



UPCOMING MEETING DATES (2019)

- Saturday, January 12, 10:00 am
- Thursday, March 14, 7:00 pm
- Thursday, May 9, 7:00 pm
- Thursday, July 11, 7:00 pm
- Thursday, September 12, 7:00 pm
- Thursday, November 14, 7:00 pm

*All Meetings will be held in the WHCP Meeting Room
516 Race Street, Cambridge, MD 21613*

All CAN Board meetings are open to the public. Everyone interested in CAN is invited to attend.

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CURRENT LINKS:

- CAN Executive Committee Meeting Minutes - October 4, 2018
<https://cambridgecan.org/category/news/can-news/>
- Commissioner’s Corner –
 - Ward 1: Cambridge Matters: Messages from Commissioner Steve Rideout
<https://cambridgecan.org/category/news/commissioner-posts/>

CAN invites articles and messages from all City Council Commissioners for its Newsletter and Website.

- CAN’s Website – <https://cambridgecan.org>
- CAN on FaceBook – <https://www.facebook.com/CambridgeAssociationofNeighborhoods/>
- Contact CAN – CambridgeCAN@yahoo.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - COME ON DOWN !!

As they say on TV, “Come on down” and join us this Saturday, January 12, at WHCP radio – 512 Race St at 10am for our **Annual CAN Election and Business Meeting**.

In addition to holding elections for Board Members, the topic of discussion will center around CAN’s plans for the new year. We need your input so that the goals of our organization reflect the needs and wants of the membership.

As most of you know, CAN has a split personality – one side focuses on housing issues to protect your home values – such as code enforcement and zoning issues, and the other side focuses on social issues – such as getting to know your neighbors through events like the CAN JAM, ice cream socials, neighbor clean ups, and leading a hand to neighbors in need.

At the January 12th meeting, we will be discussing what we want to accomplish in 2019, and we would like an open discussion with all CAN members to ensure that the Board does not become too removed from what the general membership wants. So come on down and give us your ideas.

Membership in CAN is \$20 per household group and \$15 for individuals. The money goes towards social events, clean ups, helping neighbors and minor operational expenses. Please support us so that we can support the community.

- *Chuck McFadden, President, CAN*

CAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

Per the Bylaws of the Cambridge Association of Neighborhoods (Article VIII, Section 1, *see CAN website at <https://cambridgecan.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/CAN-Bylaws-Final.pdf>*), CAN Vice-President Judd Vickers chaired a Nominating Committee (consisting of Janet Boss, Roman Jesien, and Tom Puglisi) to identify candidates to fill upcoming Board of Director vacancies. The Committee met on November 1, 2018, and presented a preliminary slate of nominees at the November 10 CAN meeting.

Current Board Members Chuck McFadden (President), Mary Ellen Jesien (Treasurer), Michelle Barnes (Membership Director), Dave Thatcher, and Roman Jesien (whose terms expire in January 2019) agreed to be nominated for another 2-year term. Frank Cooke decided not to run for re-election, and we’d like to extend our thanks to Frank for his service.

An email was circulated to all CAN members on December 4, 2018, announcing the candidates and calling for additional nominations. No additional nominations were received.

CAN members will vote on candidates at the January 12 meeting in accordance with the CAN Bylaws. Per the Bylaws, absentee votes will be accepted if submitted to the CAN Secretary seven (7) days in advance of the meeting (Article VIII, Section 1 and Article IV, Section 3).

Nominees are as follows:

- President, Chuck McFadden
- Treasurer, Mary Ellen Jesien
- Membership Director, Michelle Barnes
- Director, Roman Jesien
- Director, Dave Thatcher

The following Board members will be up for re-election in January 2020:

