

## **QVNA Board Meeting Minutes**

**February 2, 2012**

**Board Members Present:** Jeff Hornstein, Amy Shelanski, Ted Warren, Cindy Elliott, Bill Landy, Brent Chavis, Honey Pertnoy, Kim Maialetti, Rich Miller, Kathy DiLonardo, Leslie Patterson-Tyler, Mike Hauptman, Carla Puppini (Executive Director), Kathy Conway (emeritus)

**Committee Chairs/Others:** Cynthia Temple (Historic Preservation Committee)

### **1. Introductions and Opening Remarks**

Jeff Hornstein announced a new policy of holding board meetings open to the public and having all committee chairs invited to the board meetings to report on committee activities. To manage the flow of the meetings, guest presentations will be heard first at each meeting.

### **2. Presentation by 400 Block of Fulton Street Mural Program**

Neville Vakharia and artist Conrad Booker provided details of a mural planned for the southwest corner of the 400 block of Fulton Street, extending west. The mural will include a bar code that allows smart phone users to get information about the surrounding area. All neighbors are reported to be on-board, as well as the owner of the building, John Yoo. The group asked whether there might be grant funds available. They were referred to Kathy Dilonardo, who chairs the grants committee, for further discussion of the process for applying for grants. The group also asked that QVNA sponsor the effort as a collection point for donations.

A motion to provide QVNA sponsorship was made, seconded and passed.

### **3. Approval of January 2012 Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2012 meeting was made, seconded and passed.

### **4. Treasurer's Report**

Check details, Deposit Details a Profit and Lost Statement and a Balance Sheet were circulated. There was a net loss of \$2441 reported for the month of January, attributed to the purchase of a projector and Weccacoe community center design plans.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report for January 2012 was made, seconded and passed.

## **5. President's Report**

Jeff Hornstein announced that he would focus his presidency on two major initiatives:

- a. Queen Village Community Center, to be developed with the Friends of Weccacoe. There may be roughly \$400,000 in funding available from the City, all of which would be required to renovate the playground. Jeff had a meeting scheduled with Councilman Squilla for the following day to discuss other sources of funding for the Center.
- b. South Street Summit. The area is in distress and some landlords have been problematic. Councilman Squilla is seeking to bring the four adjacent neighborhoods (Head House, Wash West, Bella Vista and Queen Village) together with landlords to discuss revitalization efforts.

A discussion of the first General Meeting and plans for the February meeting followed. Members generally noted that attendees in January appreciated the interactive nature of the meeting. Pennsylvania Representative Mike O'Brien will attend the February meeting, along with Harry Kyriakodis, author of Philadelphia's Lost Waterfront. It was proposed that the meetings start at 7:00 so that attendees can have some social time between 7:00 and the meeting start time of 7:30. There was also a discussion about having wine available, either brought by board members or sponsored by local restaurants. Carla Puppini will check with St. Philip Neri first, to see if the church has any objection to wine being served; efforts to locate local sponsors will be considered after that, depending on the church's response.

## **6. Executive Director Report**

Carla Puppini reported on the following items:

- a. QVNA needs a logo. Kim Maialetti noted that this [is/would be] placed on the Public Relations Committee agenda for its next meeting.
- b. A business owners meeting was held to discuss the Passyunk Square program. The owners of Cohen Hardware and the drive-thru cleaners objected to turning the block of Passyunk between Bainbridge and South into a pedestrian-only area, citing the negative impact on their business operations. The Mayor's Office of Transportation and Utilities will hold a subsequent meeting with revised plans. Lt. Bologna of the police South Street mini-station supports the pedestrian area.
- c. There are currently only one house and one garden on the Open House Tour to be held May 19<sup>th</sup> from noon to 4 pm, and more houses are needed.

## 7. Committee Reports

- a. By-Laws – Amy Shelanski reported that the committee would meet and go over the by-laws, with an eye toward identifying any needed reforms.
- b. Dogs – Brent Chavis reported that a recent committee meeting yielded many good ideas and that another meeting is scheduled. The committee has met with Ed Bell and Ann Harvey on sustainability issues, such as reducing waste. The committee also plans to initiate education efforts on leash and clean-up laws. A separate initiative is being considered to reconvene Yappy Hour on Fridays at Mario Lonza Dog Run, and to produce a calendar for fund-raising.
- c. Historic Preservation – Cynthia Temple reported that the committee is working with Paul Levy on renovating the Shot Tower playground and sees this as a chance to connect with the Delaware River Waterfront Corporation. They are interested in following the playing field improvements initiated by Markward Park at 25<sup>th</sup> and Pine. An interpretive sign will be placed at Shot Tower in May.

A Mason-Dixon Line group will be placing plaques and markers in the area, starting on Front Street.

The committee is offering window signs to homes in the area, describing the origins of each home.

An event celebrating the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Southwark is being planned for April, to be held at Old Swedes Church. The committee asked that QVNA appropriate \$400 so that the committee could reserve Old Swedes.

A motion to approve the appropriation of \$400 to the Historic Committee to reserve Old Swedes for an April event was made, seconded and passed.

- d. Community Building/Public Relations – Kim Maialetti and Rich Miller reported that the first meeting of the committee would be held on Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. The committee will focus on internal neighborhood communications, as well as communications outside the neighborhood. The committee is considering on

big event and has proposed QV Night at the Phillies on July 24<sup>th</sup>. Kim will check to see if QVNA can still get 100 tickets for that evening.

- e. Schools and Youth – Leslie Patterson–Tyler noted that the Crier contains the website describing ways people can help neighborhood schools, Meredith and Nebinger. Ann Gemmel spoke about the action plan she helped create to provide aid for Meredith. They are looking for people, particularly high school–aged kids that need community service hours, to canvas the neighborhood in late March. The committee would like to make a presentation at the next General Meeting. It was suggested that the principals of Meredith and Nebinger attend that meeting and let the community know what they need.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cindy Elliott  
Recording Secretary