

MINUTES for 11 February 2013

N.E.C.A. Board of Directors Meeting

Held at St. Bartholomew's Church, 125 MacKay Street

Attendance

NECA Board in attendance: Sarah Anson-Cartwright, Roslyn Butler, Simon Ford, Michael Histed, Catherine Lindquist, Tim Plumptre, David Sacks, Paula Thompson, Jim Watson,

Ex Officio: Cindy Parkanyi,

Absent: Carlo Zambri

Tim Plumptre moved to accept the Agenda for this meeting. Paula Thompson seconded the motion. All voted in favour.

Michael Histed moved to accept the Minutes of the January 2013 Board meeting with some minor amendments. Simon Ford seconded the motion and all voted in favour.

Review of events surrounding the Minto zoning application:

David Sacks reported that the date for Minto's zoning application together with the Site Plan (which has not been submitted as yet) has been moved to 19 March 2013. He pointed out that date is seven days before Minto must then go before the City Committee of Adjustment on 26 March.

Our concerns with the proposed development are related to the building mass and height, traffic and parking impacts, and how it will affect our neighbourhood. All of these things are related to requested zoning variances and not with the actual site plan.

We can expect and request that reports by City engineers and other professional experts be provided to us before the Committee of Adjustment meets.

Michael Histed delivered a report to the City that is NECA's analysis of the parking space to be provided for the public who wish to shop or visit the proposed development. The report pointed out that the allotted parking space is too small, cramped and the actual 'bays' are of a minimal size for larger vehicles while the parking access lane is very narrow. So far the only response by the City is acknowledgement that they received the letter.

Section 37 is a proviso in the City legislation regarding larger size buildings that requires developers to pay extra for building larger than zoning permits, with the monies going to the City. The City is saying that this doesn't apply in this case but have given no reason for this decision.

David will draft two letters; one to Bliss Edwards of the City and one to our Councillor Peter Clark, with a copy to Councillor Matthew Fleury, asking why Section 37 doesn't apply in this case and asking why the developers are allowed to go beyond the bylaw provisions.

#### New Edinburgh website and listserv reports:

Cindy Parkanyi has been undertaking the updating of content for the website and asked for helpers with "content management". Simon Ford agreed to help.

Michael Histed said he would find someone on the H&D Committee to help with the Heritage and Development website content.

Cindy will put an announcement in NEN looking for someone to help with the website.

Website management training sessions are to be arranged.

The listserv is close to going on-line. At the moment they are working on the rules for the listserv users.

#### Committee Reports:

Finance: Jim Watson provided a Treasurer's Report showing that NEN has transferred \$2000 to the NECA account. (See sheet)

Canada Lands and CFB Rockcliffe: Roslyn Butler said she had sent around a report on the latest meeting held in January 2013. She reported that the official minutes of the Nov 2012 PAG meeting and report on the 'Ideas Fair' also held in Nov. had finally been made available to the public and are to be found on the clcrockcliffe website.

Heritage and Development: Michael Histed reported that the H&D made a submission to the City regarding the many ways which the re-development of 192 Stanley Ave. does not comply with the New Edinburgh heritage overlay guidelines. The City Committee had not read and/or understood any of the material he submitted. The committee decided to review the decision further and no decision was made.

61 Queen Victoria St. owners have requested that the City re-zone the property completely which would permit them to develop the lot fronting on River Lane. David Sacks suggested that we have a dedicated strategy meeting on this and also proposed NECA form a "Strategy Committee" to deal with these development threats.

David Sacks and Michael Histed agreed to convene this "Strategic Committee" and will ask for volunteers from the NECA Board, from the H&D Committee and from interested parties in the community (Joan mason and Paul McConnell were suggested). Ideally it would be up and running by early March.

A NECA governance review – necessary or not? David asked if a governance review was necessary. It was agreed that we are not doing a full scale governance review, rather we are going to be doing targeted governance issues as they come up.

Tim Plumptre has been tasked to find specific areas for improvement. He suggested for example that we look at the nominating procedure for new Board members to stand for election at the AGM. Other suggestions put forward were:

- All committees should have someone who attends Board meetings.
- Our Councillor should be invited to attend our Board meetings.
- Hold an 'orientation' for newly elected Board members.

- What is the role of the Communications Chair? (currently Simon Ford)
- What is the relationship between committees and the Board?
- What does the term “ex-officio” mean?

If Tim doesn't have some ideas and 'thoughts' together by next Board meeting in March then he will by latest the April Board meeting. He will try to have them in conformity with the new legislation for “non-profits” and NECA's by laws.

A NECA Longer-term plan Tim and Simon are looking at this idea. They propose a 'retreat' of about a day to look at some of our concerns. Concerns such as “What is NECA for? What is the rationale for fundraising? Where do we go with our “Progress Report”?”

A small task force consisting of Simon, Paula and Cindy formed to create an Agenda. All Board members will be required to attend the 'retreat'. The task force will report at the March Board meeting.

City Land-use-plan Review NECA has concerns that this Land-use-plan has no urban Councillors, only one suburban Councillor and the rest are Councillors who represent rural wards. David will keep the Board updated on this by email.

Other Business Catherine noted that the motion regarding neglected properties is before Council for a vote. She had asked if Councillor Fleury needed our support on the matter.

At 21:43 Paula Thompson moved that the meeting be adjourned. Catherine Lindquist seconded the motion and all agreed.