

Queen Village Board Meeting minutes—November 6, 2009

Present: Richard Wolk, Ted Warren, Kathy Dilonardo, Ed Bell, Steve Schatz
Don Ackerman, Neville Vakharia

Not Present: Jeff Rush, Mike Hauptman, Andy Speizman, Walt Lowthian, Bill Landy

Minutes: A motion was made by Don to accept the minutes, was seconded by Ted and approved by the board.

Treasurer's Report: Ted moved and Kathy seconded that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. The board approved the motion.

Executive Director's Report:

Board Elections November 19: Reminder

Steve volunteered to help count the votes after the election. He is not running this time.

DCED Grant Status. Called Harrisburg 11/03/09. All Community Revitalization grants are on hold because of budget crisis. Also spoke with Mary Isaacson in Rep O'Brien's office. The \$5000 grant we submitted in January 09 for the sidewalk cleaning program is in the pipeline, but no funds are being released.

General Meetings—suggestion for January or February General Meeting: Invite Christine Knapp, of PennFuture to give update on accomplishments of the Next Great City campaign; Rep from the "311" one-call system would like to come speak; Repres. from ZipCar would like to make a presentation at a general meeting.

Since ZipCar is a for-profit business we did not feel it was appropriate to give them time at the General Meeting.

QV Tree Tenders We will be planting 27 trees on Sat. November 21, a good number of them on the 4th St between Christian and Washington Ave. We will be purchasing soil/mulch and using up TreeVitalize and Tree Tenders Restricted Funds category. Am requesting approval for an additional \$100 in case we need it.

Don so moved, Steve seconded it and the motion passed.

Christmas Party at Old Swede's Wed. Dec 16th –In terms of food, do we just purchase a plate of hoagies? Or do we also purchase one hot tray –pasta dish for example?

Cleanup crew sign up sheet is going around.

We passed a motion authorizing Carla to buy a platter of hoagies for the party.

Carla passed a sign-up sheet around so that **Board members signed-up for clean-up after the Holiday party.**

PhilaPlace Launch Party on Wed. Dec. 9 The launch of the interactive neighborhood history web site (Queen Village is one of the two prominent neighborhoods) will take place on Dec. 9th with Mayor Nutter at City Hall.

*The community room was used for 4 children's parties or baby showers in October.
End of Executive Director's Report*

Forgotten Blocks Committee: Ted and the committee did a walk around with Licenses and Inspection (L&I) on November 6. L&I will be sealing the last abandoned building.

November 20 is the deadline for the December *Crier*.

Web/Computer Development: The list identifying current Board members needs to be updated on the website. We will also put a note in the *Crier* to remind residents that the minutes are posted on the website, one month behind. There needs to be a change regarding the Noise Committee; they do not meet monthly, as currently stated on the website. In response to any noise complaints to the QVNA office, Steve Schatz contacts the appropriate city office regarding such complaints. **Carla will go through the website to determine what needs to be updated and pass that along to Neville who will make the changes.**

Liquor: There have been no recent requests. This is something we need to keep an eye on. The staffer in former Senator Fumo's office who notified us of any requests is now on Senator Farnese's staff. **Carla will double-check with him.**

Committee listings: The Mario Lanza Park dog area committee will be added to the list of committees. The QVNA representative to the South Street Head House Committee was updated from Ed Bell to Steve Schatz. Committees should forward copies of their minutes to Carla as meetings are held. **Carla is going to contact committees to remind them.**

We went over the list of tasks that Board members were assigned/volunteered to do in the last meeting. Ted reported that he had talked to L & I about the demolition of historic buildings it really doesn't come under their area of responsibility. **He will contact the Historical Commission to see what their responsibility is and how they suggest we address this issue.** Kathy asked Town Watch to walk around the Weccacoe Playground each time they are out walking. Kathy sent Jeff the address of the sidewalk closure in front of an inactive construction site on 2nd Street and Jeff followed up with the Councilman's office. The construction fence was moved back so that at least half of the sidewalk is available to pedestrians now. Kathy-The Mario Lanza Park dog area committee was scheduled but it had to be rescheduled. She is working on setting up the Grants Committee meeting so that the committee can report back to the board at the December meeting. Carla is working on the getting maps framed for the community room at Weccacoe. Richard has written an article for the *Crier* on the lights/stop signs at 2dn and Christian?

The Greening Grants Committee will report its recommendations at the December meeting so the recipients can be notified at the end of the year and use the winter to plan and purchase for project implementation over the 2010 growing season.

Other needs in Queen Village: We had a far-ranging discussion about using further available funds for other projects. Carla reminded everyone that QVNA conducted a survey "A Look into the Future" about four years ago. **All Board members should take a look at it.**

A suggestion was made that we give some thought to developing a Master Plan for Queen Village so that there is a comprehensive overview which identifies our resources, current needs/problems and community agreed upon solutions to address those problems.

Another suggestion was to focus on making QVNA a model sustainable community. We could organize Christmas Tree Recycling, #5 plastic recycling, leaf composting, etc. (We were the first to offer the non-profit Philly Car Share a parking place in the community so that cars were easily accessible to those who needed them—thus reducing the number of cars on the street.)

There is need to establish a Dog run in the community.

There was a suggestion that we learn more about the responsibilities of being a board member.

Carla will contact La Salle about the training available for board members and the costs.

Such training would be especially appropriate and a good investment after the election when the majority of the Board will be committed to two years.

Casinos: No recent changes. **Carla will find out from Jeff if he wrote the letters to Senator Farnese and Representative O'Brien requesting that we get copies of the reports Foxwoods provides to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) to meet the many deadlines that PGCB imposed on them.**

There was a discussion about some of the inaccurate emails that have been sent recently. We need to address this further if it continues.

The meeting was adjourned.

Kathy Dilonardo
Recording Secretary