

## QVNA Board Meeting Minutes

June 5, 2012

Board Members Present: Jeff Hornstein, Amy Shelanski, Bill Landy, Cindy Elliott, Jean Barr, Kathy Dilonardo, Michael Hauptman, Kim Maialetti, Rich Miller, Leslie Patterson-Tyler, Honey Pertnoy, Carla Puppini (Executive Director), Cathy Conway (emeritus)

Board Members Not Present: Brent Chavis

### 1. Approval of March Minutes

Corrections were proposed to the draft May Board meeting minutes.

A motion to approve the minutes, as amended, was made, seconded and approved.

### 2. President's Report

- a. Property Tax Initiative. President Jeff Hornstein reported that today was the last day of hearings on the Mayor's Actual Value Initiative, which will reportedly be implemented this year. The new rate will be as high as 1.7%. Taxes will be calculated as the certified market assessment times the millage rate. There will be a homestead exemption (exact amount unknown) and some relief for homeowners that have been in their homes 10 or more years and have seen a greater than threefold increase in the value of their homes due to gentrification of their neighborhood. Board member Kim Maialetti asked what the neighborhood coalition was doing to address AVI. Jeff said that all groups made calls and circulated petitions and letters. The coalition is to meet next week. Kim then asked how QVNA might impact the proceedings. Honey Pertnoy asked whether we could do another email blast and Jeff agreed that would be in order. The bills will go to the floor of the next City Council meeting on June 14<sup>th</sup>.
  
- b. Parking Lot. Jeff reported on a meeting several Board members had with attorney Stephen Frishberg on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Frishberg recommended that QVNA move forward with expanding the parking lot. Frishberg's written report will be circulated to the Board and discussed at the August retreat. Executive Director Carla Puppini reported that the initial parking facility cost about \$30,000 to open and has 90 spaces. There is a waiting list of about 30. The expansion would

add another 90 spaces. The Board also discussed conducting a membership drive to raise additional funds for various initiatives.

- c. Weccacoe Playground. The FunFest held on June 2<sup>nd</sup> was a big success. Kim sold additional tickets for the QVNA Phillies game and has only 28 left. Councilman Squilla announced that an additional \$270,000 would be available for renovation from the State. Jeff will be talking with Wells Fargo soon about making a contribution toward raising the final \$230,000 needed to proceed with the renovations.
- d. June General Meeting. Executive Vice President Amy Shelanski reported that she's been talking with Settlement Music School about providing a group to play for about 15 minutes at the June meeting. She's also talking with Pete's Sake about providing food. Honey Pertnoy reported that two representatives of Olde City would attend and talk about the success of its dog refuse stations, on which the QNVA initiative is based. She estimated they will need about 20 minutes for the presentation and Q&A follow-up.

### **3. Treasurer's Report**

Check details, Deposit Details, a Profit and Lost Statement and a Balance Sheet were circulated.

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

### **4. Executive Director Report**

Executive Director Carla Puppin reported that the Open House Tour held on May 19<sup>th</sup> was a successful event and QVNA cleared about \$1000 (same as last year). Twenty-eight guests prepaid and about half of the attendees were Queen Village walk-ins.

### **5. Committee Reports**

- a. Dogs. Honey Pertnoy reported that the Dog Committee budget for the refuse program is about \$5,000 for 10 new containers to be located throughout Queen Village. She provided a detailed breakdown of the costs. Committee co-chair Brent Chavis has lined up ten businesses or individuals who have agreed to

manage the containers. Maps of container locations and a mock-up of the containers will be presented at the June General Meeting.

- b. Schools and Youth. Leslie Patterson-Tyler reported that the 25 Nebinger students who are failing will go to the summer school program being held at Mother Bethel AME. The Committee plans to approach Wal-Mart and Staples for additional funding and/or supplies. The program will be a four-day week, five hours a day, for four weeks from July 9<sup>th</sup> until August 4<sup>th</sup>. Nebinger Principle Dr. Burnley is designing the curriculum. There will be two Nebinger teachers and two aides. The School District is providing no money for summer school or languages before high school.

The Committee may hold another canvassing initiative in the fall, rather than in June. There are a lot of post cards left from the May canvassing, so Leslie does not think significant funds will be needed for the fall canvas.

- c. Historic Preservation. Jean Barr reported that Cynthia Temple has left the Committee as co-chair. The co-chairs are now Jean and Amy Singh. A number of activities focused on the neighborhood are being undertaken: a historical novel, photographs of 'outdoor furniture' and oral histories.

- d. Public Relations/Media. Sale of the 28 remaining Phillies tickets is being handled by Nadine Lomakin. A 'Taste of Queen Village' subcommittee is being planned; Nadine and Bill Abraham will head this subcommittee. Rich Miller noted that the Abrahams want at least 25 people on the subcommittee before efforts are begun to plan the event. Rich also reported that a new QVNA logo design competition will be coming up. The committee plans to promote the competition on the web and through pamphlets. No date has been set, but a mailbox will be created for the electronic submission of design entries.

Kim said the committee would like to have a communications audit conducted by an outside entity to assess the way QVNA communicates with the public and the committee may request funds for this at a later date.

- e. Grants. Kathy Dilonardo reported that the Committee recently received two grant requests, which are under consideration.
  
- f. Zoning. Michael Hauptman reported that the Committee has not seen anything dramatic recently, but that the frequency of presentations has increased, indicating an increase in activity in the neighborhood. The Board discussed the suggestion that the results of each Zoning Committee meeting be published in the Crier. Upcoming issues are published on the QVNA website, usually two weeks before the meeting. Michael asked for a budget of \$250 for nameplates and related materials.
  
- g. Tree Tenders. Carla Puppin requested a budget of \$500 for one year to cover the cost of tools, mulch and related items to care for newly planted trees.

## **6. New Business.**

- a. August Board Retreat. The Board chose August 4<sup>th</sup> as the date for a retreat from approximately 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. It will be held at Weccacoe Community Center.
  
- b. Half-Way House. The Board discussed the proposed location of a 130 bed half-way house at 12<sup>th</sup> and Bainbridge Streets. The Hawthorne Neighborhood Association, where the house would be located, wants QVNA to join it in opposing the proposal. By consensus, the Board agreed to join the opposition.
  
- c. Weccacoe Renovations. Jeff noted that the renovations should include a historical marker to recognize Weccacoe as a former burial ground. He will meet with various entities to find out how much a ground scan would cost. This expense would come out of the Weccacoe renovation fund. Jeff will also be talking with the African American Museum and Pastor Mark Tyler of Mother Bethel AME to fashion a supported approach for identifying and commemorating the site. Bill Landy noted that many playgrounds are built over former burial grounds and suggested the Board research the approach(es) that were taken in those situations.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cindy Elliott  
Recording Secretary