <https://mtvpa.com/about/employment/>
- Alternatively, contact Park Manager, Duncan Wilkinson at 703-587-5112 or dacwilkinson.mvpa@gmail.com).
- **Applications should be submitted by April 1** for priority consideration.

Board Committee Updates

I would also like to thank the Board of Directors for their ongoing efforts in providing direction and guidance to the Park. The Board works throughout the year to prepare and maintain the Park for the next season. A big shout-out goes to our activities chairs Mary Godbout and Kristin Kilbride who devoted many hours to our fun activities for adults and kids!

- **Membership Committee - Jim Phalen** remains the first point of contact for potential members of the Park. He maintains the membership and waiting lists. He can be reached at mt.vernon.park.membership@gmail.com.
- **Finance Committee – Will Lafley** leads the committee ensuring the Park is financially sound for years to come.
- **Security and Safety Committee –** Thanks to Chair **Jasper Thomson** for keeping us secure.
- **Swim Committee – Jamey Piland** and Rose Pascarell are the Swim Team Representatives. This is a huge undertaking and we are grateful for their leadership. MVP is the second largest team in the NVSL with close to 300 swimmers to manage. Also, much appreciated are **Barbara Phillips** for coordinating the Aqua Aerobics program and **Sydney Smith** for the Masters Swim.
- **Tennis Committee - Sherrie Burdick** (ssburdick@yahoo.com), has lead our tennis program with Junior Tennis Team captain Deb Oelschlager, co-captain Brent Steury, in addition to our continuing Women's team captains, Julie Auletta and Irene Smith Mee. The men's team is looking for someone to help lead! Sherrie is not running for re-election so we will be looking for another Board member to lead the Tennis activities.
- **Planning & Engineering Committee**
 - This committee will start planning for the 50M pool renovation and replacement.
- **Rules & Regulations Committee:** Thanks to **David Starr** for making sure we follow the Rules. He has helped keep our Bylaws, Rules & Regulations, and our policy manual up to date. David is stepping down from the Board this year.
- **Adult Activities Committees –** The Park runs on the efforts of its volunteers so I would like to express appreciation to our current chair, **Kristine Kilbride** and many members who gave their time in so many ways to make this past year successful. Without your help, the long list of Park activities would not happen - the Wine tasting, Beer and Chili cook-off, 4th of July Celebration, Crab Feast, BBQ party and Oktoberfest.
- **Children's Activities Committee: We would like to also express appreciation our current chair, Mary Godbout for all of their time and effort putting together the best children's activities lineup in decades. We really need your help to make our events successful.**

Make the 2019 Season a Success! I would like to encourage you to once again, take time this summer to enjoy what is unquestionably the most beautiful Park in the area. If only for an hour, for at least one activity, volunteering is a great opportunity to have fun, meet new friends and give back to our Park Association. Come to the Park to have a picnic, swim, maybe fish or play on the playground with your children, organize a volleyball game, or sweat a little on the tennis courts, but most important, relax.

Finally, I would like to thank the Directors and Park staff for all of their hard work in the past year; the busiest I can remember. I look forward to their continued support in 2019. Memorial Day will be here before you know it and so will our opening bash.

Sincerely,

Emily Bayer

President, MVPA

Nominating Committee: The Board submits the following nominees for election to the Board of Directors at the General Membership Meeting. All have agreed to serve a three-year term, March 2019 – March 2022.

As always, you will still be able to vote in person at the annual meeting or provide a proxy to another park member to represent your interests or vote by means of an “absentee ballot”. On the ballot, you can vote on the annual budget and for your choices for the Board of Directors. Members vote for five Directors per ballot. The completed ballot must be received by February 6, 2019, and can be mailed or dropped at: MVPA, 921 Priscilla Lane, Alexandria, VA. 22308.

Please make sure that you print your name and membership number on the ballot, make your choices, and sign it. You do not have to fill out the proxy portion of the form, unless you are assigning it to another member, but please do not detach it from the ballot. * - Denotes current board member.

