

the Whistler

Newsletter of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council

March/April 2021

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ANC News

EDITOR'S NOTE

Please find minutes from community meetings, March through April 2021 in chronological order.

Thank you,
Phoebe Sinclair, Community Liaison
Jessica Leach, ANC Scribe

NOTES FROM MARCH 9 MEETING

City Meeting on Community Groups

On Thursday March 4th, Cambridge City Council hosted a meeting of the Neighborhood & Long Term Planning, Public Facilities,

and Celebrations Committee focused on outreach to neighborhood groups*.

March 4 City Council Committee Meeting

City Councilor Patty Nolan chaired the Committee Meeting, with Councillors Dennis Carlone, Quinton Zondervan, Marc McGovern, Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui and Vice Mayor Alanna Mallon in attendance as well. Sixteen community groups, including ANC, were either represented by one or more members in attendance or by a written statement sent in prior. As the meeting was organized as a "round table," the bulk of the time was spent on the representatives introducing themselves and responding to these questions:

- Does your group have questions or issues or successes or concerns that might benefit from posing to the group or the city?
- Are there any ideas you have about how the city might better support your work? In other words, can the city make your lives as group leaders easier?

In addition to ABC staff members Phoebe Sinclair and Jess Leach, Agassiz Neighborhood Council members and residents Kate Frank and Joel Bard attended to represent ANC.

ANC ANNUAL MEETING



May 11, 7:30 PM

ZOOM - RSVP by visiting:
<http://bit.ly/anc-rsvp>

AGENDA

The Council will vote to approve the Slate for the 2021 ABC Board of Directors. All are invited to attend and meet the board.

Report Back

Ms. Sinclair, Ms. Frank and Mr. Bard took turns sharing their impressions and takeaways from, beginning with Ms. Sinclair. She observed that some community groups have overlapping territories, while others cover an area as small as one street. Many have had “successful and creative endeavors” interacting with developers and new developments. Of the ways the groups identified how the city could support them, frequently stated were providing free meeting spaces and helping address inequities and discrimination. Some groups, Ms. Sinclair noted, stated how important it is for them to remain autonomous, emphasizing the importance of civil discourse. During the public comment portion of the City meeting, Ms. Sinclair observed that some meeting participants also wanted support from the City Council to combat discrimination and increase accountability.

There were no direct actions that came out of the meeting, Ms. Sinclair shared, but as the first of perhaps a series of meetings, she sees opportunity for anyone who has interest and energy to get involved.

“Our neighborhood is geographically defined in a way that many are not,” Mr. Bard shared. “Most neighborhoods don’t have such clear boundaries, which is why there’s a lot of spill over.”

His other thought, he shared, was that there are new groups who are more socially focused. “As old, established, and mature an organization as we are, we can learn something from [these younger groups.]”

After these reflections, the conversation opened to questions and comments from ANC.

Q&A

“What percent or how many of the groups are represented by someone like [Ms. Sinclair] who is a professional, not a member asked to attend?” Tom Delbanco asked. “Is it possible for the city to support that for all neighborhood groups?”

“I’m not sure, but I can ask the organizers,” Ms. Sinclair responded. “The folks I saw in attendance were all volunteers.”

“Phoebe is, as far as we’ve experienced, the only one,” Maria LaPage, Executive Director of Agassiz Baldwin Community, added. “I don’t think there are other organizations with the same kind of set up as us. For the most part, they’re volunteer-driven. It’s pretty rare to have a paid staff-person who oversees these things.”

“I know personally from Porter Square Neighbors Association that it’s been helpful to work with Agassiz in many ways, to lean on them, help us with handling money, to print stuff or get a survey together,” Ruth Ryals, of PSNA, said. “The rest of us are very volunteer-based. We could be strong today, and fall totally apart next year because someone stopped caring, moved away, passed away, et cetera.”

“The city has a map that divides Cambridge into thirteen official neighborhoods with clearly defined boundaries, but not all of them have a neighborhood group to represent them,” Peggy Kutcher, of Neighborhood 9, said. “I appreciate that ANC has taken a big tent approach because there are a lot of common interests.”

“Being involved with your community can change,” Ms. Sinclair said. “For example, for folks here, it’s going to community meetings, lending your voice and energy, but for some folks it looks differently. There are all sorts of things that people are interested in, and that don’t necessarily fit into this format. That’s a bigger question, and something I’m aware of.”