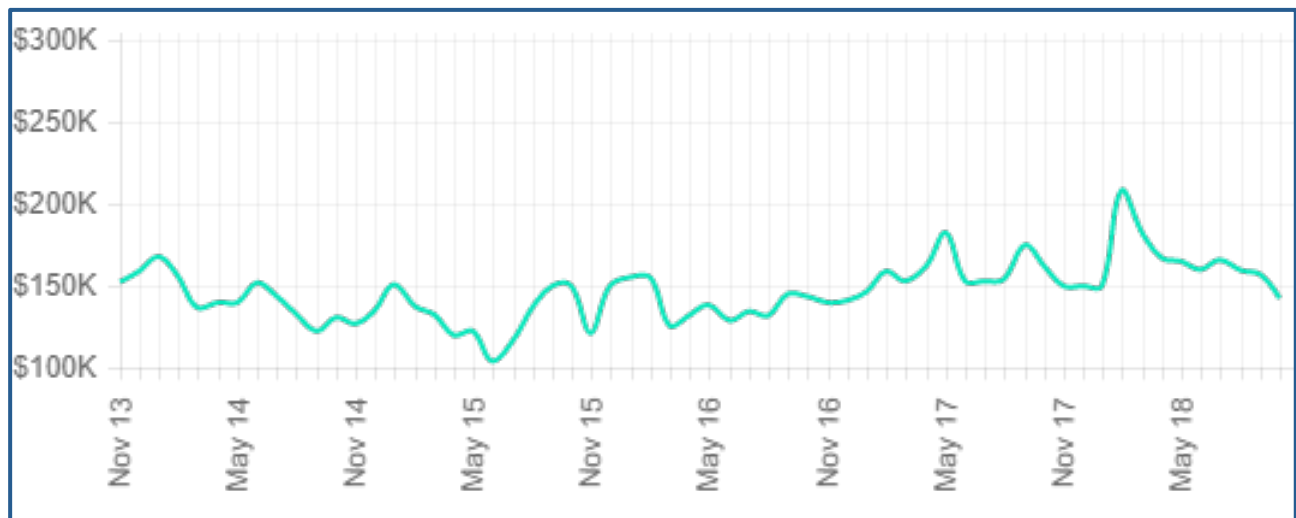
- Vice President, Judd Vickers, 2018 – 2020
 - Secretary, Tom Puglisi, 2018 – 2020
 - Director, Greg Boss, 2018 – 2020
 - Director, Sharon Smith, 2018 – 2020
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CAMBRIDGE REAL ESTATE TRENDS

Sales: Currently, there are about 129 homes for sale in the Cambridge area. They include 105 single family homes, 18 condos and townhomes, and 6 foreclosures. The average time on the market before sale is about 120 days. In December, according to Realtor.com, 11 single family homes and 2 condo sales were completed, varying in price from \$430,000 to \$35,000. They are:

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1409 School St, \$280K | 111 Sailors Ln, \$155K | 5464 Ragged Point Rd, \$90K |
| 3306 Indianbone Rd, \$173K | 1037 Hudson Rd, \$226.5K | 400 Regulator Dr S, \$239.9K |
| 610 Water St, \$250K | 6 Hillcrest Dr, \$70k | 114 West End Ave, \$35K |
| 5554 Bonnie Brook Rd, \$135K | 804 Seabreeze Rd, \$205K | 5380 Casson Neck Rd, \$430K |
| 2700 Willow Oak Dr #306D, \$338K | | |

Median Sales Price: Given the relatively small number of sales, median sales prices can vary quite a bit from month to month. With this in mind, this graph shows the median sales price trend over the last five years for the Cambridge area (source: Trulia). Since November, 2013, monthly median sales prices have been as high as \$208,000 in February of 2018, and as low as \$104,250 in June of 2015. For October (the most recent data available), 2018, the median sales price was \$142,500, down 5% from the year earlier price in October 2017.



Home Values: Zillow estimates the median home values (not sales prices) over time. According to a Zillow report, the median home value in Cambridge dropped about \$1000, to \$133,500 from their estimate two months earlier. However, their estimate of Cambridge home values has gone up 1.8% over the past year and Zillow predicts they will rise 3.8% over the next year, a slight decline from their previous estimate of 4.2%. The median sales price of homes currently listed in Cambridge is \$246,990.

Energy Saving Programs and Rebates: Now that winter has arrived, home heating costs can be a serious drain on the family budget. Here are some resources you may want to check out to lower those costs.

Quick Home Energy Check-Up Program from Delmarva: A Quick Home Energy Check-up is a fast, easy way to reduce energy use in your home and save money. This program is provided at no additional cost to your existing Delmarva Power Service.

During a Quick Home Energy Check-up, a trained Energy Analyst will:

- Assess your home's energy use
- Recommend energy-saving improvements
- Help you start saving right away by installing energy-saving products at no cost.

