

**Village of Mariemont
Council Meeting
June 8, 2026**

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present was Mrs. Brownknight, Dr. Lewis, Mrs. Stock and Mr. Van Stone.

Dr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mrs. Stock to excuse the absence of Mr. Ayer and Mrs. Wells. On roll call four ayes, no nays.

Minutes:

Mr. Van Stone moved, seconded by Mrs. Brownknight to approve the minutes as written for May 26, 2026. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Communications:

*From Police Chief Hines: It was noted that there were several communications thanking the department for their increased presence along Thorndike/Miami Road enforcement. Also, there was a letter of appreciation for the assistance given to Milford police Department helping with the deescalation of a mental health situation. Mayor Brown noted that citations had increased.

*From Tax Administrator Barlow: May 2026 Monthly Report

Permission to Address Council:

Mr. Jim Goetz, 3900 West Street, was granted permission to address Council. He asked if the website contains the budget for the residents to view the finances of the Village. Fiscal Officer Rankin said she will work with Ms. Uhrig to post the information on the website, but she can supply specific information if requested. Mr. Van Stone said the Finance Committee will be meeting to put financial summaries together which could be helpful and easier to read and comprehend.

Ms. Mandi Beecroft, Manager Mariemont Public Library, was granted permission to address Council. Upcoming events at the library include summer reading workshops, Putt Putt Golf for kids, petting zoo from Honey Hill, podcast 101 for adults by ICRC and Planet Astronomy by Dean Regas. Detailed information can be found on their website.

Ms. Anna Wabler, Fellow Green Umbrella, was granted permission to address Council. She will be working with the Village for the next 10 weeks. She is spending time getting to know the Village and has worked on gathering information and getting an idea of the needs and wants of the residents and how they be able to help. Focus areas include:

Waste Management: *Expanding Compost Program *Expanding Recycling with Reuse Hub. Both require expanding the shed for which we will be applying for grants *Updating Park Trash Cans & recycling Bins

Hillside Stabilization: *Working with Green Umbrella contacts and other fellows to assess stability of Mariemont's hills and coming up with suggestions for remediation

Education and Outreach: *Working with residents and business owners to raise awareness about sustainability and help them make more sustainable choices.

Pay the Bills:

Mrs. Brownknight moved, seconded by Mrs. Stock to pay the bills. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Committee Reports:

Heath and Recreation Committee

The Health & Recreation Committee (HR) met on Friday May 29 at 2:00 PM in the Municipal Building. Present were HR members Matthew Ayer (Chair); Marcy Lewis (Member); Lila Wells (Member); Mayor Brown; Fiscal Officer Rankin; MPF Members Doug Zemke, Biff Black and Nancy Safran; Mariemont Recreation Association President Jordan Gaietto; and Mariemont Garden Club President Mary Alice Maze.

Community Project Funding Update

Mr. Ayer advised that communities have not yet received their official Letter of Invitation from the Department of Housing & Urban Development, but that Congressman Landsman's office advises that it should be soon.

Dale Park Project Update

Mr. Ayer provided the attached schedule update. The Committee unanimously agreed that a semi-monthly status report including schedule and budget should be provided by Village Staff to Council commencing in June.

Dale Park Statuary Interim Protection Measures

Mr. Ayer summarized the research into conserving the statuary and its base, as well as customer references for the process and materials recommended to clean and treat the Statuary. A proposal from local conservation expert Hummel Industries was presented – to clean, repair, treat and waterproof the statuary and its base for \$48,500. MPF requested that the village formally request \$18,500 from MPF to be added to the \$30,000 previously transferred into the Dale Park-designated village account, and to proceed with this work this Summer. Hummel also recommended that the Village remove vegetation overhanging or shading the statuary in order to reduce biological growth. HR unanimously recommended spending \$48,500 to clean, repair, treat and waterproof the Statuary and base upon receipt of the funds from MPF. Mayor Brown agreed to determine if the recommended tree removal work can be performed by our Village Service Department.

Dogwood Park Turf Management Plan

After discussion, HR unanimously recommended proceeding with the Turf Management Plan proposed by Team All Sports for the 2026 year in the amount of \$16,152 provided that: a) the Village would investigate "green" treatment options that Green Umbrella may recommend; b) the Village continue to work toward establishing a Field Usage Agreement with MRA.

Dogwood Park Signage and Entryway

Preliminary concepts developed by Kolar Design were presented for an entryway sign and a carillon history panel. HR requested that the Mayor provide an actual cost estimate to relocate the utility box and piping out of sight prior to considering "hiding" them with signage. It was understood that new park signage would require a Certificate of Appropriateness from ARB. The meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM.

Council discussed the report at length and expressed the following concerns/thoughts/recommendations:

*The line item Dale Park should read Dogwood Park. Dr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Van Stone to amend the report. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

*The trees at Dogwood Park are dying and not being properly watered. It was recommended to have a watering/maintenance plan in place before replacing the dying trees.

*Dale Park tree removal – how many trees? The trees have been identified as too close to the Statuary/dropping sap etc. and have been recommended to be removed or trimmed. Mayor Brown and Mr. Ayer will view the trees to see if it is something the Village Maintenance Department can handle or it needs to be outsourced. The plans will be discussed with Council.

*Turf Management Plan – the plan was to be looked at by line item to determine if some of the work could be done by our Maintenance Department. What will the cost be for 2027 and could another vendor be used for some work such as Davey Tree. The Village will be contributing to the annual operating expense of a recreational facility that does not provide proceeds from membership. There had been some discussion to allow teams/host tournaments outside of Mariemont to use the fields to generate funds. An agreement to use the parks still has not been established for the Mariemont Recreation Association.

*Regarding the Landsman Grant – what are the plans for what will be funded. A conceptual plan should be considered.

*It was requested to be more transparent regarding the signage. The concept of the signage should be presented to Council prior to requesting ARB approval.

*The Parks Advisory Board's recommendation process was discussed. Specifically, are there any points in this report that should go before the Parks Advisory Board. The Board is to make recommendations to the Mayor and Chair/Health and Recreation Committee. The Committee will make its recommendation via report to Council. Mr. Goetz does not feel there is alignment. There was question if the process was followed and if a step was missed. Mayor Brown referred the matter back to be further discussed at the Health & Recreation Committee level. The Public Works Committee should be involved as well.

*Mr. Van Stone moved, seconded by Mrs. Stock to table the report. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Miscellaneous:

*The Budget Hearing will be held on June 22, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. with the regular Council Meeting beginning upon its conclusion and/or at 6:30 p.m.

*Village Fireworks will be held on Saturday July 4, 2026, at dusk.

*Village Offices will be closed in observation of Independence Day Friday July 3, 2026.

*Information to be included in the June 22, 2026, Council meeting will need to be submitted to the Village office by noon Thursday June 18, 2026, for inclusion in the Council packet.

*Mayor Brown referred to the Safety Committee the matter of electric motor bikes/scooters etc.

*Mayor Brown referred to the Finance Committee the renewal of the Village's liability insurance.

Resolutions:

Ordinances:

*An Ordinance Authorizing Application and Contracting with Hamilton County for the Municipal Road Fund" had a first reading.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

William A. Brown, Mayor

Kelly I. Rankin, Fiscal Officer