“Is there any plan for further engagement among the groups, or was there a next step?” asked Ms. LaPage

“I didn’t have a clear sense of it,” Mr. Bard said. “Patty Nolan talked about how there’s more to be done, but it was really more of an introductory session.”

“There’s more to come,” Ms. Ryals said. “What will probably come out of it is that groups might start to make moves independently to become more inclusive and reach out to people in their neighborhood to see who else is out there.”

Ms. Sinclair said that she will share more broadly if she learns of any updates or new opportunities for those interested in getting involved or learning more.

***Note:** During the December 8th meeting, Agassiz Neighborhood Council discussed a possible response to a City Policy Order regarding neighborhood groups and organizations. Read “City Policy Order Regarding Neighborhood Groups” on page 4 of the November-December 2020 edition of *The Whistler*.
<http://bit.ly/whistler-archives>

Neighborhood Name Change Next Steps

As part of the ongoing process to conduct community discussions regarding a new neighborhood name, Phoebe Sinclair shared a recap and brief update with ANC to close out the March 9th meeting.

Since the last meeting in February, the working group consisting of staff from Agassiz Baldwin Community, Cambridge Community Development (CDD), and community members finalized the flyer and survey. During the first week of March, CDD staff and interns distributed the flyers to neighborhood households and the survey went live online via SurveyMonkey. The deadline to take the survey was set for March 18th, so that results and data could be tabulated and presented to ANC at the April 13th meeting.

After this update, Ms. Sinclair invited questions and comments from ANC.

“I thought the flyer was fair, balanced and discussed the issue well,” Tom Delbanco said. “My trouble with the ballot was the order of the names. I thought it should have been alphabetical.”

Ms. Sinclair explained that the names were ordered on the survey in chronological order, based on when they were submitted.

“When do we expect to be voting and what are we doing to make sure people aren’t voting more than once?” asked Joel Bard.

“The survey has mechanisms built in to prevent people from voting more than once,” Ms Sinclair explained. “We didn’t build it out to prevent people who don’t live here from taking it. There are people who used to live here, and people who work here. There is a question on the survey about whether you live in the neighborhood. When we pull data, we will pull all this demographic data and match that up to get a sense of how people are voting based on their identities.”

Ms. Sinclair also emphasized that the survey was not intended to be a binding vote, and that there would be a conversation about the results before bringing a recommendation to the City Council.



In 2020, the Agassiz Neighborhood Council (ANC) started a community conversation about whether to remove Agassiz’s name and instead honor Maria L. Baldwin, educator and first African American headmaster in New England, or a different person or neighborhood element of note. The neighborhood’s namesake, Louis Agassiz, was an American-Swiss biologist, geologist, and Harvard professor, who promoted the theory of polygenesis, the belief that God created each human “race” as separate species. Polygenesis has been used to justify white supremacy and advance racial inequities. ANC is looking for the broader community to lend its voice to this process.



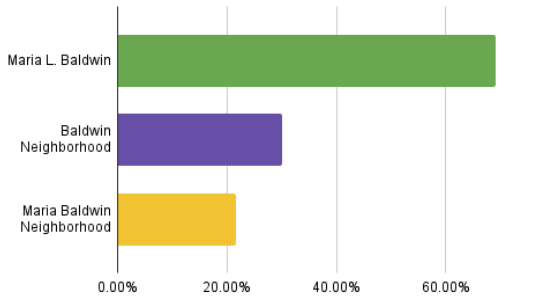
- ▶ Watch videos, read written statements and review resources about the history of Agassiz, Baldwin and the neighborhood, and how other residents feel about renaming
- ▶ <https://bit.ly/contextlibrary>

Take the survey TYPE INTO WEB BROWSER: [surveymonkeys.com /r/LZGZQXG](https://surveymonkeys.com/r/LZGZQXG) SCAN WITH PHONE CAMERA:  **DEADLINE: 03/18/21**

Flyer distributed to neighborhood

NOTES FROM APRIL 13 MEETING

Preferred neighborhood names:



Update on Neighborhood Name Change Process: Survey Results

Following the March 18th deadline to respond to the survey about the neighborhood name, Agassiz Baldwin Community (ABC) and Cambridge Community Development (CDD) staff pulled and analyzed results that Phoebe Sinclair, Community Liaison and facilitator for ANC, presented at the April 13th meeting.

In her presentation, Ms. Sinclair included the language of both the January 2020 ANC vote and the February 2020 City Council policy order regarding the community process to arrive at a new neighborhood name.