Products may include:

- Light emitting diode (LED) light bulbs
- Pipe wrap for your electric hot water heater
- ShowerStart™ showerhead adapter
- Efficient-flow showerheads
- Faucet aerators
- Power strips

To find out more about how the Quick Home Energy Check-Up program works, [CLICK HERE](#), or go to <https://homeenergysavings.delmarva.com/quick-home-energy-check-up-program>. To request an appointment, [CLICK HERE](#), or go to <https://homeenergysavings.delmarva.com/appointment-request>, or call 1-866-353-5799.

Entire Home Energy Performance Evaluation – an ENERGY STAR® Program: You can save on your energy costs and increase the comfort of your home. You can do both — and receive rebates up to \$7,500 — by participating in the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program.

Through this program, a specially trained Participating Contractor will come to your home and:

- Perform a comprehensive Home Energy Assessment, typically valued at \$400, for only \$100. See [Home Energy Assessment \(CLICK HERE\)](#), or go to <https://homeenergysavings.delmarva.com/home-performance-with-energy-star-program/overview/whole-house-approach>,
- Install several simple measures at no additional cost to help you to start saving energy immediately. This may include LED bulbs, water heater pipe wrap(s), ShowerStart™ showerhead adapters, efficient-flow showerheads, faucet aerators and power strips.
- Recommend improvements and [available rebates \(CLICK HERE\)](#) or go to <https://homeenergysavings.delmarva.com/home-performance-with-energy-star-program/overview/rebates>

- Provide you with a detailed report on the potential energy savings you can enjoy by making the recommended improvements.
- To [find a specially trained Participating Contractor in our area, CLICK HERE](#), or go to <https://homeenergysavings.delmarva.com/home-performance-with-energy-star-program/overview/participating-contractors>.

Income Eligible Energy Efficiency Program: Delmarva participates in EmPower Maryland’s Low-Income Eligible Energy Efficiency Program (LIEEP), which helps low income households address their energy efficiency needs at no cost. For information on the Low Income Energy Efficiency Program, administered by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, visit <https://homeenergysavings.delmarva.com/income-eligible-energy-efficiency-program> and/or go to www.mdhousing.org/empower or call 1-855-583-8976.

- Martha & Fred Phillips-Patrick

NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENTS

Facade Improvement Program: Based upon a \$15,000 limit, Cambridge residential owner-occupied properties are eligible to receive up to 50% – or \$7,500 — for qualified projects. Businesses can also receive 50% or up to \$7,500 for qualifying projects. All eligible facade improvement projects are funded on a reimbursable basis after being pre-approved on a first come, first serve basis.

Find out more about the program by reading the Residential and Commercial fact sheets. It's easy to apply, and you can find more information at <https://www.choosecambridge.com/319/Facade-Improvement-Program> and <https://www.choosecambridge.com/DocumentCenter/View/977/Fact-SheetResidential-Facade-2018?bidId=>.

Crime Reports: The Cambridge Police Department provides a very detailed map of recent crimes and where they occurred at <http://www.communitycrimemap.com/?address=CambridgeMD>. The statistics for October include 27 thefts, 13 residential burglaries, and 14 other crimes.

Revised 2018 Cambridge Historic District Design Guidelines: “To accomplish the goal of preserving historical heritage, the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) (<http://md-cambridge.civicplus.com/206/Historic-Preservation-Commission>) is required to review and issue Certificates of Appropriateness (COA's) for all exterior alterations to property in Cambridge’s historic district, including alterations that cannot be seen from the street or water based on Guidelines adopted by the City. This includes restoration, rehabilitation, new construction, renovations, and major landscaping as well as replacing building components, such as roofs, doors, windows, porches, railings, and curb cuts.”

To expedite the approval process, the HPC recently revised its guidelines. “In general, the revised *2018 Cambridge Historic District Design Guidelines* can be summed up as follows: preserve and maintain historic elements; if they need repair, use in-kind materials; if they need replacement, use in-kind materials if possible or substitute /synthetic materials if in-kind materials are not available or prohibitively expensive.”

