

Queen Village Neighbors Association Board Meeting Minutes – April 6, 2006

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

Not Present: Rick Cole, Andrew Speizman, Edward Bell, Mike Hauptman

Meeting Minutes: The March meeting minutes were reviewed but not voted on.

Treasurer's Report: Carla reviewed the Treasurer's report. We will ask Andrew to investigate getting interest on funds. There was a discussion on how QVNA should be spending the funds. Amy made a motion to approve, Walt 2nd, all in favor.

Executive Director's Report: See attached report. Art in the Park will happen on May 6th in Mario Lanza Park, the same day as the Queen Village Open House Tours.

Casinos: Don reported. A coalition has formed of neighborhood groups opposing a proposed casino at the Delaware Ave. and Reed site. A traffic study has been released with plans to have an exit ramp from I-95 onto Front Street. Don made a motion that QVNA opposes a casino at the Delaware Ave. and Reed site and join the Riverfront Community Coalition in opposing it. Marlise 2nd, all in favor. Members of the Transportation Committee, Cindy Lyon and Maria Roberts would like to get involved in the casino traffic issues. Kathy suggested putting the information about the casino development on the QVNA website. Colleen Puckett will make a testimony and needs aerial photographs of the neighborhood. Don made a motion for QVNA to appropriate \$300.00 for aerial photography. Marlise 2nd, all in favor.

Christian Street: Five residents of Christian Street attended a meeting with Councilman DiCicco at the QVNA office on March 28. Walt and David attended as observers. Jim Markham was asked that day to attend, but could not make it. Also attending were representatives from the Streets Dept, and Air and Noise Management Dept. Walt found out about the meeting the day of the meeting. Walt presented his thoughts on the matter. Those Christian Street residents who attended said meeting did not mention to any members of the Transportation Committee at its March meeting, that this meeting with DiCicco was upcoming. The last time it was proposed to make Christian Street one way the neighbors in QV felt as though they were kept in the dark. Walt presented details of what had transpired and proposed we delay the trial of making Christian street one way westbound, until a decision making process was put in place.

Walt made a resolution:

“To contact DiCicco to delay the proposed changes on Christian Street until the transportation committee can review it, the community is informed and the QVNA board has an opportunity to vote on it. The QVNA board recognizes the difficult situation on Christian Street and also recognizes the urgency of the situation and will expedite the process of finding the proper solution with the cooperation of the Streets Department and Councilman DiCicco. QVNA will establish a timetable within the next 30 days. “

Don 2nd, 6 in favor, 1 opposed.

Resolution by Don:

Notify the community of the proposed changes by leafleting in the same manner in which the Crier is delivered, on the website and via email as soon as possible, but no later than in one week as well as at the April general community meeting.

Amy second, all in favor.

Walt and David are to draft a leaflet for distribution and a letter to DiCicco.

Historic Preservation: The committee is forming a list of contractors/service vendors to be made available on the website. Discussion of this list was erroneously omitted from the March minutes. The list is not supported by QVNA. Homeowner Workshops are being offered by the Preservation Alliance of Greater Philadelphia. There may not be a committee meeting next week due to Passover.

Nuisance Noise – Kildares restaurant and bar is the cause of many complaints by the neighbors due to noise. Steve and Carla attended a meeting with the owners of the Lyon's Den to discuss noise issues.

Safety/Town Watch: There was a meeting with Courtyard residents and management. Putting energy efficient lights on the apartments was discussed. The residents were urged to call 911 when necessary.

Parking and Transportation:

- Orth Rogers traffic studies are continuing for the proposed CREI development at Delaware Ave. and Catharine Streets.
- The traffic subcommittee will work with the casino group
- There was a meeting with Rick Dickson on of the PPA to discuss parking improvements underway. They will look into resident only parking on one side of the street. They are working on how to get shuttles from outlying parking areas into center city.
- Orth Rodgers has performed a traffic study for the CREI development and is assembling a report of proposed improvements to Columbus Blvd. based on their studies. Jim Markham and Walt will review. CREI has proposed that they will provide some funding to help with the traffic congestion.
- There is a car that often parks on Howard Street behind WaWa and blocks the street for periods of time.

Recycling: Group will be collecting on Saturday under I-95 from 10 am until 12:30 pm. on the first Saturday of each month. Volunteers are needed. A teacher from the Meredith school who lives in QV will have a class project to make flyers to inform the neighbors about the recycling program.

Tree Tenders: As part of TreeVitalize, 45 trees are to be planted in various areas including the 700 block of S 3rd and the 300 block of Catharine. Of that number, QV Tree Tenders will do a volunteer planting at Meredith on April 22 of 9 trees and Walt is heading up a volunteer planting of 5 trees that same day on the 400 block of Catharine.

Weccacoe: There will be a Spring cleaning on Saturday from 9-12. Meredith Preschool has expressed an interest in renting the building. The board did not feel this was appropriate, Walt will notify them.

Zoning: There is a proposed project that will demolish the Who's On Third building at the corner of 3rd and Bainbridge and build 5 town homes. The applicant received some opposition with regard to the condemnation of an older building in the neighborhood, the aesthetics of the design and the 2 garages on 3rd street. They will consider the opinions expressed and come back for another hearing. There was a presentation to develop 8 condominiums in the location of the collapsed building near 2nd and Monroe. The project will have frontage on Monroe and 2nd street. Neighbors questioned the developer on many issues in light of the recent collapse.

Board Members: Audrey Jaross will be asked to join the QVNA board.

David motioned to adjourn the meeting, Amy 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.