

**Meeting:** **Monday, March 28th, 2022 7:00 PM**

– Virtual Meeting > Join – 13 people attending

Agenda:

**1. Call to Order and Introductions – 7:05 PM**

**2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting – No comments, all approved.**

**3. Treasurer's Report**

- a. Presented by Bryon Yoder - The beginning balance for the month of March was \$14,270.82. There was one deposit in the amount of \$20,684.00 from the DCA from our NTRC planning grant award. Ending balance: \$34,954.82. CGNA received 90% of the grant and will receive the balance if the plan is approved. Checks will be cut in the amount of \$2,850 to CFP for their share of the administrative fee for the NRTC grant application and \$2,850 (\$950 each to Ben Saracco, Jonathan Latko and Bryon Yoder who shared the CGNA administrative fee for their work on the application).
- b. Motion to approve the administrative fee payments to CFP/Ben/Jonathan/Bryon approved. Sonia Perez abstained.
- c. Motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented by Bryon Yoder was carried. No abstentions.

**4. Neighborhood Safety and Security**

- a. Any recent issues? You must call 911 and get a report number for an incident be officially reported.
  - i. There has been a change in Officers at Camden County, so CG lost Sgts. Levy and Webb. CG has not been assigned a new officer as of this meeting date.
  - ii. For thefts of packages (or opened packages), a written report must be filed. If residents don't file a written report, no additional resources will be provided.
  - iii. Ben S. contacted the parking authority to report several trailers parking in the bike lane on Delaware Avenue. The parking authority gave out several tickets however, they mentioned that they do not have the equipment to remove the trailers. Ben also mentioned non-residents parking on Pearl Street to attend Rutgers sporting events. Ben said that Rutgers is supposed to monitor the parking and give out tickets. Rutgers claims however, that because of Title 3, they are prohibited from ticketing cars for other than in life threatening situations. That information does not appear to be true because Rutgers police have state authority. Stay tuned in for updates.
  - iv. Residents and community members are encouraged to call 911 for any issues and obtain a report from the police. The police reports are what get entered into the statistics and drive investigations. The Tipline and Stopit App are only for reporting tips and do not generate a police response.
- b. Emergency Call 911 or 24hr Tipline: 856-757-7042 or STOPit Online Application (Code: CAMDENNJ)

**5. Old Business**

- a. **Campbell's/Rutgers Field Progress [Agreement](#)** > The agreement has been signed that allows public open access to the track and field from dawn to dusk starting May 1st. Park (no update on the ball field). CCPD will provide security and Camden city residents can reserve and rent space for events.
- b. **Purple Air Monitor Crowdsourcing Project <https://map.purpleair.com/>** > This a crowd source project where people put up air monitors to record the air quality in the area. CGNA purchased five monitors that are being spread throughout the city. CG may supply monitors to local businesses to expand areas being monitored. Camden's Special Services Division (CSSD) HQ is also being considered for a monitor. Camden for Clean Air sends out e-mails to the owners of the monitors to alert them of air quality spikes. It also takes other readings (temperature, humidity, etc.). These air monitors are all over the country. Air quality is the number one contributor to shortening life expectancy. Residents can call 1-877-

WARNDEP to report any unusual smells/air quality issues in the area. We are fortunate to have an office in Camden that can do a scene response if needed. **The air quality inn Camden as of the CGNA meeting date is okay.**

- c. **Linden and Point Street Tree Planting Project April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 7<sup>th</sup>** > NJTF provides trees and tools and asks the residents to attend a tree-keeper meeting to learn about tree care as well as caring for the trees for 2 years. Of the 50 trees slated to be replaced in CG, including those that were destroyed by the ash borer insect on Point and Linden streets, 25 will be replaced during the spring planting. Residents interested in tree replacement must provide contact information. Renters need permission from the property owner. Dirt for the trees will be out-sourced from the DCCB. Ms. Meredith Pichini and some CG residents went door-to-door to gather signatures. Although we have enough signatures for the initial 25 plantings, we need more to complete the 25 remaining plantings in the fall. Fifteen trees were scheduled to be planted at Cooper Hospital on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Planting dates for CG are scheduled for April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 7<sup>th</sup>.
- d. **EMR Follow-up**> No current updates. EMR is not following up on the things that they promised. OSHA has fined EMR several million dollars for endangering the safety of their employees by doing things such as using a buzzsaw cutter near gas lines with gas still in them. Truckers have been parking next to the match factory on Delaware Ave. between Penn & Linden streets for more than 24 hours. EMR has not responded to any questions submitted by so far.

