

QVNA Board Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2012

Board Members Present: Jeff Hornstein, Amy Shelanski, Bill Landy, Cindy Elliott, Brent Chavis, Michael Hauptman, Rich Miller, Leslie Patterson-Tyler, Cathy Conway (emeritus)

Board Members Not Present: Kim Maialetti, Honey Pertnoy, Kathy Dilonardo; Exec. Director Carla Puppin

1. Approval of September Board Meeting Minutes

***A motion to approve the draft minutes, as amended, was made by Mike Hauptman, seconded by Leslie Patterson-Tyler, and approved by unanimous voice vote.**

2. Treasurer's Report. Bill Landy checked all reports against the accounts and finds all to be in order. There is \$95,700 in equity; \$34,000 in restricted funds. The September report does not take into account the \$10,000 in grants that have been promised to the Fulton Street Mural Project and the schools.

***Kim Maialetti moved that the treasurer's report be approved, Brent Chavis seconded the motion and the motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.**

3. President's Report.

- a. AVI. Amy Shelanski reported that her bank refused to refinance her house because of the 600%+ increase in estimated value resulting from the on-going citywide reassessment effort. Jeff Hornstein noted that Councilman Squilla has requested that everyone keep up the fight. 25,000 properties have been reassessed, but all appeals will likely be granted as the new assessments are being applied to the old tax rate of 9+%, while the new rate will be lower. There were more than 200 people at the AVI program held at Settlement. An October 29th meeting was being scheduled for the tax policy committee of the civics. Paul Levi is trying to set up a business and civic coalition. The problem with the

Homestead Exemption (which won't go into effect until 2014) is that it raises the proposed tax rate. There is currently a proposition to lower the wage tax to 3.1%, the property tax to 1.4% and do away with the net profit tax. David Cohen has proposed a special wage tax relief for the poor since 2006. Jeff proposed that QVNA hold a property tax clinic, having someone come in and help answer people's questions.

- b. **Parking Lot.** Jeff reported that ILMC is made up of political appointees and community representatives. It is a pass-through organization, meaning that whatever comes in gets distributed. Every association has veto power over every lease. At our meeting, Jeff heard rumblings that QVNA isn't paying enough. The south parking lot under consideration is federal property, so ILMC pays utilities, etc. South Street/Head House still wants to lease spots for valet use. ILMC will come back to QVNA and negotiate; Jeff expects to have more information in November.
- c. **Cook Family.** Leslie Patterson-Tyler reported that \$3000 was raised from Meredith. The Cook family came to Weccacoe and took some much-needed items. The remainder will be sold, with any left-overs being taken to Thrift for Aids. Nebinger School conducted a coat drive and donated one coat to the Cook family.
- d. **PDAC.** PDAC is moving. A lot of arrests have been made recently. There has been a lot of turnover at the mini-station since Lt. Bologna left. QVNA should continue its support of and communication with PDAC.
- e. **Weccacoe.** Twenty to thirty people were at a recent meeting, including representatives from the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, the Fairmount Park Conservancy, Water Department, Parks and Recreation and Councilman Squilla. PHS has to review plans and we'll know the timetable for the project after that. A \$250,000 grant announced by Squilla has been applied for, but not yet granted. The project should start in the late spring, 2013. Duncan Spencer has taken over from Walt Lothian. There will be a fund-raising effort for the building; we still need \$100,000 to \$200,000 more.

- 4. Old Business.** The Board considered the 2011 Fiscal Sponsorship resolution, which was passed by the then-current Board. No fee has ever been collected by QVNA. Board members noted that the Red Cross takes a 10% fee; universities take up to 50%. Bill Landy suggested a 2.5% fee, that could be waived on a case-by-case basis. Jeff suggested that we set a limit - that no fee would be charged below X amount. Rich Miller proposed that no fee be charged for any granted under \$5,000. Amy Shelanski asked how much extra work Carla has from administering

these funds and whether she should receive additional compensation. Jeff noted that the first question is whether QVNA should charge a fee at all. Amy proposed that we ask Carla how much extra work she does. Jeff proposed that we also find out if other civic organization charge a fee.

***Rich Miller moved that the issue be tabled for the time being, Amy Shelanski seconded and the motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.**

5. New Business.

a. **QVK9.** Sean Mellody, co-chair of QVK9 made a presentation and provided a handout describing the organization and its goals. QVK9 asks that QVNA sponsor the organization for its fund-raising efforts. Jeff asked that QVK9 share its email list and/or encourage its members to become involved in QVNA.

*Amy Shelanski moved that QVNA approve QVK9's sponsorship request, Brent Chavis seconded and the motion was approved by voice vote by all members present, except for Rich Miller, who abstained.

b. **Email Voting.** The April, 2008 resolution regarding Board voting via email, as updated, was circulated and discussed. Point 6 is to be revised to require the vote of at least 3 executive officers, but the vote may be yea or nay. Mike Hauptman suggested that, when enough votes have been received, the voting stops. It was agreed that a special email header would be used to call attention to the vote request. Point 5 will be changed to require Board response within 2 days. There was a question raised about whether a majority vote is required. The amended resolution is attached.

***Mike Hauptman moved to approve the resolution as amended, Bill Landy seconded and the resolution was approved by unanimous voice vote.**

c. **Jeff Rush Fund.** We need a committee to decide how to use the funds appropriately.

d. **October General Meeting.** CDAC will present and there will be a segment on fire safety. Village Belle will be approached about providing refreshments.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Elliott
Recording Secretary

6. Pre-Meeting Activity.

a. On October 1st, Jeff circulated an email asking if there were any objections to reimbursing Friends of Bainbridge Green \$200 for producing promotional materials.

***Replying “no objection” to the expenditure by email: Jeff Hornstein, Amy Shelanski, Cindy Elliott, Kathy Dilonardo and Michael Hauptman.**

No email reply received: Brent Chavis, Bill Landy, Kim Maialetti, Rich Miller, Leslie Patterson-Tyler and Honey Pertnoy.

b. On 4th, Jeff circulated an email asking if there were any objections to donating \$500 to the Cook family, whose house was destroyed by fire on October 3rd.

***Replying “no objection” to the expenditure by email: Jeff Hornstein, Cindy Elliott, Michael Hauptman, Bill Landy, Kim Maialetti and Honey Pertnoy.**

No email reply received: Amy Shelanski, Brent Chavis, Kathy Dilondardo, Bill Landy, Rich Miller and Leslie Patterson-Tyler.

Draft Resolution Concerning Specially Scheduled and E-mail Votes.

It is hereby resolved by the board of the Queen Village Neighbor's Association:

- 1) That board votes will normally be held at regularly scheduled monthly meetings.
- 2) That members of the board can call for votes on urgent matters that cannot wait for the regularly scheduled meeting either at specially scheduled meetings or by e-mail as long as a quorum of board members participate.
- 3) That requests for such votes be presented to the president of the Association for circulation to the board via email or other electronic means, such as Doodle.
- 4) That board members can vote yes or no on the proposed resolution or can vote to table the resolution to the next regularly scheduled board meeting.
- 5) That board members agree to respond by e-mail to any specially scheduled votes within 2 days.
- 6) That in order for an email vote to pass, at least 3 executive officers must vote.
- 7) That all e-mail votes shall be tallied by the executive director and transmitted to members of the board and shall be read into the minutes by the secretary or his/her designee at the next scheduled board meeting.