

QVNA Board Meeting

October 3, 2013

Board Members Present: Jeff Hornstein, Amy Shelanski, Bill Landy, Kathy Dilonardo, Amy Grant, Lauren Leonard, Maria Roberts, Peter Ross, Carla Puppin (Executive Director), Cathy Conway (emeritus)

Board Members Not Present: Kim Maialetti, Leslie Patterson-Tyler, Honey Pertnoy

Guests: Andrew Levitt, Stewart Graham

- 1. Minutes.** The minutes from the September 12, 2013 meeting were reviewed and corrections/additions were noted.

***Peter Ross moved that the minutes be approved as amended, Amy Grant seconded the motion, and all approved via unanimous voice vote.**

Cindy will re-circulate via email the minutes from the August Board retreat for corrections and additions.

2. Financials.

- Finance Committee: Bill Landy briefly talked about the new Finance Committee, which held its first meeting on Tuesday. The Committee looked at the current financial statements and set priorities for Committee work: emergency school funds request, reserve fund policy, alternative revenue streams. The Committee will meet regularly, set up core principals, set priorities. The current reserve is now approximately \$55,000.
- September Financials: CPNA and Riverfront Communities United were early 2000's coalitions formed to fight casinos and were disbanded quite some time ago. This money should be absorbed into generally available funds, which brings restricted funds down to 45,000. Assets match what our account statements say, but need to take a closer look at liabilities and equities part of balance sheet.

Jeff asked that the Committee think about how to properly characterize the different types of funds QVNA holds: restricted (being held for third parties), ear-marked (donations received for a specific purpose), grants (given to applicants from the general funds), and committee appropriations (also coming from the general funds).

***Kathy Dilonardo moved that the financial statements for September be accepted, Amy Shelanski seconded the motion, and all approved via unanimous voice vote.**

3. President's Report

- a. Interstate Land Management Corporation. The Community Coalition for Interstate Management, which has a seat on the ILMC Board, has been resurrected. QVNA made its first proposal to lease the second lot under I-95 in March 2012. ILMC is forming a real estate committee to finalize negotiations with lessees. The PennDOT representative wants QVNA's proposal to be close to market value in order to approve. Jeff hopes to finalize the lease and have the second lot opened by the beginning of 2014.
- b. AVI forum. The program held in September was good and well-attended, although only a couple of people came to the QVNA offices for help with filing an appeal. Some forms like the one for the Homestead Exemption have not yet been made available by City.
- c. Bike Share Program and Washington Avenue Program. Andrew Levitt attended the meeting to report on both programs:
 - i. *Bike share*: There may be 10 bike stations installed in Queen Village. People can use their membership card or credit card to take a bike and return it to another bike station. The program is intended for short-term use (e.g., half hour). People will be able to use smart phones to access station locations. Andy would like our input on where to put bike stations in Queen Village. Andy has identified some spots, such as in front of Southwark Community Garden, and provided a map of those locations. He also asked for a half hour at a QVNA general meeting to give broader presentation on program. Jeff proposed that he present at the November meeting. QVNA needs to release an official statement that the neighborhood is interested in being involved in the program and determining the location of the stations.
 - ii. *Washington Avenue*: Andy attended a meeting a week ago with the City Planning Commission about painting stripes on Washington Avenue that are different than the current configuration. The Philadelphia Streets Department is thinking about reconfiguring the street into a median turn lane in middle (for left turns), one lane each way, a dedicated bike lane, and curbside parking. Andy would like to see bike racks in the median near intersections to provide a pedestrian refuge in the crosswalks at Ninth Street and Jefferson Square. Andy handed out photos of a sample

bike parking median in Vancouver. The Streets Department says the racks would make plowing difficult. Jeff suggests that Andy talk with the Sustainability Committee about this. Maria Roberts asks about whether neighborhood push back should be expected. Andy expects some.

4. Executive Director's Report. Carla asked for bios and photos of people running for election in November. She re-circulated a print-out of Board Member Responsibilities for further consideration. Jeff said he would like to focus on the Board Member Responsibilities after the new board is elected in November. Carla will provide the Board Member Responsibilities print-out to all nominees running. Carla also asked about scheduling a holiday party this year. Jeff asked for the Board's thoughts on whether December 19th was too late. The general consensus was that it is too late and December 6th, 12th and 13th were suggested. Jeff also suggested that the Board consider having the party at the Mummer's Museum. Carla will look into the availability of the Mummies Museum and local bands.

5. New Business

- a. Board Communications. Jeff discussed the distribution of an internal board communication to a political reporter for the Daily News. The general consensus was that this sort of activity was inappropriate, and the Board will consider whether to address the issue in the by-laws or the Communication policy. Maria asked whether we should include a "privileged" statement at end of emails and whether Board members sign confidentiality agreements. There is a need to strike balance between transparency of decisions (which need to be public) and pre-decision discussions (which don't necessarily need to be public). The Board meetings are open to public.

- b. Schools and Youth Activities Request. The Finance Committee recommends that, while it and the Board work to analyze and adjust, if necessary, the reserve level, QVNA respond to schools emergency request. The original request of \$17,000 is too much, but the Finance Committee recommends that the Board provide \$5000 to schools and halt further discretionary disbursements until the reserve level is set. Peter Ross noted that the Finance Committee didn't discuss how the money would be split between the 2 neighborhood schools. Jeff stated that, consistent with past funding, the Schools and Youth Activities Committee should decide how the \$5000 is split.

***Amy Shelanski moved that \$5000 be given to the Schools and Youth Activities Committee, and the Schools and Youth Activities Committee will decide how to split it between Meredith and Nebinger, Lauren Leonard seconded, and all approved via unanimous voice vote.**

- c. By-laws. Cindy Elliott reported that the revised by-laws will be circulated next week for board consideration and will be discussed at the November Board meeting. Kathy Dilonardo suggested appending the policy may open it to a community vote, as are any revisions to the by-laws.
- d. Nominating. Kathy Dilonardo reported that the following people are running for office in November: Jeff Hornstein (President), Amy Shelanski (Executive Vice President), Cindy Elliott (Recording Secretary), and Maria Roberts, Peter Ross and Jonathan Rubin (General Board positions). Kathy has calls in to nine other people and is waiting for responses.
- e. Sustainability. The Sustainability and Beautification Committees have merged to become the Clean and Green Committee.
- f. October General Meeting. The October General Meeting will take place at Nebinger Elementary School. Principals from Nebinger, Meredith and Palumbo will attend. Tours of the school will begin at 7:00. Kennett is catering. We will address election matters first: the Nominating Committee will provide its list of candidates, ask for nominations from the floor, and give each candidate present a minute to give biographical information. The November General Meeting will be devoted to elections, bikes and by-laws.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy A. Elliott