

## **Cambridgeport Neighborhood Association 2022 Year In Review**

Board members: Rebecca Bowie (president), Cathie Zusy (treasurer), Brittany Butler (co-clerk), Tien-Tien Chan (co-clerk), Valerie Bonds, Julia Halprin, Tonia Hicks

### **Community meetings**

*Details and notes or recordings from past meetings are available at <https://www.cambridgeport.org/cna-meeting-minutes>*

- Our February meeting included elections for four CNA board seats (won by Valerie Bonds, Rebecca Bowie, Brittany Butler, Tien-Tien Chan), Mass Audubon speaking about their new location, and CDD presenting their open space planning project.
- Our April meeting featured Cambridge's new police commissioner introducing herself and her vision for the department. We also heard updates on the I-90 project, the work of Black History in Action for Cambridgeport, and the restoration of St. Augustine's Church.
- Our May meeting featured Representative Jay Livingstone and Senator Lydia Edwards, sharing their updates and highlights from state government and answering questions.
- Our October meeting included Christina Giacobbe talking about the new Community Safety Department and planned Alternative Response Team, and Patrick Barrett explaining the proposed plans for the Middle East. We also heard updates on I-90, the lot at Brookline & Watson, and the CNA's Working Against Racism group.
- Our November meeting featured Phil Fonseca discussing volunteer opportunities and services at the organization Friendship Works, and Susan Pacheco explaining programming and resources at the Cambridge Council on Aging. We also heard updates on Peter Valentine's house and the 47 bus.

### **Community events**

- In April, we hosted our annual Community Clean Up, starting in Dana Park. We again partnered with [Cambridge City Growers](#) and included a seed swap.
- In April, we hosted our first textile drive, collecting 4,071 pounds of textiles and earning almost \$300 for future CNA events.
- In September, we participated in Meet Your Neighbor Day, enjoying three events around Cambridgeport.
- In October, we held a textile + book drive. We collected 3,207 pounds of textiles for [Helpsy](#) and earned just over \$400 for the CNA. We also delivered a u-Haul van of books to [More Than Words](#).

### **Other activities**

- Valerie Bonds and Brian Aull, for our DEI subcommittee, host monthly meetings for the Working Against Racism group. They have worked on Participatory Budgeting, held multiple book studies, and more.
- We continued serving as the fiscal sponsor for [Black History in Action for Cambridgeport](#), a nonprofit working for community-based reparations and racial healing at St. Augustine's Church by creating an inclusive Black-led neighborhood space for arts, documentation, organizing, and joy. As of the end of the year, exterior demolition, spot repairs, insulation, finish carpentry, and finish siding (of original cedar shingle material with intricate detailing) are more than 75% complete!
- We maintain a website at [cambridgeport.org](http://cambridgeport.org) (viewed 1,480 times this year), a listserv for neighborhood conversations ([cambridgeport@groups.io](mailto:cambridgeport@groups.io), which added 42 new members this year), a CNA announcements-only listserv ([cna@groups.io](mailto:cna@groups.io), which added 10 new members this year), a Twitter account ([@cportneighbors](https://twitter.com/cportneighbors), with 279 followers), and an Instagram account ([@cambridgeportneighbors](https://www.instagram.com/cambridgeportneighbors), with 641 followers).

Thank you to all who participated and helped to strengthen our community, and welcome to all of the new faces who have joined us. We look forward to what we can accomplish together in 2023!