## 6. New Business

- e. **Camden City Parking Authority**> According to the PA, towing will start soon but no actual start date was mentioned. Permitting will go online within the next 30-45 days (from the March meeting) and they have are no plans for weekend enforcement. Live Nation has up to 35 events scheduled and it does not want parking enforcement nor will the PA provide it. JL said that the VIP should not be a tailgate park. Sonia mentioned that in the past barriers were put in place as a passive method to regulate the number of cars parking in CG and asked who coordinated those efforts? Zone 1 passes are not available.
- f. **American Water Community Representative**>Joey Rodriguez said that AW is planning to host family/community days in Cooper Grant details to come. Joe also mentioned that currently AW employees are coming to work three days per week. Because of new legislation, AW will be removing lead and galvanized steel water lines in the city over the next 10 years. AW mailed letters to residents asking them to notify AW if they suspect lead there are pipes in their homes. AW will be responsible for replacing the pipes to the curb and residents are responsible for pipe replacement form curb to home. Sonia asked about how the reports about the street sweepers' performance is handled and if they report back to AW. Joey's contact information is: Joey Rodriguez, External Affairs Specialist, joseph.rodriguez@amwater.com
- g. **Community Solar and Resiliency Hub Project Discussion** >No updates.
- h. **CSSD**> Ray Romo is the new Community Manager of the Camden Special Services District (CSSD, as part of the Camden Business Improvement District (CBID). Ray presented updates on activities in the CGNA and downtown district at February's CGNA meeting. Ray also announced a 2<sup>nd</sup> Shift for the Yellow-Jacket Ambassadors taking place from 10AM – 6PM. There is a news article entitled "Yellow-Jacket Making Waves." If you see a problem, take some pictures and send them in. You can reach the CSSD via phone 856.579.3389, or via Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, or email at [CamdenBid@camdenssd.com](mailto:CamdenBid@camdenssd.com)."
- i. **Arts Committee Report (Cynthia Primas/IDEA Center)** No updates.
- j. **Planning Committee (Grants: NRTC, Cooper Foundation)**
  - i Bread & Roses Update / Phase 2 of Grant – CG currently has \$10K want to focus on event programing
  - ii NRTC Updates – 90% received. Used to reimburse CGNA for grant expenditures.
- k. **Development Committee Report**

**1 ABC Barrel Lot** – Ms. Olivette Simpson of the Camden Redevelopment Agency responded by directing Cheryl to their website. The RFP packages for the Cooper-Grant Market Rate/Mixed-Income Housing Project were due April 1, 2022. Getting new homes built on the lot has been ongoing issue in the neighborhood for over 40 years, since the early 1980s. The current housing market is hot and it appears that Cooper-Grant may have missed another great opportunity.

**2 Infrastructure/Roadway Projects (Port Roads/Market/Federal/7<sup>th</sup> St)** – Construction is underway on 7<sup>th</sup> street Plans for Option 7 seem to have pivoted after 2 months. Still uncertain about the final decision, so we need an update. Originally, the city wanted to forge ahead on Option 7 for a one-way street on Market while the community wanted the two-way option, which would promote small business growth.

**3 M&M Partnership @ The Pierre building** (<https://hestaliving.com/thepierre/>) – M&M signed the tax-credit and they still have some affordable housing units available. CGNA is still looking for an accountant with non-profit experience.

## 7. Announcements

- a. Trash and recycling collection is once a week on Wednesday. Encourage your neighbors to put their trash out and take the cans back in after trash/recycling is collected.
- b. Rutgers-Camden Community Fields Access: 856-225-2470 Monday through Friday from 10 AM – 6 PM
- d. 2022 Zone 1 passes are NOT available. Continue to use your 2021 stickers until further notice/Enforcement happening [www.camdenparking.net](http://www.camdenparking.net)
- e. Next CGNA Meeting will be held **Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022** at 7:00 PM

## 8. Adjournment – 8:00 PM

The area served by CGNA: “Cooper-Grant” is defined as the area contained within the following boundaries: Northern Boundary – the Ben Franklin Bridge; East - Friends Avenue (extended) south to Cooper Street, extending east to the West side of Fourth Street; South - the south side of Market Street; Western Boundary: the Delaware River. For more information, e-mail CGNA Board at [info@coopergrant.org](mailto:info@coopergrant.org)

**\*\*\*This is our 40th year as an organization\*\*\* Cannot attend the CGNA Meeting?**

Want updates, meeting minutes and agendas? Email: [secretary@coopergrant.org](mailto:secretary@coopergrant.org) & like our Facebook page: [@coopergrantneighbors](https://www.facebook.com/coopergrantneighbors)  
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