She then shared an updated list of tensions that arose during the process. The new additions included the challenges of coordination, education, outreach, and timing during a pandemic, concern about neutrality of the community center team, and what is meant when concerns are raised around bias.

After providing some context about the process and a brief overview of its overall timeline, Ms. Sinclair shared the following results from the survey:

- Of the 447 total respondents, 88.4% said they are in favor of changing the name, 7.2% said they are not, and 4.5% said they are unsure.
- 385 offered a preference for a new name, and of those, three options received more

than 10% of the vote: Maria L. Baldwin, Baldwin Neighborhood, Maria Baldwin Neighborhood.

The next section of results broke down the numbers based on demographics:

- Of those living in the neighborhood, 81.82% want to rename. Of those living outside the neighborhood, 97.03% want to rename.
- Of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color)-identifying people, 95.37% want to rename. Of white-identifying people, 90.72% want to rename.
- 69.8% of respondents identified as a woman or a girl, 4.21% of respondents identified as genderqueer or nonbinary, 25.5% of respondents identified as a man or a boy.
- 12% of respondents identified as under 18, 33.58% as 18-24 years old, 11.5% as 25-34, 7.6% as 35-44, 9.56% as 45-54, 9.31% as 55-64, and 16.42% as 65+
- 80.12% of Agassiz neighborhood resident respondents age 25 and older indicated they would like to change the neighborhood name.
- If you look at 55 and older (still just neighborhood residents), that figure is 74.12%.

Following the results, Ms. Sinclair also shared some common themes she observed from the open-ended “comments” section of the survey:

- Interest in a shorter name
- Concern about “erasing history”
- Pride and respect for Maria L. Baldwin
- Concern about naming the neighborhood for a person (versus a geographic name)
- Concern about over-identifying with the Baldwin School and a contrasting desire to keep the school and neighborhood names connected
- Lots of strong feelings (and one book recommendation)

- Appreciation for the conversation and effort, and also consternation

After her presentation, Ms. Sinclair first invited the working group consisting of ABC and CDD staff, and neighborhood residents Maya Counter and Kate Frank, to share their experiences and thoughts about the process.

“I am concerned about the desire to honor Louis Agassiz’s scientific legacy because his legacy is rooted in racism and white supremacy,” Ms. Counter shared.

“If the neighborhood had no name, and we had to select a name, we would never select the name of someone who had a racist history,” Ms. Frank said.

“This was a really interesting and difficult process to be part of,” Daniel Wolf, Neighborhood Planner from CDD, said. “We all felt the tension, pulled between the desire to clearly surface to the broader community what is at stake, the issue raised with Agassiz’s legacy, and not wanting to put our thumb on the scale.”

He shared that the team spent a lot of time creating a process to be as inclusive as possible as well as finalizing the language on the flyer and survey, and that while the process, language or framing weren’t perfect, the final product came from a considerable amount of time and intention.

Maria LaPage, ABC Executive Director, shared that she was in awe of Ms. Counter, who she said was “bold and brave enough to step up” to suggest changing the neighborhood name back in January of 2020 when she was a student at Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School.

“Thank you, Maya, for standing up and sticking with us,” she said.

After the team took turns sharing their thoughts, Ms. Sinclair opened the conversation to questions and comments from ANC. To allow enough time

for everyone to take a turn speaking, each person was given two minutes for their response.

Tom Delbanco asked about the percentage of voters who did not reside in the neighborhood, and how the number of flyers distributed compared to the response rate.

“I am very pleased about how many young people responded,” he added. He also said that he wished the names had been ordered alphabetically, instead of chronologically, as he thought having Baldwin at the top of the list could be perceived as a bias.

He also shared that he was surprised about the number of respondents who did not live in the neighborhood.

“I think it’s wrong to say that 450 people or so want to change the name and not differentiate among them.”

Mr. Wolf shared that CDD flyer between 97-100% of the neighborhood population. He estimated that one person out of every 12-15 households responded to the survey, an estimation he arrived at based on there being 1,652 total households and 5,382 in the neighborhood and, on average, 2-4 people per household. (Mr. Wolf later explained it’s difficult to reach everyone with complete accuracy without a certified mailing.)

“We didn’t get 80% of the residents to speak up, but we got a greater portion of the populous that speaks up in any kind of process,” he said.

“What we saw we felt was a pretty good response rate,” Ms. Sinclair added.

