

Queen Village Neighbors Association Board Meeting Minutes – April 7, 2005

In Attendance: David O'Donnell, Frank Gontowski, Amy Rivera, Neville Vakharia, Walt Lowthian, , Don Ackerman, Marlise Ellis, Steve Schatz, Carla Puppini, Kathy Conway

Not Present: Barbara Ruth-Cook, Andrew Speizman, Mike Hauptman, Rick Cole

March Meeting Minutes: Marlise motioned to approve the March meeting minutes, Walt 2nd, all approved as amended – Under SCRUB change “aggravated” to “aggrieved”.

Treasurer's Report: Amy motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report, Walt 2nd, all approved.

Weccacoe Playground Drug House: Councilman DiCicco's office has contacted the D.A.'s office about this matter.

Waterway Greening: David, along with representatives from other community groups along the waterfront, attended a meeting where the Architecture firm of Wallace Roberts Todd along with the University of PA discussed plans for a green waterfront that extends from Port Richmond down to Oregon Avenue. The purpose of the meeting was to organize the waterfront committees.

Executive Director's report: Carla presented the report – see attachment.

Board Nomination: Board discussed possible replacements for Maren's seat. David received approval from the board to invite Ed Bell onto the board. Walt will take over Maren's seat as Vice President.

Written History Committee: History of QV will be on the webpage. A report has been compiled of QV stories and a graduate student has written on the riots in Mario Lanza Park in the 1840's.

Neighborhood Improvement District: LRC currently cleans the numbered streets every Monday funded by grants that QVNA receives. The neighborhood may want to look into becoming a NID in which all households would be taxed a small amount and the streets would be cleaned by independent contractors, much like the Center City District. Washington Square West Civic is looking into becoming a NID and David will make a call to see what they have learned. The neighborhood may also want to start a fundraising campaign to pay for these services. David will write an article about this in the Crier.

Historic Preservation: The group has written their goals at their last meeting. Paul Boni of Society Hill Zoning is having a meeting about the Dillworth House. Volunteers are needed.

Neighborhood Conservation District: The committee has written the initial guidelines and found that they must be more specific. John Gallery was contacted for feedback.

Gateway: Park curbing is in. There will be some fencing. WaWa trucks park on the corner at 2nd and Christian and are a hazard. The term of WaWa's lease is coming up soon.

Liquor: Judy's has been bought by the owner's of Pif. Frank is working on the neighborhood agreement with them. Mako's is closed for renovations. There was never a petition filed by Fumo's office to intervene for the sidewalk seating. Many restaurants have been putting tables out.

Nuisance Noise: Steve passed out the speech he prepared for City Council regarding the Cruising Ordinance. The item was taken off the agenda since the mayor was not on board.

Safety Committee: New committee forming. Walt asked if a board member was interested in being involved. Steve will be the board representative.

Parking and Transportation: The committee is still working on the surveys and setting goals. The parking subcommittee is looking at ways to make parking easier.

Strategic Planning: Walt and Neville were applauded for their presentation to the General Community Meeting. Copies of the plan are available in hard copy and CD. It will also be available as a download on the web. The board members reviewed list of the individuals to whom the report is to be sent.

Web Page: Neville is working on the second generation of the web page design. A June date is targeted. Many events including zoning hearings are being posted.

Weccacoe Playground : The building currently has one or two parties a month. The park will participate in "Spring into Your Park" on May 7th.

Tree Tenders: The group has meetings once a month. They are getting signed permission slips in order to qualify for the Treevitalize Program that offers free trees to dense neighborhoods with low tree volume.

Planning and Development: Ruggeriero has dissolved their contract to purchase the lot at Delaware Ave. and Catharine Streets. QV along with Old Swede's Church and Pennsport will write letters requesting sound barriers along I-95.

Zoning: Group home was approved on 3rd Street. House in the 500 block of Queen Street was denied a 4th floor deck.

New Committees: Idea of creating a Welcome Committee – give new neighbors info to David. He has prepared a welcome package. Board is looking for people with fundraising experience.

School options will be presented at the April General Neighborhood Meeting.

Marlise made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Amy second, all approved

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We believe that these minutes accurately reflect what transpired during this meeting. Unless we are notified in writing to the contrary within ten days after receipt, we will assume that you concur the foregoing accurately reflects the substance of our meeting.