

Queen Village Neighbors Association Board Meeting Minutes – January 4, 2007

In Attendance: Jeff Rush , Amy Rivera, Neville Vakharia, Walt Lowthian, Don Ackerman, Carla Puppini, James Markham, Marlise Ellis, Mike Hauptman, Rick Cole, Edward Bell, David O'Donnell, Andrew Speizman, Kathy Conway, Richard Wolk

Casinos: Colleen Puckett spoke about the casino issues and highlighted the following:

- Society Hill is still willing to fight the against the casinos
- DiCicco is looking for an attorney who is not already associated with the casinos to help with lawsuits against the casinos
- DiCicco is calling a meeting for all of the presidents of the civic groups to come up with a plan of action
- Colleen recommended to work with other civic groups against the casinos otherwise individual deals will be made.
- Colleen will discuss this idea of sticking together with other civic groups
- Colleen no longer feels she is appropriate as the lead person. It should be someone from QVNA board. She will continue to help oppose the casinos.

Don mentioned the Consent Decree of which Society Hill, QVNA, CCRA and Washington West all signed. He felt we should work with other community groups. There will be a meeting of Casino Free Philadelphia on Saturday from 10-5 at Friends Select.

Jeff would like to form a “super committee” and have zoning, safety and transportation all rolled into the casino committee. Jim recommended that Maria Roberts and Cyndi Line be asked to join that committee.

February 28th, 2007 is the proposed groundbreaking for the Foxwoods casino. Kathy feels we should consistently oppose the casinos with other community groups while working on Plan B. Kathy argued that the Casinos will devastate our house values and destroy our community. Kathy will try to contact John Hunt, author of the consent decree. Jeff will try to set up a meeting with Society Hill next week and contact John Foy, president of the Head House District. It was pointed out that bus issues will be problematic, similar to the issues Old City faces.

There are 30 days to appeal the gaming board's decision (which will end on January 21, 2007). Fundraising will need to happen via the Crier and email. The January General Meeting will be about Casino Issues, not the NCD.

Meeting Minutes: The December 2006 minutes are approved. Marlise 1st, David 2nd, all in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Carla reviewed the Treasurer's report. New software is needed.

MOTION: Don made a motion to authorize Andrew to purchase QuickBooks for the QVNA office, Ed 2nd, all in favor.

Carla thanked the Board for her year end bonus.

Amy will be distributing the recycling money earned to the various park groups participating.

David made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, Mike 2nd, all in favor.

Executive Director's Report: There will be an extension until May 1st, 2007 for the greening grants application. The west side of 5th street is scheduled for demolition. The Open House Tours for QV will be on Saturday, May 5, 2007. ScoutReach is starting on Wednesdays from 6-7 pm.

Historic Preservation: The developer of the properties on Bodine Street, south of Christian street, Don Ventresca, is claiming that he is not responsible for the damages done to the historically certified Bodine Street.

Parking: There has been some recent moving of misplaced signs, allowing more parking. An attorney is looking into legalizing parking in front of garages. Walt is trying to get statistics of PhillyCarShare car parked in front of Weccacoe park. The group is looking at permit parking restrictions one day visitor parking passes through PPA as well as gaining control of the southern lot under I-95.

Weccacoe Building: There is a meeting with the City coming up. Board thought that it should be in the lease that private groups can rent out the open space. The Meredith Preschool has asked to rent the space.

MOTION: Walt made a motion that the board is not interested in renting the space to a full-time organization at this time. Richard 2nd, all in favor.

Board Meetings: Andrew stated that the board meetings are open to the public. Anything said is public record. Board members should use their discretion in what they discuss outside the meetings.

Richard motioned to adjourn the meeting, Mike 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.