“I thought the flyer was going to be the survey,” Richard Goldstein said. “The flyer was clearly one point of view and nothing else, and I was disappointed.”

“The reason the flyer looked the way it did is

because we couldn't do a paper survey, so there was the flyer and the digital survey," Ms. Sinclair responded. "The flyer itself was written based on the context of the January 2020 meeting."

"I agree with admiring Maya, and with what Richard about seeing flaws in the process," Fred Meyer said. "The whole survey did seem to be biased. It didn't list on the flyer the various name choices for people to choose from."

Mr. Meyer also voiced a concern about survey respondents not being registered voters in the neighborhood.

"Being able to legally vote here was never part of the discussion," Ms. Sinclair said. "The stakeholders of the neighborhood are all these different groups, like institutions and students in the Baldwin School."

"One of the first people we heard about when our daughter went to the Agassiz School was Maria L. Baldwin," said Susan Keane. "Our daughter participated in a play about Maria Baldwin. I just think we are so fortunate to have a remarkable person to name our neighborhood for."

"How were we able to survey those who didn't live in the neighborhood?" Skip Schiel asked.

"It wasn't the initial intention to go outside the neighborhood," Ms. Sinclair said. "We didn't ask people necessarily, but people who knew about it, who come through Agassiz for various reasons, took the survey. There was potential for a broader reach because of Harvard, Lesley, and other institutions who are here."

"I don't think we need to talk about things that were wonderful about Agassiz," Jill Delbanco said. "Nobody is denying that he had positive contributions, but the fact that he had negative contributions."

"I want to thank you and your team for being

inclusive of everyone in the neighborhood, and including people who work here," said Jennie Wood, an employee of the Academy of Arts and Sciences on Irving Street.

Following comments from ANC, Ms. Sinclair said that the next step in the process would be to present the survey results, and possibly a recommendation for a new name, to the City Council. She invited Ms. Counter to speak on that first, since she originally brought this conversation to ANC.

"I hope we can get this to the City Council soon, because this is long overdue," Ms. Counter said.

Mr. Delbanco suggested using the language from the slide deck that Ms. Sinclair created to present the results, while making it clear that it's not an official recommendation.

"It should be said with warmth and thoughtfulness about being inclusive, which I think is totally appropriate," Ms. Delbanco said.

Mr. Wolf shared that his department is planning to submit its own letter to the City Council about the process from their perspective, focusing on the data and a summary of the process.

"We would like to submit our communication in parallel with communication from ANC so that it lands on the City Council's agenda at the same time, so if they choose to discuss it, they'll have both points."

Ms. Sinclair noted that there was no intention for consensus, but rather to "hear the voices, invite people to respond, connect to this issue, and figure out where people's energy lies."

"We don't need 100 percent consensus to describe how the issue arose with us, what we did with it, and the tensions I described early on," she added. "I think all of those pieces can be contained."

Ms. Sinclair also added that she could put what

was described in a letter to City Council, and it will not act as a vote but will “contain the complexity of the discussion and the reason it began.”

“If there’s going to be some sort of coordination between our report or Daniel’s report, we should present them at the same time, and we should see when the City Council has availability on their agenda,” Ms. Frank said.

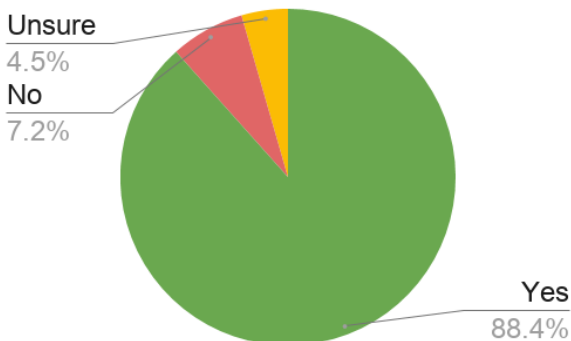
Mr. Goldstein shared that he thought it was important to note that 447 respondents replied out of 5,000 or so total residents.

“I just want to reiterate that we got an excellent response,” Mr. Wolf said. “People are busy, and we put a random flyer on their doorstep. They have every reason to ignore it, and getting that many responses from a limited pool of people is an achievement. The numbers within those responses are very overwhelming in a single direction, and I don’t want the magnitude of those numbers to be off-scale or get lost.”

To conclude the conversation, Ms. Sinclair said that, while she doesn’t have specific next steps in mind beyond preparing a letter for the City Council, she is aware that neighborhood residents may want to continue talking or learning about this in some way.

“We can start thinking about what a next step connected to this effort might look like,” she said.

447 Total survey responses



Community

ANNUAL MEETING & BOARD SLATE

Please join us on Tuesday, May 11th, for our Annual Meeting. The Council will vote to approve the Slate (below) for the 2021-2022 Board of Directors (The 2020 Annual Meeting and vote were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic and unprecedented year that followed.)

When: Tuesday, May 11, 7:30 PM
Where: On Zoom, RSVP at: <https://bit.ly/anc-rsvp>

Board Slate for 2021-2022

Below please find the Slate of Officers and Directors for the Agassiz Baldwin Community Board of Directors. This Slate will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 11th.

For 1 year term:

- Andrea Walsh, Co-Chair
- Sue Kriegsman, Co-Chair
- Hull Fulweiler, Clerk
- Michelle Morpew, Treasurer

For 2 year term:

- Lawrence Neely
- Ellen Harkavy
- Allegra Fletcher
- Cicely Carew
- Wendy Prellwitz
- Patricia Whelan

Recommended by the Nominating Committee: Jonathan Lehrich, Joan Squeri, Terry DeLancey

Volunteering for the Board

Agassiz Baldwin seeks candidates for board membership on an ongoing basis. Candidates will be considered when vacancies occur or as directors retire at the end of their terms. Those with expertise in law, finance, anti-racism, representatives of local businesses, and people

with children in ABC programs or with strong community ties are often sought.

Currently, the 2021-2022 Board Slate is full, however we may have openings in the future. Candidates should send a statement that explains their interest in the Board as well as relevant experience and a resumé, if available, to mlapage@agassiz.org or Agassiz Baldwin Community, Attn: ABC Nominating Committee, 20 Sacramento Street, Cambridge, MA 02138.

ANNUAL FUND THANK YOU

^fka Agassiz Baldwin Community thanks our Annual Fund supporters.

*Denotes contribution to the 2020 year-end fka ABC Board of Directors Leadership Gift

Afsaneh Najmabadi
 Aindrea and John Pattisall
 Alan and Katherine Scott
 Albert Silliman and Seija Halva
 Alexander Taylor
 Alexis Gallardo Foreman
 Alisa Lemberg
 Alison Riddoch-Kennedy
 Allegra Fletcher*
 Amanda Lobell
 Amber Villa
 Amy Baron
 Andrea Walsh and Carmen Sirianni*
 Anita Rae Simpson
 Ann Kelly
 Ann Waters
 Anna Eckert Byrne and Michael Byrne
 Anne Marie Michel
 Anne Marie Reardon
 Annette Needle and Peter Meyersohn
 Anonymous
 Anthony Knopp and Helene Quinn
 Anuj Shah
 Aram Comjean
 Arlene and Daniel Holtzman
 Aron Bernstein and Susan Goldhor
 Astrid and Doug Dodds

Aya and David Windle
 Barbara Barss
 Barbara St. Clare Post
 Barrett Grizzard
 Bernd Widdig and Nadine Berenguier
 Beryl Minkle
 Betsey Cogswell
 Byungdoo Yi
 Camille and John Musser
 Carolann Barrett
 Carolyn O'Brien
 Catherine Connolly
 Catherine Garnett
 Catherine Kernan
 Charles and Diane Norris
 Charles and Kimberly Burke
 Charlotte Beal
 Cheryl Suchors and Laurence Field
 Christina Lehrich
 Christine Gratto
 Christine Rogers
 Cicely Carew
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 Claudia Davidoff and Joseph Kahan
 Claudia Goldin and Lawrence Katz
 Claudine Weatherford
 Cory Shea
 Creighton Eldridge
 Cushing Giesey and Janice Ellertsen
 Cynthia Smith and Steve Imrich
 Dana McSherry
 Daniel Wendel
 David and Clare Leslie
 David and Patricia Straus
 David Dahlbacka
 David Heder
 David Herder
 Deborah Black and Cliff Risack
 Deborah Hoover and Malcolm McPherson
 Deborah Lee
 Deborah Morse
 Debra Gettelman
 Dena Cherenson
 Devon Davidson
 Diana Montenegro
 Diane Martin and Ron Moulton
 Donna Kelly

Dorian Freeman
Dr. Jerald L. and Sara Reisman
Dr. Susan Kelly Blackburn
Dylan Maguire
East Boston Savings Bank Charitable Foundation
Edward Prenowitz
Edward Zucker, Chestnut Hill Realty
Eleanore Grochowska
Elizabeth and Peter McCann
Elizabeth Benedikt
Elizabeth Caffrey
Elizabeth Caney
Elizabeth McCann
Elizabeth Randall
Ellen Fox
Ellen Harkavy and Adam Hornstine*
Ellen Leopold
Elliott Yates
Emily Broderick
Emily Scheinberg
Emily Somma
Eric and Sydney Fisher
F. William Green
Fran Cronin
Francis H. Williams
Franziska Schuerpf-Huber
Maria and Fred Meyer
Freeman Deutsch
Gadi Reinhorn
Geordie McClelland
George Hein and Emily Romney
Gerald and Nina Holton
Gerald Flaxter Charitable Foundation
Gloria Serpe
Grace Mazur
Gretchen Adams and Robert Hayes
Heather Munro
Hull Fulweiler and Catherine Chute*
J. R. Price
Jack Chun
Jackie Horne
Jacqueline Olds
Jaime and Corey O'Connell
Jan Devereux
Jan Walker
Jana Matuskova
Jane Wiseman
Janet Burns
Janet Reckman
Jason Arroyo
Jean Fuller Farrington
Jeanette Atkinson
Jeanne Petropoulos
Jeff Goldenson
Jenine Turner-Trauring
Jenny Dixon
Jerad Lewis
Jeremy and Gail Pool
Jeremy Brown
Jim and Joy Laine
Jim and Marie Mortell
Joel and Betsy Bard
Joel Goldberg
John and Joyce Penniston
John Schoon
Jonathan Lehrich*
Jonathan Lupfer and Susan Berseth
Jorge Luis Montana and Oxana Shevel
Josephine Louie
Josephine Wendel
Judith and Peik Larsen
Judith Cotton
Judith Elstein
Judith Parker
Judith Zinker
Julia Stearns and Umberto de Ros
Julie Bestest
Julie Duncan
Julie Shaw
Justin Roy
Karen Martin
Karen Vaters and Tim O'Brien
Kate Summey Frank
Katherine Fichter*
Katherine Gross and Peter Thorne
Kathleen Clark
Kathryn Deane
Kathryn Fenneman
Keene Metzger and Nancy Moorehead
Khaki Janusz
Kristen Wainwright and Richard Harriman
Kristine McKinney
Laura Wernick and R. John Hansman
Laurel and Ed Mortell

Lauren Tomaselli
Laurie Pessah and Matthew Simitis
Lawrence Neeley*
Layla Hijab Cable
Lee Myles
Leighton Scheffy
Leslie and John Akula
Linda Brion-Meisels
Lisa Chanoff
Lori and Kyle Damon
Louise and Charles Weed
Lucy Wilhelm
Lynn Cadwallader and Richard Barran
Lynne Reiss
Mahala Burn
Mara Wagner
Marcia and Daniel Halperin
Margaret Ann Ashley
Margaret Curtis
Margaret McConnell
Margaret Studier
Maria Caldini
Maria Gough
Maria LaPage
Marian Fox
Marie Epstein
Marie Lespinasse
Mark and Julie Schlack
Marlene Wicherski
Martha Osler
Mary Cronin-Furman
Mary Reticker
Mary Ziegler and Don Baltus
Matt Bagedonow
Matthew Krom
Melissa and Chris Frost
Meredith and Eugene Thompson
Michele Martinez
Michelle Morphew*
Michelle Remaud
Mimi and Paul Ezust
Monica and Tom Hexner
Nancy Price
Nancy Raphael
Natasa Dias
Nate Emerton
Neil Schiavo
Norma and Steve Freedman
Patricia Whelan
Patrick Quin
Paul Blackborow and Jessica Daniels
Paula Chandoha
Peggy and Maurie Fox-Warren
Peggy Kutcher
Peter and Carmel O'Reilly
Peter Kelsey
Peter Nohrnberg
Polly Carpenter
Prellwitz Chilinski Associates (PCA)
Rafael Jaramillo
Ran Gilboa
Rhonda Smith
Richard and Jillian Melrose
Richard Goldstein
Rick Shea
Rosemary Wilson
Russell and Linde Gee
Ruth Goodman
Sara St. Antoine
Sarah Gallivan
Sarah Smith
Scott Frank
Sharon McBride
Shelley Gross
Steve and Judy Leff
Steve Robinson, Porter Square Wine and Spirits
(formerly Liquor World)
Steven Bonsey and Elisabeth Keller
Susan and Frank Wellington
Susan Fleischmann
Susan Glassman
Susan Kaufman
Susan Keane
Susan Murray
Susan Pollak and Adam Weisenberg
Susan Redlich
Susan White
Sue Kriegsman*
Suzi Wojdyslawski
Taylor Mortell
Ted Peck
Thomas Bisson
Till Rosenband
Tim and Amy Rowe

Tina Lieu
 Tom and Jill Delbanco
 Toni Lee De Lantsheere
 Travis Reik
 Trumbull Barrett
 Valerie Bradley and Lewis Sargentich
 Violet Byrd-Clark
 Virginia Litle
 Wendy Prellwitz*
 William and Helen Reimann
 Zoe Anderson

Support ABC

Donations to ABC provide valuable funds to support our community programs, services, and agency-wide re-opening. Tax-deductible donations can be sent to: Agassiz Baldwin Community, 20 Sacramento Street, Cambridge, MA 02138 or made online at: [http:// bit.ly/donate-to-ABC](http://bit.ly/donate-to-ABC).

^ formerly known as, learn more at: <https://agassiz.org/about/board/>

SAVE THE DATE: RAINBOW PARTY HOUR

To celebrate everything behind us, and more importantly, everything up ahead, we hope you'll join us for a very special, free virtual gathering for all ages: the Rainbow Party Hour! As a sign of hope after a rainstorm, we think bright, colorful rainbows are the perfect theme for what we've got planned.



The Rainbow Party Hour is a new virtual variety show-style event to acknowledge the challenges of the past year, celebrate our community, and raise funds to support our continued reopening. It will feature both live and pre-recorded segments by some familiar faces including storytelling, hat making, singing, a scavenger hunt, gardening, a theatrical performance, and more! Since we can't gather in person, we want to create a fun

interactive virtual experience that has something for everyone.

Funds raised will help us meet our goal of closing our \$250K budget deficit by June (we're so close!), support childcare for low income families, our ongoing food distribution program, community arts programs, wellness programs for local seniors, and aid our overall pandemic recovery.

When: Thursday, June 3rd 7:00-8:00 PM
RSVP: http://bit.ly/rainbow_RSVP



Living Well Network



LIVING WELL NETWORK PRESENTS: A LEGAL PLANNING SEMINAR FOR ADULTS 55 AND OVER

What information and documents do you need to organize your legal and medical affairs to ensure that your wishes are followed? Learn from three attorneys who specialize in estate planning, trusts, probate, and medicaid planning. What documents should everyone have in order? How can you ensure your assets transfer to those you choose, and that your medical wishes are carried out? What should you know about Medicaid? Hear answers to these questions, as well as ones you may have from:

- Rosemary Wilson, Documents for Advance Planning
- Jennifer Taddeo, A brief introduction to probate, trusts, and ways to transfer assets
- Sarah Hartline, Margolis and Bloom, On overview of Medicaid

A question and answer session will follow the

presentations. Send specific questions in advance: <https://tinyurl.com/lwnLegalQuestion>

Live online: Wednesday, May 12
12:00 PM

Sign up: <https://tinyurl.com/lwnLegalSeminar>

Maud Morgan Arts

STAFF ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: EMMALINE LIPKA

We are fortunate to have a number of talented artists on our afterschool staff, and we'd like to show our appreciation by spotlighting their amazing work! Starting with Emmaline Lipka, who joined us in September at the beginning of the school year and has led activities in sculpture, paper-making, painting and more. In addition to her work in our children's programs, Emmaline also helps coordinate our food pantry delivery program alongside Phoebe Sinclair.



Emmaline was born and raised in Vermont and recently graduated from the Massachusetts College of Art and Design with a BFA in painting. To see more of Emmaline's work, visit her Facebook page: http://bit.ly/emmaline_lipka



City Wide

COVID-19 VACCINE CLINICS

Free and open to all people 18+ who live and work in Cambridge. No appointment required! You do NOT need insurance or a photo ID.

