

**CAMBRIDGE ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOODS****EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING****January 8, 2024****MINUTES**

**Executive Committee Members Present:** Chuck McFadden (President), Dave Thatcher (Treasurer), and Tom Puglisi (Secretary); 3 of 4 members being present, a quorum of the Executive Committee was achieved.

**Executive Committee Members Absent:** Roman Jesien (Vice President).

**Additional Board Members Present:** Andre Duerinckx, Brad Rice, and Judd Vickers; 6 of 11 members being present, a quorum of the Board was achieved.

**Board Members Absent.** Mary Ellen Jesien, Rick Klepfer, Sharon Smith, and Jane Weeks.

**Board Nominees Present as Observers:** Donna Towers and Kim Miller.

- 1. Opening Comments.** CAN President Chuck McFadden convened the meeting at 6:35 pm at 200 Belvedere Avenue in Cambridge.
- 2. Approval of Minutes.** Executive Committee members present unanimously approved the minutes for the November 30 Executive Committee meeting. Board members present unanimously approved the minutes of the December 13 Board meeting.
- 3. Treasurer's Report.** Dave Thatcher reported that CAN has a balance of \$3,985.67 in its coffers and that he has provided a check to WHCP for live streaming CAN's December meeting.
- 4. CAN Meetings Live Stream.** Chuck noted that CAN will pay WHCP for live streaming CAN meetings and posting them on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/@whcpstudio4716> and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/WHCPRadio/videos>.
- 5. January Meeting.** The 2024 Annual Business Meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 16, at 6:30 PM in the Dorchester County Public Library basement meeting room at 303 Gay Street in Cambridge. Following the election of officers and the vote on Bylaws changes, Ward 1 City Council Commissioner Laurel Atkiss will deliver remarks and answer questions from the audience. The following slate of candidates for terms extending from January 2024 through January 2026 was developed from nominations received prior to the December 15, 2023 deadline.
  - President – Chuck McFadden
  - Treasurer – Dave Thatcher
  - Member at Large – Mary Ellen Jesien
  - Member at Large – Kim Miller
  - Member at Large – Brad Rice
  - Member at Large – Donna Towers
  - Member at Large – Judd Vickers

Terms of the following Board Members expire in January 2025:

- Vice-President – Roman Jesien
- Secretary – Tom Puglisi
- Member at Large – Andre Duerinckx
- Member at Large – Rick Klepfer
- Member at Large – Sharon Smith

**6. Meeting Coordinators and Moderators.** Chuck announced that Meeting Coordinators are needed to take responsibility for arranging CAN Meetings. Duties of Coordinators will include the following:

- Scheduling the library meeting room
- Developing meeting announcements
- Picking up the key to the room on meeting day
- Coordinating with the speaker regarding equipment needs for slide presentations, etc.
- Coordinating with WHCP for livestreaming and posting the meeting
- Setting up and taking down chairs and tables
- Locking the room and returning the key

The group also recommended that a Discussion Moderator be designated for each meeting to ensure appropriate audience participation. Tom will distribute a signup sheet for this year's meetings. Brad Rice volunteered to moderate the January 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**7. CAN Public Meeting Dates.** Chuck proposed that we have meetings every second month in 2024 (i.e., January, March, May, July, September, November). It was decided that Ward 2 City Council Commissioner Lajan Cephas will be invited to speak at the March meeting about issues of concern to herself and residents of the Second Ward. Other Commissioners should be invited to meetings as relevant issues are identified. Tom will also invite the Commissioners to contribute comments to the Newsletter along these lines. It was agreed that CAN must continue and strengthen its outreach efforts beyond Ward 1.

**8. Goals for 2024.** Chuck noted that CAN provides timely reports to its members on City activities. It was agreed that this should remain a goal, but that CAN should also devote itself to additional activities that can benefit the City. Examples include housing standards and availability, code enforcement, the Land Bank, HOAs, etc. There was a consensus that educating the public and lobbying the City Council about these issues are things CAN could take on. Judd Vickers will research the City's Housing Plan for possible follow up. Brad has contacted several HOAs with whom CAN will arrange a roundtable meeting to identify common issues of concern that the City should address. Brad will try to arrange this meeting for February 20<sup>th</sup> with participation from HOA Officers and those CAN Board Members who have interest in participation. Board Nominee Donna Towers noted that Cambridge Main Street did not commission a holiday ornament this year and volunteered to research this issue for next year as a way to encourage community spirit and pride.

**Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.