

MINUTES for 15 April 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, , David Sacks, Paula Thompson, ,

Ex Officio: Cindy Parkanyi,

Absent: Catherine Lindquist, Tim Plumptre , Jim Watson , Carlo Zambri

Guest: Ernie Smith was present as an observer

David Sacks moved to accept the Agenda for this meeting. Simon Ford seconded the motion as amended. All voted in favour.

David Sacks moved to accept the Minutes of the March 2013 Board meeting with some minor amendments. Paula Thompson seconded the motion and all voted in favour.

Minto at 19 Beechwood Developments

David Sacks reported that we are waiting for Minto to file a "Site Plan". Bliss Edwards from the City Planning Department has told David that Minto has not yet filed. Previously, Minto vice-president Brent Strachan, had told NECA that Minto would file by the end of March.

Once Minto files a site plan application, the Urban Design Review Panel can meet and discuss. However, currently, City planning staff possesses "delegated authority" over site plan applications as granted to them by Council, and with this they can make decisions without public consultation. NECA will ask our Councillor, Peter Clark, to take back the "delegated authority" on the Minto application, so the decisions will be made by elected Councillors who may listen to our public voice.

NECA Heritage & Development Committee (H&D) will plan to be present at the Urban Design Review Panel meeting.

61 Queen Victoria Rezoning Proposal:

The rezoning aspect of this proposal applies to the proposed home to be constructed on what is currently a plot of grass on River Lane. The request is to rezone the property so as to (by our interpretation) get around its heritage designation and allow a new home to be built with frontage on River Lane. The zoning request will go before the Planning Committee of City Council on May 14. The City planning department requested that the NECA H&D comment by 16 April. Because of the complicated nature of these rezoning requests, the proposals will go before the Built Heritage Subcommittee (BHSC) of Planning Committee on May 9, prior to its date at Planning Committee. If Planning Committee passes it, it goes before City Council on May 22.

The challenge for NECA is to line up good presenters to make our argument that allowing this “spot rezoning” (effectively extracting the River Lane plot from the Heritage District) would create a serious precedent affecting all heritage districts in the city.

Joan Mason of H&D will be asked to approach Councillor Clark will be approached to ask him to help make our case by speaking against it at BHSC (of which the Councillor is a member) and if necessary by speaking against it at Planning Committee. NECA will try to reach members of other heritage districts in the city to inform them of this development and gain their support to help us make our case. NECA will get Heritage Ottawa involved.

David and Michael will stay in touch by phone as this situation proceeds.

NECA needs a Standard Procedure for Planning Committee meetings:

David and Michael briefly discussed this at the table. It was agreed that if H&D has written against a certain proposed development – and if the proposal is major or egregious – then the standard procedure should be that H&D will intend to make presentation against the proposal at Planning Committee. Thus there should normally be no ambiguity about whether H&D will present at a certain Planning Committee

(given however that our volunteers' schedules may occasionally interfere and make this impossible).

H&D should be represented at Planning Committee by a knowledgeable, good presenter such as Gail McEachern, Joan Mason, or Paul McConnell.

NECA will continue to develop a standard procedure for preparing presentations at Planning Committee.

Committee Reports:

Finance: There was no report as Jim Watson was absent.

Canada Lands and CFB Rockcliffe: Roslyn Butler reminded everyone of the Canada Lands Open House on 25 May. Otherwise, she had nothing to report this month as there was no activity by the Public Advisory Group, which will meet again on April 30.

New Edinburgh News: Cindy Parkanyi said that Jane Heintzman did the bulk of the writing for this April edition. The paper has had several responses to the April "op-ed" on St. Patrick St. future reconstruction.

Heritage and Development: Michael Histed reported that the proposed enclosed fire-escape to be built at New Edinburgh House cannot be constructed. The fire-escape must be an open metal structure located at the back of the house.

There has been a request for a zoning variance to build an additional carport (the third) at an old house, which used to be a bakery, located on a lane called The Mews. This carport will take up most of the remaining garden. The neighbours do not like the idea. However, this part of New Edinburgh is outside of the Heritage District, so there is not a good H&D argument to be made against the development.

Friends of the Park: David read a report from Marci Sturkes. The park is emerging from the snow. The refuse bins are being emptied weekly. A volunteer group is being assembled to begin cutting down burr plants in the meadows and the region around the

off-leash area. The committee has received two concerns from residents about aggressive dogs not controlled by their owners in the off-leash area.

Park clean up day is being scheduled for Saturday, 11 May 2013.

Other Reports:

Jane's Walk Plan: The walk is scheduled for Sunday morning, 05 May 2013. It was very well attended last year and hopes are high for this year. The walk is to go down Beechwood Ave. The organizers are looking for people who might want to speak on the history and state of the street. The Beechwood Village Alliance and Vanier BIA will be helping out.

National Capital Commission annual general meeting: Simon Ford has agreed to go as NECA representative on April 24.

NECA Policy regarding posting local business events to the NE website:

Cindy is looking for guidance for handling requests by businesses to post announcements of their events on the New Edinburgh website. The Board came up with this framework of guidelines:

- Yes if it is a community event
- Yes if it is a community service, eg: music lessons, babysitting, daycare, pet walking
- Yes for Calendars of Events for 3C's, NECTAR, New Edinburgh House etc...
- Yes for commercial events of benefit to the neighbourhood by businesses within New Edinburgh's boundaries, businesses along Beechwood and former businesses that served our neighbourhood such as Epicuria and Time Sharpening

The decision can be made by Cindy if she feels it is appropriate.

Do we need a new NECA Traffic Chair? We agreed that this is a potentially useful position especially if there will be problems during the repairs of St. Patrick St. This position does not have to be someone on the NECA Board, but perhaps someone willing to take on the job and report to Board meetings, as with Friends of the Park.

At the moment there does not seem to be a problem with street repairs in New Edinburgh.

Board Succession Planning: David Sacks announced that he will step down in October 2013 as acting President and he may retire from the Board entirely.

The Board will need to elect a new president sometime June - September. It would be possible to conduct the vote electronically during the summer.

Board members are asked to think about who will be a good choice for President. We will discuss the matter further at the May meeting.

NECA Strategic Planning Session: The Board discussed two dates, Sunday, May 26 and Sunday June 2. We will decide soon on a date.

There being no Other Business, David Sacks moved to adjourn the meeting at 21:17. Paula Thompson seconded the motion and everyone was in favour.