

**UPPER MERION BOARD OF COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE  
FEBRUARY 21, 2019 – REORGANIZATION MEETING**

The Board of Community Assistance of Upper Merion Township met for its Reorganization Meeting on Thursday, February 21, 2019 in the Township Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm followed by a Pledge of Allegiance.

NEW BUSINESS:

Board of Community Assistance Reorganization

Mrs. Dan-Sardiñas nominated David Karen as Temporary Chairman of the Board of Community Assistance. None opposed. Motion to appoint Mr. Karen as Temporary Chairman was approved 3-0.

Mr. Karen opened the floor for nomination for Chairman of the Board of Community Assistance for 2019.

It was moved by Mrs. Dan-Sardiñas, seconded by Mr. Karen, all voting “Aye” to appoint Mr. Brett Montich as Chairperson of the Board of Community Assistance. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

Mr. Montich opened the floor for nomination for Vice Chairperson of the Board of Community Assistance.

It was moved by Mr. Karen, seconded by Mr. Montich, all voting “Aye” to appoint Mrs. Dan-Sardiñas as Vice Chairperson of the Board of Community Assistance. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

Roll Call:

Present were: Brett Montich, Chairperson, Lydia Dan-Sardiñas, Vice Chairperson; David Zerfing, Valley Forge Casino Resort Representative; David Karen, BCA Member, and Angela Caramenico, Assistant to Township Manager.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

It was moved by Mrs. Dan-Sardiñas, seconded by Mr. Zerfing to approve the October 22, 2018 Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion passed, 3-0, with one abstention by Mr. Karen.

Technical Schools and Eligibility

Mr. Montich noted that he was asked by member of the UM School Board if Technical Schools were eligible for BCA grants. Mrs. Dan-Sardiñas pointed out that a previous scholarship recipient went to a Technical School. The Board unanimously agreed that Technical Schools are eligible for BCA grants.

A discussion then ensued on accreditation of school. The Board decided to review the applications as they come in and on a case by case basis.

### Meeting Dates for 2019

The Board reviewed and discussed the below list of upcoming meeting dates:

- 2/21 - 7:00 pm – Reorganization Meeting (Full BCA to attend)
- 2/21 - 7:30 pm – Presentation to Board of Supervisors (David K to do presentation)
- 4/4 - 5:30 pm – BCA meeting to review applications (Full BCA to attend)
- 4/11- 5:30 pm – BCA meeting to review applications (Full BCA to attend)
- 4/11- 8:00 pm – Joint Meeting with Board of Supervisors (Full BCA; Chairman to give update to Board)
- 5/23 -7:30 pm – Award Recommendations to Board of Supervisors (Lydia to do presentation)
- 6/5 - 5:30 pm - Awards Reception at VFC
- 6/7 - 9:45 am - Ivy Day at UM High School (David Z. to attend)

The Board concurred that all organization applications would be reviewed on April 4<sup>th</sup>, and all scholarship applications would be reviewed on 4/11/19. The hope is to have all reviews completed by April 11<sup>th</sup>, however, a tentative date of April 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm was set in case the need arises for further review of applications. The Board also concurred that if no further review is needed, the goal is to make award recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on April 25, 2019. Another meeting will be scheduled in the Fall.

### 2019 BCA funds

Ms. Caramenico advised that Ms. Slook met with the Board of Supervisors Chair and that the Chairman requested a brief meeting with Dave Zerfing on Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 2 pm.at the Township concerning additional funds to be allocated to the BCA due to the increase in slots at the casino as per the agreement between the Township and the Valley Forge Casino. Mr. Zerfing confirmed that he would attend the meeting on behalf of the Casino.

### Additional Business:

Nearon - Ms. Caramenico referred to an email from Ms. Nearon concerning a proposed BCA application for Super T' Mast Cell Foundation. A discussion ensued and the Board concurred that a response should be that that the BCA welcomes all grant applications but the criteria is that the project/grant should benefit Upper Merion Township.

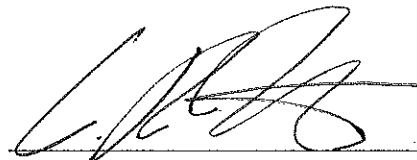
Briggs - Mr. Montich referred to an email from Ms. Robyn Briggs about her concern that BCA scholarships can disqualify students from receiving financial aid, and she was advocating that the BCA monies be disbursed directly to the students instead of to the school, so that it would not impact other scholarships. A vote was taken, and the BCA unanimously concurred that the policy should stay as is and that all BCA scholarship monies should continue to go directly to the college/university and not to the student. Mr. Karen stated he would reach out to Mrs. Briggs and convey the Board's feelings.

KOP Historical Society - Mrs. Dan-Sardiñas stated she spoke with the Chair of the KOP Historical Society concerning their BCA grant from a few years ago. The grant was for making booklets and doing signage. The booklets were done, however, the signs were not done due to issues finding a Foundry. She added that his concern was if should hold on to the money until the project gets completed or return it. Mrs. Dan-Sardiñas recommended that the Historical Society hold on to the money, as Mr. Sardiñas is in the process of finding a solution. Mrs. Dan-Sardiñas also noted that the Historical Society wants to submit a grant application this year. After some discussion, the Board concurred this was an extenuating circumstance and that the Historical Society should hold onto the funds for the signage project.

Prussions - Mr. Montich advised that he spoke with the Secretary of the Prussions (Soccer Club) and they promised they would send their proposal for the bathroom renovations so that they can unlock their conditional grant from last year.

Adjournment.

It was moved by Mr. Karen, seconded by Mrs. Dan-Sardiñas, all voting "Aye" to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.



Brett Montich, Chairperson  
Board of Community Assistance

apc  
Minutes Approved:  
Minutes Entered: