

MINUTES for 18 March 2013

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

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

Attendance

NECA Board in attendance: Roslyn Butler, Simon Ford, Catherine Lindquist, Tim Plumptre, David Sacks, Paula Thompson, Jim Watson

Ex Officio: Cindy Parkanyi,

Absent: Sarah Anson-Cartwright, Michael Histed, Carlo Zambri

Guest: Ernie Smith

David Sacks moved to accept the Agenda for this meeting. Paula Thompson seconded the motion. Since Tim Plumptre would arrive to the meeting late due to having had a major house fire on Thursday last, agenda items #2 and #3 were to be deferred for an hour. All voted in favour.

Paula Thompson moved to accept the Minutes of the February 2013 Board meeting. Catherine Lindquist seconded the motion, and all voted in favour, once a minor correction of the spelling of Councillor Mathieu Fleury was made.

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March 19 2013 Public consultancy on the Minto Development

This meeting is being hosted by the City of Ottawa Planning department chaired by Bliss Edwards. The two Councillors – Clark and Fleury will be there and the Minto team including the architect. All concerned residents of New Edinburgh, Lindenlea, Rockcliffe Park, Vanier, are invited. It will be held in the church hall of St. Bartholomew with doors open at 18:30 to view the plans and discuss informally, with the presentation starting at 19:00. A Question and Answer session is to follow the presentation.

Catherine Lindquist said there were about 40 comments that had come in to the City and Minto after the last public meeting in January, but we do not know if they were pro or con the proposed development. In general people are in favour of the project but have some concerns regarding the height, the parking, the retail space and the facade design.

[Note: At the Board's suggestion, David Sacks subsequently contacted planner Bliss Edwards to ask if she could show NECA copies of the 40 comments received but was told no, that privacy issues prohibited. As it happens, some dozen or so of the letter writers had cc'ed NECA upon sending originally.]

Michael Histed, Chairman of H&D was absent and unable to discuss the zoning issues.

Assignments were given to Board members to raise as questions at this meeting:

- Roslyn to ask about the facade materials
- David to ask about transportation and parking concerns
- Paula to ask about the set-backs both at ground level and on the upper levels
- Catherine to ask about the retail spaces and proposed shops

After this meeting, New Edinburgh has only one week to organize our points so we can argue our case before the City Planning Committee meeting on the 26 March. David will call people who have expressed strong concerns to see if they will be able to attend the Planning Committee meeting and sign up as speakers on our behalf.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

New Edinburgh News: Cindy Parkanyi needs the NECA reports because the paper is going to press on Mon., 25 March. She asked that anything else please be submitted quickly.

Finance: Treasurer, Jim Watson sent out a report which he said was mainly “food for thought”. It was a list of “Large NECA expense items from 2005 – the present” that showed where most of the NECA funds had gone.

Canada Lands – Former Rockcliffe Airbase : NECA’s representative Roslyn Butler said that she had submitted two items to be published in the New Edinburgh News. One was the naming contest for the site - the winner’s name will be used for an entire section of the city. The second was notice of an Open House and Public Forum to be held in May at the Hampton Inn. She also reported on a Public Advisory Group meeting she attended where the very first site-plans were presented and then an actual walk about of the lands took place in spite of 2 ft of snow on the ground. She described the tree nursery that was being planned on the site to be managed by The Rideau Valley Conservation Authority where tree saplings will be raised that will eventually be used for site landscaping.

Heritage & Development: Chair Michael Histed was absent.

NECA Long-Term Plan: Paula Thompson, Simon Ford and Tim Plumptre reported that this is to be called “Strategic Planning Document”. A “retreat” is being planned that is to be held in the not too distant future that will last for about 4 hours and involve all NECA Board members. At this retreat we will identify what NECA’s priorities are and then what the next steps should be. Paula will survey members by email to find a day.

After this retreat the subsequent phases will be developed:

- The NECA Mandate stands as is.
- There will be a review of the by-laws and governance.
- Ways to improve communications with the community will be examined.

Tim Plumptre arrived late and described the sad event of the fire at his beautiful house. He described the situation with the insurance and his and his wife's desire to restore the house to its original state. He is looking for a place to rent.

Tim thanked everyone for their help and concern during the past days.

Tim Plumptre moved that NECA donate \$100 to the 42 Crichton restaurant account for the other couple, Judy and Stephen Woolcombe whose house also suffered some fire and water damage when his house burned. Simon Ford seconded the motion and all voted yes to this.

The next NECA Board meeting will be on 15 April. The May meeting is proposed for the 13th since our usual third Monday falls on the Victoria Day.

There was no Other Business.

At 9:18 p.m. Tim Plumptre moved to adjourn the meeting. Catherine Lindquist seconded the motion and all agreed.