

Queen Village Neighbors Association Board Meeting Minutes – December 1, 2005

In Attendance: David O'Donnell, Amy Rivera, , Marlise Ellis, Carla Puppin, Neville Vakharia, Steve Schatz, Don Ackerman, Rick Cole, Edward Bell, Andrew Speizman, Mike Hauptman, Kathy Conway, Marian Buczek

Not Present: Walt Lowthian, Frank Gontowski

Meeting Minutes: The October meeting minutes were approved with Carla's revision to the dollar amount offered to TreeTenders for plantings around the Meredith School, Mike 1st, Rick 2nd, all approved.

Treasurer's Report: Carla reviewed the Treasurer's report. Rick made a motion to approve, Marlise 2nd, all in favor.

Executive Director's Report: See attached report.

SCRUB: Don made a motion to support a resolution supporting taxpayers and community groups standing in Zoning disputes as written in the Philadelphia Code 14-1807. Amy 2nd, All approved.

SDC Drill Team: The Southwark Development Drill Team placed 7th in state competition. Amy made a motion to give \$100 to SDC Drill Team for travel to the regional competition. Don 2nd, all approved.

Historic Preservation: 941 South 2nd Street is about to submit for historic status. Marian expressed concern over many neighborhood houses in which the front facades have been removed.

Sound Barriers – Group is waiting for Brady's office to take the next steps.

Casinos: There are not many applications for new casinos in Philadelphia as of yet. They must be submitted by the end of the year.

Real Estate Taxes: Steve presented an overview of the BRT's new system to assess the houses which is based on the real market values. The estimated rate is 1.9%. This will cause a great increase for many. DiCicco has proposed that the set rate should be revenue neutral for the city. The rate should be reconsidered and readjusted annually. David Glancey and DiCicco will discuss at the February General Meeting. QVNA will ask DiCicco to consider a 10 year ease into the new increase.

Computer: Neville has set up a new system for people to subscribe and unsubscribe online without Carla. All are to encourage more people to sign up online.

Nuisance Noise: The group sent a revision to the webpage to Neville for updating. There will be a form on the site to fill out a complaint. The new legislation does not address trash hauling and motorcycles.

Parks:

- Weccacoe – Letters are out with no responses as of yet.

- Gateway – Looking at various tree plantings.

Zoning:

- Dockside II will present again on Tuesday. They do not need community approval.
- There will be ground breaking in April 2006 for the housing development at 3rd and Christian. The board is not against the demolition of the existing buildings currently on the site.
- Marian complained about L&I's lack of response to calls.

Safety/Town Watch: Group has been handing out light bulbs. They are talking about 'Dog Walks' similar to Townwatch. Officer Ace Delgado and Marian collected \$\$ for kids' Christmas party at the Mummer's Museum. There has been a rash of bike thefts.

Parking: The new development, Independence Court on Christian Street, has asked for 15 spots, making the lot most likely full. Trash under I-95 is still a problem. LRC cleans it once a week. We will keep this schedule.

TreeTenders: Group is gathering forms for new trees for the spring.

Recycling: Group will be collecting on Saturday under I-95 from 10 am until 12:30 pm. Volunteers are needed.

Liquor: Someone will have to step in for Frank and try to get a grasp on his efforts in Liquor issues since he will be resigning. A petition to intervene was filed for Gayle. We need to solicit new board members. Carla will send out an email.

Holiday Party: Will be held at Old Swede's community hall on 12/15/05 starting at 6:30pm. All are asked to bring a dish.

Neighborhood Conservation District: Rick made a PowerPoint presentation showing the group's efforts to turn QV into the first NCD in the city. They had had meetings with the Planning Commission and John Gallery of the Preservation Alliance and have developed the guidelines. It will be presented to the community at the January General Community meeting.

Amy motioned to adjourn the meeting, Neville 2nd, all in favor.

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.