***Mary Godbout** – Mary and her husband, Ted, have been park members since 2003. They have two children, TJ (15 years) and Chloe (13 years). For the past 6 years, Mary has been an MVPA Board Member and has served as the Children’s Activities Chairperson. She also assists with adult and family activities at the pool and enjoys being involved in all aspects of the park. Mary works as is the Tea Room and Volunteer Coordinating Manager for the Strathmore Mansion in Bethesda, MD. She oversees the operation of the Tea Room, schedules musicians and organizes specialty teas, including children’s teas. She also supervises and schedules 90 volunteers for the Education Dept., Art Dept., and special events in the Mansion. In addition, Mary is a Board Member for the West Potomac High School Crew Team, involved with the Sandburg Middle School Choir Boosters, is an assistant catechist teacher for Middle School R.E. classes at Good Shepherd Catholic Church and is on the Hollin Hall Village Neighborhood Watch Committee. Her husband, Ted, serves as the current President of the Hollin Hall Village Civic Association. Mary and her family love the park and she wants to continue helping with children & family activities at the MVPA.

Carlos Godby – Carlos Godby and his wife, Angela and daughter, Adele joined MVPA in 2005, after moving to the neighborhood in 2001. Carlos worked for U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla (TX-23) until 2006 when he became an IT contractor on Capitol Hill. Carlos and his family enjoy the many social activities offered by MVPA. Carlos has logged many hours volunteering to ensure successful summers at the park, including clearing brush and duck grass, serving on the Technology Committee that developed the first WiFi connection, and establishing the volleyball court. He was also known as the fire-pit master at many MVPA campouts and was crowned as a MVPA Chili Cook-off winner. Carlos hopes to continue these fun family traditions at MVPA as a Board Member.

***Kristine Kilbride** – Kristine along with her husband Patrick and daughter Katie have been members of MVPA since 2008. We look forward to “pool season” each year for that slower pace of life. I currently serve as the Activities Chair on the MVPA Board and would like to continue serving. I enjoy serving as a Board Member as it is a great way to give back for the enjoyment the park brings our family.

Erik Milito – Erik and his family have been members of MVPA since 2007, when oldest child Will was born. Erik and Beth now have all four of their children - Will, Helen, Evie and Jake - on the Gator swim team, and Will and Helen also play on the tennis team. Erik helps out at swim meets with setting up and breaking down for the meets, and he and Beth have also helped out at the Gator Café. After spending 5 years on active duty in the U.S. Army, Erik transitioned to the DC area in 2000 with a job at the U.S. Department of the Interior, and he is now with the American Petroleum Institute. Erik and Beth have lived in Alexandria since 2004. Erik can be found at MVPA throughout the summer cheering on, tracking down, and reining in the Milito kids.

***Jamey Piland** – Jamey and her family have been members of the park since 2006. Son James (14) is a proud member of MVP Gators Swim Team since he was 5 years old. Jamey & Rose Pascarell volunteered to be MVP Swim Team Representatives for the summer Northern Virginia Swim League since 2017. Jamey continues to serve on the MVP board as swim team representative since 2017. MVP is a model for summer swim & racquet clubs and the experience has brought them closer to MVP families and the NVSL community.

Jamey, born and raised in California, has lived in Washington, DC since 1993. She has taught at Trinity Washington University for the past 22 years where she is Chair of the Communication Department & Women’s Studies Program. Jamey says it’s a pleasure to be part of such a well-managed, friendly and professional association and MVP continues to be a wonderful place for building a long-lasting community of neighborhood friends.

**Mount Vernon Park Association
Annual Membership Meeting, Wed, February 13, 2019**

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING, COMPLETE **EITHER:**
The **PROXY** OR The **ABSENTEE BALLOT**

Proxies(preferred for quorum): Should be given to the member to whom the proxy is assigned.

Absentee Ballots: mail or drop off with Nancy Carolan, Attn: Executive Secretary/Treasurer, 921 Priscilla Ln, Alexandria, VA 22308.

Complete **ONLY ONE:** the absentee ballot or the proxy below. **Do not separate.**

PROXY

I _____, legal and recorded owner of Certificate # _____ being a member in good standing of the Association under the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation and the By-laws do hereby grant my proxy to:

_____ Certificate # _____. Said person having duly represented himself/herself as being a member in good standing of the Association. This proxy, which is executed for the Annual Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 13, 2019 carries with it full right to the proxy holder to cast his/her vote as he/she sees fit.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

OR

ABSENTEE BALLOT

Name (print): _____ Certificate # if known) _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

_____ YES, I vote to approve the budget for 2019
_____ NO, I vote not to approve the budget for 2019

Board of Director Nominees (select up to five):

*Mary Godbout	_____	Carlos Godby	_____
*Kristine Kilbride	_____	Erik Milito	_____
*Jamey Piland	_____	Write in	_____

* - Denotes current board member

***Absentee ballots by mail or dropped off must be received by 2/12/19 to be valid.
Proxies should be brought to the meeting by the holder.***