CAMBRIDGE ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOODS

BOARD MEETINGS:

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

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BOARD MEETING

Thursday, November 5, 2026 at 6:30 PM

MINUTES

Executive Committee Members President: Chuck McFadden (President), Roman Jesien (Vice President), Judd Vickers (Treasurer), Sharon Smith (Member-at-Large), Chuck Fadely (Member-at-Large), Andre Duerinckx (Member-at-Large).

Virtual Attendance: Sheila Jones (Member-at-Large), Alison Kennedy (Secretary).

Additional Board Members Absent: Mary Ellen Jesien (Member-at-Large), Amy Craig (Member-at-Large).

1. Opening Comments CAN President Chuck McFadden convened the meeting at 6:30 pm at 200 Belvedere Avenue
   - *Board members present represent a quorum.*
   - *Stick to the agenda*

2. Acceptance of last meeting's notes
   - *Alison Kennedy's notes from Wednesday, September 9, 2026 board meeting accepted.*

3. Treasurer's report
   - ***$3,402.67*** *as of 10/31/2026, an additional donation received in the amount of $150.00 in November brings the balance to $3,552.67.*
   - *What board members have contributed – Chuck M, Chuck F, Sheila, Amy, Alison, Andre.*
   - *CAN has rec'd $950.00 in donations from Board members so far in the calendar year 2026.*
   - *Judd will provide a check to Andre for* ***Chamber membership****, likely $160.00, subject to confirmation.*

4. Nov 12, 2025 Community Meeting – Are we ready?
    - *Roman and Judd reported that Library is reserved, Speaker, Debbis Usab, Chairman of Richardson Maritime Museum, is ready to come and talk about their projects.*
    - *Judd will pick up keys before 5pm on Thursday and open things up. The projector/computer has been reserved.*
    - *Andre has volunteered to record the community meeting and is ready to do that on Facebook from his group, Operation:Destination Cambridge for ALL.*
    - *Alison reported that all advertising has been set up and sent out on social media platforms, sent out emails to CAN database membership, website, Radio Chesapeake Community Calendar.*

UPDATE NOTE: November 9, 2026. Library was shut down for emergency repairs on HVAC system. Attempt was made to try to have the meeting at Richardson Maritime Museum. Debbie Usab said that they were not set up for that. CAN Community Meeting on November 12, 2026 was canceled and rescheduled for December 2, 2026

5. Next Meeting December 2026 – What do we want to do?
    - ***Dec 02, 2026 Meeting & Holiday celebration*** *at the library. Community meeting speaker will be Debbie Usab from Richardson Maritime Museum.*
    - *We are going to provide light refreshments that provide for easy serving and clean up. The following folks agreed to bring something:*
    - *Chuck - cupcakes*
    - *Judd - sugar cookies*
    - *Alison - undetermined item*
    - *Sheila - undetermined item*
    - *Roman - brownies*
    - *Andre – drinks*

6. Joining the **Dorchester Chamber of Commerce** – group
    - *The board voted to get a membership to the Chamber of Commerce.*
    - *Price is $160/year.*
    - *Andre offered to take the check over to the Chamber office.*
    - *The Chamber does have space for meetings at their office but the meetings must happen before 5 PM because they close for the day. They do not have the staff to monitor meetings there after 5 PM.*

- *Free advertising of events and social media groups associated with CAN are included in membership. FYI: They will not advertise CAN FB group because it is private.*

7. Beth Kline's retirement – we need a new editor for the CAN newsletter
   - *Judd will buy a $100 gift card for Beth Kline.*
   - *Chuck Fadely has agreed to take over being editor for the CAN newsletter.*
   - *Chuck F. will connect with Beth and get the information needed to execute the newsletter bi-monthly.*
   - *Chuck F suggested that CAN board members consider organizing under an established, recognized brand. He suggested coordinating getting information out in all ways possible, including getting a YouTube Channel.*
   - *Andre D. added that CAN will have to be doing their own recording of CAN community meetings because Julian, who was previously doing it, has moved away from Cambridge.*

8. New Board Membership – we have 10 but can go to 12 - Judd on Elections
   - *Elections:*
     - *We'll need to send out an announcement in advance of our December 2nd meeting that we can accept Board nominations up to and at the Dec 2nd meeting.*
     - *Board members up for election in January 2027 (for a 2 year term that will end January 2029):*
     - *Roman*
     - *Andre*
     - *Sharon*
     - *LaShon was not be up for election, because she has resigned, so we can seek a candidate for her Board role. Her resignation leaves the Board with 10 members.*
   - *Reminder to try to help expand representation on the board from other wards.*

9. School notification on inclement weather
   - *Sheila and Alison were concerned about the school closure that happened in late September '26 due to the flooding streets in South Dorchester County. The whole school district was not shut down, Just the schools in the Church Creek area were closed.*
   - *The school did not provide the students with the tools to have virtual learning at home, so this was just a "missed" day.*
   - *Sheila and Alison would like to follow up with the school board and Dr Thompson about making a day.*

- *Roman asked how CAN could help with an issue like this.*
- *Sheila and Alison shared with the CAN board members that other school districts plan for a virtual day of learning in circumstances like this.*
- *Chuck M stated that CAN will support this endeavor encouraging the school board to establish a virtual learning day for students on a "flooding" day.*
- *Chuck M asked Sheila and Alison to compose an opinion piece for the CAN newsletter concerning this topic.*

10. Comment section on CAN Facebook page
    - *Follow up discussion to email thread between board members*
    - *Suggestions made by board members to help eliminate controversy and FB users from abusing group rules and protecting CAN organization:*
        - *Post a disclaimer - DISCLAIMER: The opinions, statements, and views expressed in this post are solely those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy, position, or opinions of*
        - *Cambridge Association of Neighborhoods. This content is for informational purposes only and should not be interpreted as representing the views of Cambridge Association of Neighborhoods or its members.*
        - *Disable comments*
        - *Do not respond to posts as the administrator*
        - *Do not state personal opinion on posts*
    - *Alison would like to step down as head administrator of the FB group. The secretarial duties and writing notes for the city council meetings are time consuming tasks.*
        - *Sharon said that she would consider taking over in a month's time.*
        - *Chuck F said that he would help out as an administrator.*

Adjourn approx. 8:00 PM