

## Queen Village Board Meeting Minutes January 6, 2010

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

**Not Present:** Steve Schatz (excused absence—sick)

Jeff welcomed the two new board members-- Honey Pertnoy and Bill Stewart and introductions were made by all.

There were several phone calls made to Jeff and to Carla from a Queen Village resident, a continuation of a problem experienced last year. Other board members received inappropriate emails. Carla was asked to meet with Bill S and explain the situation to him so that he could make a recommendation as to the appropriate action.

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

**Treasurer's Report:** Richard made a motion we accept the Treasurer's report; it was seconded by Mike and approved by the board. Bill L will prepare a budget for the next meeting. He and Kathy will get together to discuss the grants vis a vis the budget.

**Organizational overview:** Neville went over the summary of guidelines for non-profits which he had prepared. The materials will be added to the QVNA website. The IRS 990 from 2008 (the most recent) will be added to the website. The accountant who has donated her time to complete our 990 recommends that we get an accountant to do it since the IRS rules change beginning in 2009.

### Executive Director's Report for December, 2009

**Office** --Toilet in boy's bathroom runs continually and, according to plumber Ed Mattio, will cost more to constantly repair than to replace with low-flow new toilet. Double checking with you for approval to get toilet replaced---estimate still good---\$450. **The board authorized the expenditure to repair the toilet.**

Does the Board want to consider donations to:

-- Historical Society of Pennsylvania—sponsors of the PhilaPlace project

--Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia

--PAL program through Third District Police

**Kathy moved that we give each organization \$100; Mike seconded it and the board approved the motion.**

**Jan General Meeting:** Two presentations--- on the "311" system (about 15 minutes); on *Next Great City* successes and current goals—about 15-20 minutes. We could also have someone from the Phila Office of Emergency Management make a presentation ~30 minutes, if he is available

**Community Room rental.** Mai Renwick, who opens and closes the building for birthday parties on weekends, has run into a problem with people not having finished their party and going way over their agreed-upon end time. This has put an unfair burden on her—having to come back several times. We are instituting a \$20 Late Deposit fee—if individuals go over their agreed-upon end time, the deposit will not be returned. (Should Mai get that \$\$?) **The board authorized that Mai could keep the money since she was spending extra time to insure the room was closed.**

**Parking Lot.** Andy Speizman conferred with Parkway and right now in the winter months, the manager of the parking lot is holding the number of paid spots at 110 (about 20 over the actual # of spaces). In the past month, a few of the monthly patrons had complained to the manager that they were not able to find spots. (I had a flurry of calls after the snow storm asking for a spot in the lot).

[www.lasallenonprofitcenter.org](http://www.lasallenonprofitcenter.org) is the web site for La Salle University's Non Profit Center. Take a look at the web site and see the kinds of programs and workshops that are offered to non profit Boards.

**Recommendations for procedures for email votes, specially scheduled votes, committee establishment, term and change of committee chairs and duties of QVNA committees, public communications by board members and conduct of board meetings:** We had a lengthy discussion about email votes and a brief discussion about public communications by board members without arriving at firm wording or decisions. We decided to table it until the next meeting when we would continue the discussion. **Carla will look in Roberts Rules of Order to see how they handle email votes and specially called votes.**

**Forgotten Blocks Committee:** Ted reported that a new house under construction in area had gotten confusing signals from city agencies; the committee will help the homeowner navigate the permits needed; city agencies don't understand the Neighborhood Conservation District guidelines; we have no idea how many are being reviewed—hundreds or just one? We may need to involve Councilman DiCicco. The Jefferson Square Development project is divesting itself of its property so a number of parcels of land will be coming on the market which could mean there is an opportunity for a lot of development to happen all at once in the area.

**Zoning:** Prior to the meeting, Mike sent us a list via email of recommendations that the newly formed Zoning Code Coalition (a number of Center City civics) had prepared in answer to the new Zoning Code draft. They are asking us to join the coalition. The board felt the recommendations were appropriate. Kathy moved we join the Zoning Code Coalition, Don seconded it and it was approved by the board.

**Consolidation of Police Districts:** Jeff announced that the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> "Police Districts would be combined under Captain Weaver. Since the neighborhoods were not consulted, they have questions and concerns. Civic leaders will meet with Commissioner Ramsay. The consolidation takes place March 1, 2010. Jeff and Bill L will attend the meeting to be held sometime between January 18 and February 1, 2010.

**Casinos:** Jeff said that the Table Games Bill had passed Jan 5, 2010. The 2% of funds designated for communities will be under the control of the Mayor. Jeff said the question is when is it going to be time for communities to get into the game. Kathy Conway felt we should continue to fight it. The casinos are running our neighborhoods, undermining our values, that the governor is protecting them and that the neighborhoods should go down fighting. Her recent experience is that people are withdrawing from their signed contracts to purchase homes in the Pennsport neighborhood. Jeff has a meeting Friday, January 7 at 3:30 in Senator Farnese's office. Don Ackerman will accompany him if he can. Representatives from Pennsport and Whitman civics will also attend.

**Property Taxes:** Jeff circulated via email the response he received from Mr. Negrin of the Tax Assessment office. Negrin has not committed to a moratorium yet. DiCicco had asked for that moratorium in August 2009. Jeff had written a letter that was signed by all the civics in the First District (except Society Hill Civic).

The meeting was adjourned. Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Dilonardo, Recording Secretary

