

CAMBRIDGE ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOODS

BOARD MEETINGS:

**Meetings of the CAN Board may be held virtually or in person at a designated location
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

January 5, 2022

MINUTES

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

Executive Committee Members Not Present: NA

Additional Board Members Present: Rick Klepfer, Dave Thatcher, and Jane Weeks.

Board Members Not Present: Sharon Smith and Andre Duerinckx.

Board Nominees Present: Susan Olsen and Judd Vickers.

Board Nominees Not Present: Brad Rice.

- 1. Opening Comments.** CAN President Chuck McFadden opened the virtual meeting at 6:42 via Zoom from 200 Belvedere St. Chuck expressed thanks to retiring Board Members Michelle Barnes and Beth Kline.
 - a. Tom Puglisi made a motion to approve the minutes of the two previous Executive Committee meetings (which were distributed to Board Members after the October Meeting). The motion was seconded by Roman Jesien and approved unanimously.
- 2. Treasurer's Report.** Outgoing Treasurer Mary Ellen Jesien reported that she will facilitate transfer of materials and duties to Incoming Treasurer Jane Weeks . About \$3200 remains in CAN's account.

- 3. Secretary's Report.** Tom Puglisi explained that he maintains an email distribution list of all CAN members. As of December 31, 2021, there were 312 such members on Tom's "Member List." Dave Thatcher maintains a larger distribution list, containing in excess 500 addresses, that includes all CAN members as well as people interested in CAN's communications. All CAN communications must be submitted to Tom, who approves them and decides which distribution list to utilize. Most CAN communications are sent via Dave's "Big List," posted by Tom on "NextDoor," and posted on CAN's FaceBook page (maintained by Janet Boss). Tom noted that CAN has experienced a dramatic increase in membership since dropping the dues requirement and initiation of the "welcome letter" project by Dave Thatcher and Judd Vickers. Thanks, Dave and Judd!!
- 4. Election of Board Members.** Chuck McFadden indicated that Board elections were scheduled to be held at the January 2022 meeting. Current Board Members introduced themselves, followed by Board Nominees Susan Olsen and Judd Vickers.
- **Nominee for President, Chuck McFadden (2022-2024).** Chuck has served as CAN President since its creation in 2017. He currently is Treasurer of Historic Oxford Limited, which is attempting to bring National Public Radio to the Midshore. He is a member of the Cambridge Yacht Club and active in monitoring City government.
 - **Vice President, Roman Jesien (2020-23).** Roman has served on the CAN Board since its creation in 2017. He is an active Board Member of Dorchester Citizens for Planned Growth and is heavily involved in environmental issues.
 - **Nominee for Treasurer, Jane Weeks (2022-2024).** Jane has been a CAN Board Member since 2020 and serves as the Treasurer and a Trustee of the Dorchester County Historical Society.
 - **Secretary, Tom Puglisi (2020-2023).** Tom has served as CAN Secretary and Communications Committee Chair (and Newsletter Editor) since CAN's creation in 2017. He is also Secretary of Historic Oxford Limited and of the Cambridge American Disability Act Committee. He is an active volunteer with WHCP radio and the "Harriett's Journey Home" project. Tom noted that his spouse, Susan Morgan, serves on the Dorchester County Board of Education and as Vice-Chair of the Cambridge Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), so he attends all the meetings of both groups.
 - **Member Nominee, Mary Ellen Jesien (2022-2024).** Mary Ellen served as CAN Treasurer from 2017 through 2021. She volunteers transporting people to physician appointments.
 - **Member Nominee, Dave Thatcher (2022-2024).** Dave has served on the CAN Board since its creation in 2017. He maintains CAN's "Big" email distribution list and is an active community volunteer.
 - **Member Nominee, Judd Vickers (2022-2024).** Judd served as CAN's first Vice-President and has chaired CAN's Housing Quality Committee since its creation in 2017. Judd monitors meetings of the Cambridge Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals, as well as code enforcement issues, on behalf of CAN.

- **Member, Rick Klepfer (2020-23).** Rick is a member of the Dorchester Writers Group and a frequent contributor to "Tidewater Times" and the CAN newsletter. Rick also served on the CAN Marina Committee.
- **Member Nominee, Susan Olsen.** Susan lives in Ward 4 and serves as Vice Chair of the Sierra Club of the Lower Shore, a Board Member of Dorchester Citizens for Planned Growth (DCPG), and the Environmental Liaison to the Dorchester County NAACP. She indicated that she routinely monitors environmental legislation and noted the upcoming Eastern Shore Environmental Legislative Summit to be held January 9-10, 2022. Susan has received a Sierra Club and DCPG Grant to plant trees in Pine Street Historic District, for which she needs volunteers.

5. **January 13th Annual Business Meeting.** Chuck recommended postponing the Annual Business Meeting until a later date, reflecting a consensus of those present. He noted that COVID is currently leading the State in COVID infections. Chuck will talk to WHCP about alternative dates, explore alternate venues permitting better social distancing, and send Tom an announcement of the postponement for distribution to members and interested parties.

6. **Upcoming Board Elections.** Due to the postponement of the January Business Meeting, Chuck McFadden described three possible options for holding Board elections: (a)
a. Wait until the next open meeting sometime in the Spring
b. Set up a video conference and try to get members to vote electronically
c. Vote to accept the Board Nominees as Acting Board members until we have an open meeting.

Roman Jesien made a motion to adopt option (c), which was seconded by Rick Klepfer seconded and approved unanimously by Board Members present.

7. **Bylaws Changes.** Judd Vickers and Tom Puglisi will work on possible bylaws changes to facilitate smooth operation of CAN's Board.

8. **Activities.** Chuck McFadden suggested that, as COVID permits this Spring, CAN should renew its focus as an organization supporting civic engagement and service to the community.

9. **CAN Newsletter.** Chuck McFadden suggested increasing publication of the CAN Newsletter from monthly to approximately every six weeks. This will require finding additional writers to contribute. Chuck would like to expand coverage to include short articles on the Police, Schools, Health (Rick Klepfer volunteered), upcoming City Council issues, shoreline resilience, city engineering topics, code requirements (Judd Vickers as already begun this), and other issues of interest to the community. Board members should try to enlist volunteer writers to make this possible. Chuck volunteered to coordinate with Allison Kennedy to ensure coverage of City Council meetings.

- 10. January 6 Vigil.** There here will be silent, candle-light protest of last year's Capitol riot to be held near the Dorchester County Courthouse on Thursday, January 6, at 5:30 pm.
- 11. Adjournment.** Tom Puglisi made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Jane Weeks. The motion was adopted unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 pm.