**CAMBRIDGE ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOODS**

**BOARD MEETINGS:**

**Meetings of the CAN Board may be held virtually or in person at 516 Race Street, Cambridge, MD**

**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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**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**June 24, 2021**

**MINUTES**

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

**Executive Committee Members Not Present:** NA.

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

**Board Members Not Present: NA**.

**Guests Present:** NA

1. **Opening Comments.** CAN President Chuck McFadden opened the meeting at 6:37 at 200 Belvedere St.. Tom Puglisi made a motion to approve the Minutes for the Executive Committee meeting held on March 18, 2021. Chuck seconded the motion and it was approved by a 5-0 vote of the Executive Committee members.
2. **Treasurer’s Report.** Mary Ellen Jesien reported that there is currently $3346.76 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 these individuals. We currently have 253 such members.  Dave Thatcher has approximately 400 email addresses on his “big” list.
4. **Proposed City Charter Change.** Chuck McFadden opened the floor for discussion of the proposed changes to the City Charter. Chuck is concerned that under the proposed changes, employees can go directly to the Mayor and City Council members with complaints and undermine the authority of the City Manager. The consensus of those present was that the City needs professional HR expertise, but members questioned the advisability of having the HR Director report directly to the Mayor and City Council. This would undermine the authority of the City Manager. Another issue is the creation of a legal services department. Members do not understand what problem is being addressed by this proposal. CAN wants to encourage positive change, but needs to find a constructive and effective way to influence the actions of the Mayor and City Council. Tom will draft a letter to the Mayor requesting an informal, face-to-face meeting before CAN takes a position on this issue. We would prefer to have the meeting prior to the First Reading of any formal proposal.
5. **Open Meetings Act Complaint Regarding the County Council.** CAN sent letters to the County Council, and subsequently to the State, regarding the Council’s failure to comply with the requirements of the Maryland Open Meetings Act. Small changes were evident at last meeting of the County Council, but the Council still did not comply fully with the Act. The State has contacted the County and given it 30 days to respond.
6. **CAN Marina Committee.** Chuck McFadden suggested during the December 2020 Board Meeting that CAN form a Marina Committee of boat owners to review the City’s plans for the Marina. Chuck explained the history of the Marina and its funding. The Committee has conducted a study to determine what would be needed to generate more income from the Marina and to establish a fund for continued maintenance and improvement. No response has been received yet from the City or Oasis Marina.
7. **Activities for CAN in 2021.** Noting that it is too late to organize a CAN-Jam event, Chuck McFadden requested suggestions for activities that CAN could undertake during the remainder of 2021.
   1. Lobby for the City or County to install permanent pickleball courts
   2. Conduct an open meeting at Great Marsh Park with food, drink, and one or two speakers (suggestions included Matt Pluta from ShoreRivers, Mayor Bradshaw, and/or a Council Member). Beth Kline and Mary Ellen Jesien will work on this event.
   3. Solicit nominations in preparation for the CAN Board elections. .
   4. Halloween Event / Holiday Event. Best decorated house in each Ward. Michelle and Andre will look into this.
8. **Adjournment.** Roman Jesien made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Michelle Barnes. The motion was adopted unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 pm.