

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE  
REORGANIZATION METING  
JANUARY 29, 2015

The Board of Community Assistance of Upper Merion Township met for its reorganization meeting on Thursday, January 29, 2015 in the Township Building. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m., followed by a pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present were: Supervisor Greg Waks, Lydia Dan Sardinias, Scott Milner, Robyn Briggs, Mike Bowman, President and CEO, Valley Forge Casino Resort (VFCR); Dave Kraynik, Township Manager; Sally Slook, Assistant Township Manager; Angela Caramenico, Assistant to the Township Manager. Ira Lubert, VFCR, was absent.

NEW BUSINESS:

BOARD OF COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE REORGANIZATION FOR 2015

It was moved by Ms. Dan Sardinias, seconded by Mrs. Briggs, all voting "Aye" to appoint Mr. Kraynik as Temporary Chairman. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

Mr. Kraynik opened the floor for nomination for Chairman of the BCA.

It was moved by Ms. Dan Sardinias, seconded by Mr. Bowman, all voting "Aye" to appoint Mr. Milner as Chairman of the Board of Community Assistance. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

Mr. Milner opened the floor for nomination for Vice Chairperson of the BCA.

It was moved by Ms. Dan Sardinias, seconded by Mr. Bowman, all voting "Aye" to appoint Mrs. Briggs as Vice Chairperson of the Board of Community Assistance. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

ESTABLISHMENT OF MEETING DATE:

After a brief discussion, it was agreed that the next meeting of the BCA would be held on Wednesday, March 11 at 5 p.m. in the Board Room. The meeting dates for the remainder of the year will be decided at the next BCA meeting. It was also agreed that the first part of the meeting agenda for the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting would include organization audits no longer than 15 minutes each to review what they have accomplished as part of the grant award. The

organizations mentioned for the audit included Elmwood Park Zoo, Skateboard Park, Communities in Motion and possibly a sports organization.

A discussion followed about what the organizations would be asked to provide during their audit and what the BCA is looking to achieve. It was determined the audit will serve to provide due diligence and comply with the spirit of the BCA policy.

Mr. Milner asked if anyone had any general comments about the letter going out to applicants. Mrs. Briggs commented the letter should be specific about volunteer service and emphasized that it is future service and not something that has already been completed. Mr. Milner noted there were some excellent accomplishments that were presented at the last awards ceremony and this should be continued this year.

#### MEETING MINUTES:

It was moved by Mrs. Briggs, seconded by Mr. Bowman, all voting "Aye" to approve the meeting minutes of November 12, 2014. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

#### MARKETING OF APPLICATION PROCESS:

Mr. Milner indicated the marketing of the application process last year was successful in that it more than tripled the number of applications. He mentioned Supervisor Waks and Mrs. Briggs will have an opportunity to speak to the school board about the application process next week at the school board meeting. Because of mixed reactions about the CTY calls that were made to the community about the application deadline it was the consensus this method of communication should be dropped this year. It was agreed Mr. Milner's presentation before the Board of Supervisors at their business meeting was effective, and it was decided to have a BCA presentation at the February 26<sup>th</sup> business meeting with Ms. Dan Sardinas providing a slide presentation. Mrs. Briggs suggested having an article about prior grant awards with an appropriate picture in the *Courier* to advertise the deadline for applications. The Public Information Officer will use the resources of her office to publicize as well. Ms. Dan Sardinas said she would explain volunteer hours should involve something new and not previous service.

Mr. Waks noted last year all the applications came in toward the end of the application process right before the March 15<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Ms. Dan Sardinas noted last year half the students did not know the scholarship announcements would be made at the Board of Supervisors business meeting. She recommended this should be stressed and also a presence is needed with the school board.

Mr. Milner mentioned a discussion is needed about the grant treatment of students applying to "for profit" secondary universities and how these applications should be handled.

Ms. Dan Sardinias asked about the role of the Township Foundation and how it would interact with the BCA. Mr. Kraynik responded the foundation issues have not been worked out as yet. He said there can be up to seven members of the Foundation, five are supervisors and two are citizen representatives.

Mr. Bowman asked if it has been decided there should be one big scholarship named after a prominent individual that could be awarded each year.

A discussion followed during which names were suggested for the special scholarship. While the name of the scholarship has yet to be determined, it was the consensus it should be a \$10,000 scholarship.

Mrs. Briggs suggested having a slide show at the awards ceremony featuring a photo of the awardee as they are presented with the award. Mr. Bowman said the casino has all the capabilities for the visual display. Mrs. Briggs said it would also be effective if the slide presentation at the Board of Supervisors business meeting would have photos of examples of what was done in year one and year two with accompanying statistics and also what the BCA goal is for this year, including the special \$10,000 scholarship.

Mr. Milner asked for a motion so that the \$10,000 scholarship could be announced at the school board meeting on Monday.

BCA Action:

It was moved by Ms. Dan Sardinias, seconded by Mr. Bowman, all voting "Aye" to create a single \$10,000 scholarship with the name to be determined by the March meeting. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

With regard to the naming of the scholarship, it was decided to poll the Board of Supervisors for their thoughts.

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Mrs. Briggs, seconded by Mr. Bowman to adjourn the meeting at 5:29 p.m. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.



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DAVID G. KRAYNIK  
TOWNSHIP MANAGER

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Minutes Approved: 3/11/15  
Minutes Entered: 3/12/15