“The streamlining of the process, with increased administrative reviews, project coordination between Staff and contractors, and more clarity in the process, should allow the HPC approval process to become more efficient and be regarded as an asset to investing in the Historic District rather than a hindrance to the desire of acquiring and restoring historic homes.” The 2018 Guidelines are available at <https://www.choosecambridge.com/DocumentCenter/View/1648/A1-2018-Cambridge-Historic-District-Design-Guidelines-Part-1>, with guidance as to how to apply for a COA Additional information, including a Summary of the Guidelines (Appendix A), a list of Additional (substitute) Materials, and an Administrative Review Chart are provided at <http://md-cambridge.civicplus.com/206/Historic-Preservation-Commission>.

- Martha & Fred Phillips-Patrick

CAN's MISSION & MEMBERSHIP

The Cambridge Association of Neighborhoods (CAN) fosters neighborhood cohesion and community involvement to (a) enhance the quality of community life for all residents of Cambridge through community events, social activities, and neighborly assistance; and (b) protect and enhance the value of properties in Cambridge by improving building and zoning codes, supporting adherence to those codes, and engaging constructively with City Government, including the Historic Preservation Commission. CAN welcomes members from **any and all Cambridge neighborhoods** who are interested in organizing and working together, building a diverse membership reflecting the diversity of Cambridge residents. Membership information is available on the CAN website at <https://cambridgecan.org/join-can/>

- **CAN's Website** – <https://cambridgecan.org>
 - **CAN on FaceBook** – <https://www.facebook.com/CambridgeAssociationofNeighborhoods/>
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CAN HOUSING QUALITY COMMITTEE - PLANNING AND ZONING ISSUES

As part of its mission, the Housing Quality Committee attends Planning Commission meetings to monitor zoning related issues and reports the information to the Board and Membership. Commission meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month, at City Council Chambers, beginning at 6 pm and lasting about 2 hours. Volunteers attend one to three Commission meetings per year and provide notes summarizing the meeting. *Please contact Judd Vickers at judd.vickers@gmail.com or 410-228-5863 to volunteer.*

CAN NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – SOCIAL EVENTS & 'NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS'

"Neighborhoods" are defined by neighbors willing to work together to address neighborhood concerns. "Neighborhood Captains" organize activities through which people get to know their neighbors, identify concerns, and work together to address those concerns by fostering small neighborhood social events and "neighbor-helping-neighbor" activities. The **Social Events Subcommittee** organizes larger, community-wide events. *Contact Chuck McFadden at Ragtime31@gmail.com or CambridgeCAN@yahoo.com to volunteer.*

CAN COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE -- WRITERS NEEDED

CAN'S Communications Committee needs **writers** and photographers to develop articles about CAN and its activities, get them published in local newspapers, and have them promoted by local media

Please contact Tom Puglisi at tom.puglisi@comcast.net or CambridgeCAN@yahoo.com to volunteer.

COMMUNITY NEWS – COOPERATING COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

MIDSHORE MEALS TIL MONDAY

Mid Shore Meals 'til Monday sends food home over the weekends all year round for nearly 250 food-insecure children in Dorchester County. During these summer months, we provide food to children attending summer school at all elementary schools, the Maces Lane STEM program, the Empowerment Center (Flagg Camp), the Judy Center, and New Beginnings, as well as children whose parents are counseled at Clearview Professional Center. For additional information, please visit our Facebook page or our website at

<http://www.Midshoremealstilmonday.org>, or call Leslie Bishop, Director, at 703 371-5191.



NATHAN OF DORCHESTER

The Skipjack Nathan of Dorchester sails May through October on the beautiful Choptank River from historic Cambridge. The Nathan was commissioned on July 4, 1994. Funded by contributors and built by volunteers, the Nathan was built to preserve the wooden boat building skills and maritime heritage of the region. She was the last Skipjack to be built as an oyster dredge boat. The Nathan is always on the lookout for experienced volunteers and licensed Captains. For information call 410-228-7141, access our website at www.skipjack-nathan.org, or email us at info@skipjack-nathan.org.

SHORERIVERS / CHOPTANK RIVERKEEPER

ShoreRivers is taking its water quality monitoring data to the next level with its RiverWatch platform, which allows the public to see grades for the sampling stations as data are collected throughout the sampling season. Read more about the Choptank at <https://www.shorerivers.org/choptank>.