**CAMBRIDGE ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOODS**

**BOARD MEETINGS:**

**Contingent Upon COVID-19 Restrictions**

**Meetings of the CAN Board may be held virtually or**

**in person at 516 Race Street, Cambridge, MD 21613**

**CAN Board Meetings are open to the public**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

**Are held virtually or in person at the discretion of the CAN President**

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**VIRTUAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**March 18, 2021**

**MINUTES**

**Executive Committee Members Present and Voting:** Chuck McFadden (President), Roman Jesien (Vice President), Mary Ellen Jesien (Treasurer), Tom Puglisi (Secretary), constituting a quorum of the Executive Committee with 4 of 5 members present.

**Executive Committee Members Not Present:** Michelle Barnes (Membership Director).

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

**Board Members Not Present:** Dave Thatcher.

**Guests Present:** NA

1. **Opening Comments.** CAN President Chuck McFadden opened the virtual meeting at 6:37 pm via Zoom. Roman Jesien made a motion to approve the Minutes for the Executive Committee meeting held on January 21, 2021. Tom Puglisi seconded the motion and it was approved by a 4-0 vote of the Executive Committee members.
2. **Treasurer’s Report.** Mary Ellen Jesien reported that there is currently $3346.70 in CAN’s treasury. Donations have increased even though dues have been waived for CY2021.
3. **Secretary’s Report.**  As we waived CAN membership dues for 2021 and agreed to include all current and previous dues-paying members as 2021 members, Tom Puglisi, with assistance from Mary Ellen Jesien, has constructed a spreadsheet and an email distribution list that includes all such individuals (except people who have moved away from the Eastern Shore).  For household memberships, the list includes have each member of the household.  Tom’s plan is to send an email to all (241) of these members after we discuss our 2021 plans at tonight's meeting.  Dave Thatcher has 500 email addresses on his “big” list.
4. **Marina Committee.** Chuck McFadden suggested during December 2020 Board Meeting that CAN form a Marina Committee of boat owners to review the City’s plans for the Marina. A variety of issues need to addressed to make the marina a cost effective asset for the City. Chuck reported that several persons have volunteered to serve on this Committee with him, including Eric Bradley who runs Oasis Marina, City Engineer George Hyde, and City Manager Patrick Comiskey, George Vojtech, Rick Klepfer, and others. The Committee has explored possibility of a dinghy dock, kayak/canoe launch, uses for the pump house building, etc. Oasis previously determined that costs for restoration of the pump house would be prohibitive. Chuck indicted that George Vojtech will continue to explore possibilities for the pump house building. The Marina Committee hopes to work with ShoreRivers to obtain grant money to landscape the large, publicly owned vacant lot between the Yacht Club entrance and the properties facing Choptank Avenue. George Hyde provided the Committee with the most recent depth chart of Marina waters. A $250,000 one-time grant has been obtained from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to make improvements at the Marina. Some of the larger 50’- 60’ slips will be converted to 30’- 40’ slips in hope of increasing occupancy. The City may also explore the possibility of installing floating docks in renovated areas. The Committee is also considering doing a financial study to determine what would be needed to generate more income from the Marina and to establish a fund for continued maintenance and improvement.
5. **Possible CAN 2021 Activities.** The following activities were proposed for 2021.
   1. Tom will explore ways that CAN volunteers could help support the “Bring Harriett Home” project.
   2. Steve Rideout is exploring County Government issues that CAN might be able to influence, including changes to the County Charter. Issues include high turnover and overall vulnerability of county staff and spending priorities (e.g., $600,000 plus rehabilitation costs being spent for a dog shelter.
   3. It may be possible to host a CAN-Jam event sometime in late August. Chuck will try to reconstitute the CAN-Jam organizing committee, including Kay Klepfer.
   4. Ice Cream socials in the Fall may also be possible.
   5. CAN hopes to sponsor a cleanup event with ShoreRivers. Roman Jesien will take the lead on this project.
   6. Downtown Main Street is without a Director and communication is lacking. CAN is willing to help disseminate information as needed.
   7. CAN needs to start working with Council Members to identify projects.
   8. CAN will continue its support of Cambridge Community Conversations.
   9. CAN hopes to identify other organizations with which to partner on projects.
6. **News.** Main Street Gallery is beginning a project to put a mural on the Main Street Gallery building. There is also a mural being developed for the front façade of the Chesapeake College building. Aldi’s is rumored to be opening in the building on Rt 50 vacated by SuperSaver and Advance Auto. Advance Auto and Tractor Supply will move into new and renovated properties at Dorchester Square next to Walmart.
7. **Adjournment.** Roman Jesien made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Tom Puglisi. The motion was adopted unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 pm.