MINUTES OF THE
QUEEN VILLAGE NEIGHBORS ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING

MAY 5, 2011
7:30 pm

In attendance were Board Members Keith Grube, Jeff Rush, Mike Hauptman, Richard Wolk, Walt Lowthian, Ted Warren, Bill Landy and Bill Stewart. Also in attendance was Executive Director Carla Puppin.

First there was a discussion about the Candidates Night that had been held at the Settlement School on April 21. All Board Members expressed the view that this was a very successful event.

Next the Minutes from the previous meeting of April 7, 2011 were reviewed. A motion was made to approve them, the motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Next Bill Landy presented the Treasurer’s Report. He noted that QVNA’s assets had increased to $138,704.58 as of April 30, 2011 and otherwise summarized the organization’s financial performance. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer’s Report. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Next there was a discussion about the parking lot revenue and some tax issues that have been raised by QVNA’s accountant. After much discussion it was decided that Carla would find the analysis done by QVNA’s accountant and provide it to the Board Members. There was also discussion about obtaining an opinion from an independent accountant in regard to the tax issues that have been raised and it was the general view of the Board Members that this would be a good idea.

Next Carla presented the Executive Director’s Report for April 2011. She reported that she would be out of the country from May 20 through June 9 and asked for a volunteer from the Board to respond to any urgent needs that might come in her absence. She also reported on the receipt of the DCED grant in the amount of $10,000.00 for a sidewalk cleaning program. She reported on the Tree vVitalize planting held on April 16 which went well. She also circulated among the Board Members a handout that describes the terms of those Board Members and Officers whose terms are expiring and states whether or not they can run for the same position at the next election.

Carla also reported that the response to the Group Energy Audit has been in excess of expectation in that 23 homeowners have volunteered. She reported on the recent sustainability forum that was well attended. She handed out fliers for the Queens Village Open House that she asked to be circulated in the community.

Next Jeff Rush reported on a joint meeting of the zoning and liquor license committees in response to the application of the Village Belle Restaurant on Front Street to operate a sidewalk
café. Jeff reported that all the neighbors who attended the meeting were supportive and that therefore the application was endorsed by both committees.

Next there was discussion about the possible changes to the zoning code and their impact on the role and composition of the Philadelphia Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Next Ted Warren reported on the status of the Forgotten Blocks development that is ongoing.

Next Mike Hauptman reported that the ribbon cutting on the Race Street Pier is scheduled to be held on the following Thursday and that shortly thereafter the Pier would be open to the public.

Next there was discussion about whether it would be a good idea to pursue an arrangement whereby homeowners with garages could use the space in front of their curb cuts for parking. After some discussion a motion was made to endorse this concept. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Next there was discussion about requests that are made from time to time by community groups to use QVNA’s tax-exempt status and ID number to apply for grants and other forms of assistance that can only be obtained by a tax-exempt entity. The Board members recognized the worthwhile nature of some of these requests and expressed their desire to consider assisting the community groups making such requests. However, it was also the consensus of the Board Members that QVNA’s Board should exercise sufficient supervision over the use of any funds applied for under QVNA’s name and tax I.D. number in order to assure that the funds are properly spent and that QVNA is adequately protected from associated liability. As a result a motion was made to consider such requests on a case-by-case basis but prior to QVNA’s allowing its tax I.D. number to be used for any such application, the community group making the request should appear before the QVNA Board, answers any questions that the QVNA Board may have, and agree to whatever conditions the QVNA Board might impose. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

At approximately 9 P.M. the meeting was adjourned.