

## **Queen Village Board Meeting Minutes –February 4, 2010**

**Present:** Honey Pertnoy , Richard Wolk, Ted Warren, Mike Hauptman, Don Ackerman, Steve Schatz, Neville Vakharia, Kathy Dilonardo, Jeff Rush, Bill Stewart, Bill Landy, Kathy Conway (Emeritus), Carla Puppin (Executive Director)

**Not Present:** Ed Bell, Walt Lowthian

**Changes in the Police Districts:** Captain Weaver attended the board meeting to address the combining of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Police Districts. He said combining the Administrative staff means there will be more police on the streets. The current Administrative staff is 18 so we will get a lot more of them on the street. Each PSA (a specific geographic area) will have a Lt, 2 Sgts. and 6 officers that cannot be moved—they will always stay out in that geographical area. They have changed the borders of the PSAs. One of them goes from Front to 6<sup>th</sup> and from South to Christian Streets. Another of them goes from Front to 6<sup>th</sup> and Christian to Morris Streets. South Street police will go as far south as Christian and will work “bartender hours”. There will be a Narcotics Enforcement Team targeting 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Streets. There will be a community court in the South Street District where defendants can plead guilty or wait.

The Board brought up several concerns for the Captain. Richard noted that the Streets Department has turned out the flashing red lights at the 2<sup>nd</sup> and Christian and Moyamensing corner. We would like to have both the flashing red lights and the stop signs at that location. The Captain will find out if that is possible. Jeff noted that snow plowing had been poor after the major storm, allowing the packed snow to turn to ice on the streets. Jeff also noted that the new paving job on some area streets didn't get sealed. He hopes it will be resealed in the spring. (Third Street is an example.) Jeff thanked the Captain for coming and invited him to attend the February General Membership meeting on the third Thursday.

**Minutes:** There was one correction to the minutes. A motion was made by Ted to accept the minutes, was seconded by Richard and approved by the board.

**Treasurer's Report:** Richard made a motion we accept the Treasurer's report, Ted seconded it and the report was approved. In addition, Bill had prepared summaries of income and expenses over the last two years in order to prepare a 2010 budget.

**Grants Committee:** Kathy reported on the process used by the committee in evaluating the grant requests. She presented a list of recommendations and proposed adoption of the list by the board. Don so moved, Mike seconded it and the recommendations resulting in the awarding of 6 grants to parks and community gardens in Queen Village for a total of \$24,069 were approved.

**Parking Lot under I-95:** Jeff wants to find out the level of interest in the community in renting spaces if we were to put the south end of the parking lot into condition to use. The current lot is full and sometimes overly full when there is a snowstorm in the immediate forecast. Building a list of interested users would help us to determine if there is enough interest to justify expanding the current lot.

**Executive Director's Report from January 2010:**

**Office/building.**

New toilet installed in men's bathroom

**Birthday parties/baby showers**—busy ---5 this month

**Recycling Bins** I contacted the Recycling Office to have more recycling bins delivered. 80 were delivered and I have distributed 60+ so far.

**ClickFix** I have set up a QVNA community page on the "clickfix" site. This is tied into 311

<http://www.seeclickfix.com/queen-village-philly>

**Open House 2010** Based on last year's success, our Open House Committee has decided to continue the Open House tradition and go ahead with the tour. The date will be Sunday, May 16, noon to 4 p.m. We are doing it on our own --the Friends of Independence National Historical Park have again decided not to sponsor the tour citywide--more than 10 civics participated under their sponsorship—there are just 3 civics sponsoring Open Houses this year: QVNA, Society Hill, and Overbrook.

**Triangle Park Ownership issues.** Per my email, in helping resolve ownership issues of Triangle Park, I am suggesting the following—that I go to City Hall to make copies of the Sanborn map to show correct addresses for properties in question, and that I or a Board member speak with Pete Condo of Superior Auto.

**Property Tax/ Rent Rebates.** This is the time of year when I help fill out the forms for any seniors who contact me (Last year, I filled out 13 forms). Have put a blurb in the Crier reminding residents who might qualify to take advantage of the program

**Roberts Rules of Order re email meetings and votes:**

[ualr.edu/jdberleant/papers/email-meetings.html](http://ualr.edu/jdberleant/papers/email-meetings.html) for a selected discussion (it focuses more on email meeting procedures and email voting re ballots for an election)**I will purchase the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of RRO, which contains a section on email votes/procedures**

**Upcoming General Meeting Topics:**

March: Philadelphia Recycling Rewards program-guest Carla Castillo and other? Energy Conservation Agency?

April: Transportation-2<sup>nd</sup> and Christian report?

**Executive Director Compensation:** Richard introduced a discussion on email to give the Executive Director a \$1500 bonus for her work in 2009 and a raise for 2010 to \$ 25.00 per hour retroactive to January 1, 2010. Jeff so moved and Bill Landy seconded it.

The vote on-line was 10 board members for the proposal. Three members did not respond.

**Mario Lanza Park dog run committee:** The committee has been working on rules using American Kennel Club and nearby dog run rules as a guide. There are no city-wide rules established in Philadelphia for runs. Since Mario Lanza is under the Department of Recreation, we are hoping that our rules may become a model throughout the city. We are planning a meeting with a number of dog owners and neighbors who have shown interest previously in the dog run. Steve (Nuisance Noise Committee) reported that there was an email from a neighbor in the last few days in which he complained of barking dogs at Mario Lanza. **Carla will write him a response and tell him about our efforts to improve the dog run at Mario Lanza.**

**Taxes:** Jeff reported that Richard Negrin of the BRT had established a moratorium on new assessments until further work can be done on correcting a host of existing problems. The **QVNA tax committee chaired by Bill Landy will be meeting to discuss the situation and make recommendations to the board.**

**Central Delaware Advisory Group:** Mike Hauptman is the only member of the group who is a resident. He was recently reappointed for a two year term. The annual meeting was held in the last month to recap accomplishments. The Race Street Pier is designed and construction is to begin this spring with a summer 2011 projected completion date. The contractor for the Master Plan for the 7 ½ mile waterfront has been selected. It is Cooper Robertson Architects and they will be conducting public workshops. Pier 53 (behind the Coast Guard building) will be come a green space. Work is also proceeding on a bike path along the central portion of the waterfront. Everyone is very pleased with the progress made this first year.

**Zoning:** The Crosstown Coalition (an organization of civic associations) had a workshop at Temple University last month. The civic are maintaining that they must be an integral part of the zoning process under the new Zoning Code Commission proposals.

**Liquor Licenses:** Several restaurants have closed and others are opening in their places so the committee has a number of applicants. In each case the needs of the surrounding neighborhood are also taken into consideration and agreements are included in a document signed by the applicant.

**Police District Advisory Council:** With the merger of police districts, there is concern that the South Street mini station is at risk. It is funded in large part by the South Street business district. Nearby communities that rely on the services it provides, need to pay close attention to the mini station. John Smythe of Bella Vista is planning a fund raiser. Jeff moved and Richard seconded a proposal to make a donation of \$1500 to the mini station. **Steve will follow-up on this.**

Jeff indicated that he felt attendance by Board members at the January General Membership Meeting was light. He urged **everyone to try to get to the General Membership meetings.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Dilonardo  
Recording Secretary