

# MINUTES

## West Hill Cambridge Council Board Meeting

November 1, 2022

### Call or Order

The meeting was called to order by Mike Scuderi at 10:02 am; Crystal Blanco and Jon Becker were excused.

### Minutes / Agenda

The Minutes from the June 23, 2022 were approved as submitted.

### Discussion on the Council Moving Forward

At the last meeting of the board, the following statement of intent was developed:

THE WEST HILL CAMBRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BOARD PROPOSES THAT THE COUNCIL AMEND ITS BYLAWS TO DECLARE THE COUNCIL A "NON-PROGRAM, NEIGHBORHOOD ADVOCACY" WORK GROUP.

The Council board has had a number of months to think this adjustment through and at this point is deciding to stand by this plan.

There were several options considered:

- Maintain the longstanding mode of operation
- Disband
- **Adjust to being an ad-hoc committee (with or without maintaining a treasury)**
- Merge with neighboring councils

Both Jon Becker and Crystal Blanco have indicated that while they continue to support the efforts of the Council, they are not in positions to give time to the board level management of the group. Mike, Lanae, and Holly discussed accepting their resignations but all agreed that the input that Jon and Crystal bring to the "think-tank" level of the Council is of extreme value. Therefore, **the board tabled consideration of accepting their resignations** and will notify and thank, as well as encourage both Crystal and Jon. Our hope is that they will continue to support at this different level.

The board wishes to keep the bank account open for the time being for expenses such as the website. The board also suggests that we **meet once a year**, possibly in the spring to review the past year's activities and advocacy projects and "audit" the financial statement. At that time, we would determine next steps and whether to continue. The board hopes that Crystal and Jon may find time to join this annual round-table discussion.

Mike will work on a revised set of by-laws to accommodate this new direction. We will notify Tracy, the City's neighborhood coordinator of this decision.

### Project Work

- The Council will be in contact with Evergreen Middle School in support of a holiday giving project under the coordination of Communities in Schools program. Holly will work with Jazmine Griffin at the school to assess our neighborhood's ability to contribute to:
  - ✓ Thanksgiving meal boxes
  - ✓ Holiday giving for families who struggle with gifting

Holly will work with our website announcement system to encourage participation and transfer of product to Jazmine. Lanae and Holly will offer hands-on help if needed there at the school.

- Holly will work to connect city and school district project managers regarding the development of the Evergreen play yard.

Future Meetings and Dates

We will talk in the spring.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned about 11:00 am.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Holly Isaman

Attested by: \_\_\_\_\_