Location: Reservoir Church, 170 Rindge Ave. (North Cambridge)

Date & Time: Thurs 4/29, 4:00-8:00 PM
Sat 5/1, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM
Fri 5/7, 9:00 AM-2:00 PM & 4:00 PM- 8:00 PM

Location: CambridgeSide Mall, 100 CambridgeSide Place (East Cambridge)

Date & Time: Wed 5/5, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM
Thurs, 5/6, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

BIODIVERSITY FOR A LIVABLE CLIMATE

Prepared by Paula Phipps, Associate Director of Biodiversity for a Livable Cambridge

Biodiversity for a Livable Climate (Bio4Climate) is a Cambridge-based non-profit organization working to address climate change through ecosystem restoration.

We host conferences, produce lecture series, publish a research Compendium, and engage in education and advocacy to restore degraded landscapes and help living systems heal the Earth. We document the power of biodiversity and healthy ecosystems to shape climate by participating in carbon, water, nutrient, and energy cycles. We publicize the crucial findings on why natural solutions that protect biodiversity prove such an effective and important tool in combating climate change, in addition to improving food security, community resilience, and human and planetary health.

Among other things, Bio4Climate is working on Cambridge's first Miyawaki Forest - a dense,

biodiverse pocket forest that offers community members an opportunity to engage in urban ecological restoration, enjoy green space, and insulate against the heat island effect.

Look out for more news on this in the coming months! Check out Bio4Climate's "Compendium of Scientific and Practical Findings Supporting Eco-Restoration to Address Global Warming" (8 issues, free download): <http://bit.ly/biodiversity4camb>



CAMBRIDGE CURBSIDE COMPOSTING RESUMES MONDAY, MAY 17

Prepared by the City of Cambridge

The City of Cambridge announces that the residential curbside ' composting program will resume on Monday, May 17, 2021.

Curbside compost is available to all residential buildings with city trash collection. Composting reduces trash going to landfills and converts food scraps into clean energy. Separating food waste from trash bins and placing it in curbside compost carts also helps manage rodents in the community because the locking green compost carts make it more difficult for rodents to access food.

The city provides curbside carts and indoor kitchen bins for composting. Residents who were previously composting are encouraged to continue doing so, and those who have never composted are encouraged to start. To learn how easy it is

to get started, and to request free supplies, visit www.CambridgeMA.Gov/Compost

"The curbside compost program is a key part of our waste reduction efforts," said Cambridge City Manager Louis A. DePasquale. "More than 30% of household trash is food waste; separating food waste from the trash helps fight climate change and manage increasing waste disposal costs."

Citywide compost collection was suspended in March 2020 to comply with social distancing protocols which also required the Department of Public Works (DPW) to reduce the number of staff in trucks, further limiting capacity for curbside collection. Throughout the program's suspension, however, the city's compost drop-off sites continued to operate and diverted 500,000 pounds of food waste from landfills. Since citywide curbside compost collection began in 2018, Cambridge residents have helped the city divert more than 3,600 tons of food waste.

"Although we had to suspend separate compost collection, we want to thank residents for utilizing the city's drop-off compost sites," said Public Works Commissioner Owen O'Riordan. "We are excited to get back on track to reducing our trash and impact on climate change by resuming separate compost collection services on May 17."

Residents can pick up a free roll of compost bags on the following dates, between 10:00 AM-4:00 PM at:

- May 10 - Danehy Park (New Street parking lot)
- May 11 - Moore Youth Center (12 Gilmore St)
- May 12 - Cambridge Public Works (147 Hampshire St front door)
- May 13 - Kennedy-Longfellow School (104 Fulkerson St)
- May 14 - Peabody School (across from 62 Haskell St; walk down roadway towards the school)



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Community Calendar

May 2021

Tuesday, May 11	7:30 PM	ANC Annual Meeting (see page 1 for agenda) Receive ZOOM link by RSVPing at http://bit.ly/anc-rsvp All are welcome, please join us!
Wednesday, May 12	12:00 PM	Living Well Network presents: A Legal Planning Seminar for Adults 55 and Over, Live Online
Monday, May 17		Cambridge Curbside Composting resumes
Monday, May 31		Memorial Day holiday, ABC & Maud Morgan Arts programs and office closed

The Whistler is published monthly September-June by the Agassiz Baldwin Community, distribution 750 in 2019. Call (617) 349-6287 to receive by email or mail. The newsletter is available online at www.agassiz.org. Items of interest to the neighborhood should be submitted for consideration no later than the 15th of the month prior to publication date. Editorial team: Phoebe Sinclair, Community Liaison & Editor; Jessica Leach, Scribe; Ashley Yee, Guest Writer.

The Whistler March/April 2021



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