

**CAMBRIDGE ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOODS**

**UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS**

***All Board Meetings will be held at 7:00 pm in the WHCP Meeting Room  
516 Race Street, Cambridge, MD 21613***

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Thursday, May 14, 2020

Thursday, July 9, 2020

Thursday, September 10, 2020

Thursday, November 12, 2020

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**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
JANUARY 29, 2020**

**MINUTES**

**Executive Committee Members Present:** Chuck McFadden (President), Roman Jesien (Vice President), Mary Ellen Jesien (Treasurer) Tom Puglisi (Secretary)i, and Michelle Barnes (Membership Director), constituting a quorum of the Executive Committee with 5 of 5 members present.

**Board Members Absent:** NA

**Board Members Present:** Rick Klepfer, Beth Kline, Sharon Smith, and Jane Weeks.

1. **Opening Comments.** CAN President Chuck McFadden opened the meeting at 6:35 pm at 200 Belvedere Street in Cambridge, MD. Chuck welcomed new Board members and explained that the CAN Executive Committee is made up of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Membership Director. The Executive Committee is charged with developing recommendations to the Board of Directors for action. All Board members are invited to attend Executive Committee meetings, although only Executive Committee members may vote.
  
2. **CAN Committee Involvement.** Chuck explained that the CAN Bylaws provide for the following committees in addition to the Executive Committee:
  - a. The Nominating Committee, which is chaired by the Vice President and includes at least three other voting members of CAN.

- b. The Communications Committee, which is chaired by the Secretary and includes the website, newsletter, email, and other media functions. All official CAN correspondence and messaging must go through the Committee Chair.
- c. The Housing Quality Committee deals with zoning regulations, housing code enforcement, neighborhood safety, the Historic District, and any other matters related to the improvement of housing and the safety of Cambridge residents.
- d. The Neighborhood Development Committee is responsible for community-wide social events, welcoming programs, charity and youth sponsorship activities, and any other activities related to improving social and cooperative programs in the Community.

Chuck requested that Board members identify functions for which they are willing to volunteer and noted that volunteers are especially needed to monitor housing quality, zoning, and code enforcement, as Judd Vickers and Greg Boss are no longer Board members. Greg has collected landlord and property data indicating that certain owners of rental properties are receiving city services disproportionate to the taxes they pay. Roman Jesien and Sharon Smith expressed interest in housing and code enforcement issues.

Tom Puglisi, Mary Ellen Jesien, and Michelle Barnes were tasked with developing a written procedure for tracking membership. Rick Klepfer indicated that he is willing to write articles for local newspapers; Beth Kline expressed an interest in membership expansion; and Roman Jesien volunteered to liaison with community clean-up projects. Rick also volunteered to develop a CAN statement on the Mill St. School property, and Beth also volunteered to liaison with the Empowerment Center to identify ways in which CAN could support their programs. Chuck indicated that Dave Thatcher is developing a proposal on leaf collection. It was suggested that a volunteer is needed to write a paragraph describing the benefits of joining and paying dues to CAN (e.g., a collective voice in addressing city government, monitoring housing and zoning issues, social functions).

3. **Code Enforcement.** Chuck described the challenges being faced by the new Cambridge Building Safety Services and Code Enforcement Director, Susan Webb. Ms. Webb has worked in code enforcement for 24 years and most recently worked in Salisbury. In her presentation at the January CAN meeting, Ms. Webb observed that she has seen in Cambridge some of the most deplorable housing conditions that she has ever encountered. She indicated that Salisbury has an aggressive code enforcement program, and her goal is to develop a rigorous, but reasonable, code enforcement system in Cambridge. Chuck stressed how important it is for CAN to support Ms. Webb's efforts as strongly as possible.

4. **City Manager Meeting.** Chuck announced that he is meeting with the City Manager on Friday, February 7, to discuss (a) support for Susan Webb; (b) the rules for the City election on October 17, 2020; and (c) employee benefits for City Council members. Chuck has been appointed to the Committee established by the City Council to examine the benefits question, beginning with its first meeting on February 10.
5. **Board/Member Meetings.** It has been suggested that Saturday morning CAN meetings might attract more weekend residents than the current Thursday evening meetings. It was noted that attendance was poor when we held Saturday meetings in the past and that Saturday meetings conflict with many other activities. It was the consensus to retain our Thursday meeting schedule at the radio station for the coming year. The radio station is a desirable location because it borders several neighborhoods.

Chuck suggested that we invite Carol Richardson, the new Cambridge City Development Director to speak at the next Board/Member meeting. He also discussed the new "Groove City" documentary film that has recently been produced and suggested that a showing for CAN members might be desirable. He also suggested that additional discussion of the Cambridge Waterfront Development project is needed, with emphasis on attracting projects/businesses that will provide good paying jobs, coax people off Route 50, and at bring economic growth to Cambridge.

6. **Adjournment.** Tom Puglisi made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Sharon Smith. Upon unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.