

Draft MINUTES for 17 June, 2013
NECA Board of Directors Meeting
Held at St. Bartholomew's Church, 125 MacKay Street

Attendance

NECA Board in attendance: Sarah Anson-Cartwright, Roslyn Butler, Tim Plumptre, David Sacks, Paula Thompson, Jim Watson

Ex Officio: Cindy Parkanyi

Absent: Simon Ford, Michael Histed, Catherine Lindquist, Carlo Zambri

Guest: Ernie Smith was present as an observer

Jim Watson moved to accept the Agenda for this meeting. Sarah Anson-Cartwright seconded the motion. All voted in favour.

Paula Thompson moved to accept the May 2013 Board meeting Minutes with corrections, as sent to all by email. Tim Plumptre seconded the motion, and all voted in favour.

Committee reports

Friends of the Park - Marci Surkes, not present, sent a short report that the burdock eradication has been moved to early July due to continuing cool weather.

New Edinburgh News - Cindy Parkanyi, editor, had nothing to report.

Heritage and Development - Michael Histed not being present, David reported for him that the NECA comments on the proposed Minto Site Plan were sent in to the City on 10 June.

Finance - Treasurer Jim Watson had sent everyone a budget document showing that we received monies from the *New Edinburgh News* (NEN) on 13 June. At this moment, NECA's net assets are \$3,600.11.

The next cash infusion from NEN would be in the summer and possibly around \$2,000.

Tim asked for a cash-flow report to help him understand the finances between NECA and NEN, which is owned by NECA.

A “Thank you” gift for St. Barts

This was to be our last Board meeting in the St. Bartholomew’s Church Hall. Tim moved that we donate \$200 to the church as a “Thank you”. Paula seconded the motion, and all voted in favour. The Treasurer will write a cheque to St. Barts.

NECTAR and New Edinburgh House

Paula reported that NECTAR is required to bring New Edinburgh House up to the fire-safety code. There is a clause in the mortgage agreement that this work must be done by 31 Dec., 2013. Because of such a short time frame, NECTAR must negotiate with the mortgager for a one year extension of this deadline. They can then access year 2014 grants available from the province, to help them afford the work. They have received all grants available to them for 2013. Meanwhile, NECTAR is fundraising by calling donors for any financial help they can give.

The “Paint the Fence” project has raised about \$10,000. The “after-school childcare project,” to start in September 2013, will bring in about \$50,000 per year. More activities and renters of the church hall will bring in additional revenue.

The province has infrastructure loans available for up to the total amount owing: These would be most helpful if they could be accessed.

The situation is very serious for NECTAR. Meanwhile, they are holding their AGM on 19 June.

61 Queen Victoria Street and the OMB

The neighbours on Victoria Street and NECA plan to fight, at the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB), the “spot zoning” of a house-building project on River Lane. This will be expensive, as \$10,000 will buy only one day in court—that is, to pay for a hired planner and lawyer. Because of the precedent-setting nature of this “spot zoning,” it is important that NECA assist financially in the OMB fight.

On the question of how to split NECA’s available funds-for-donation between NECTAR and the 61 Queen Victoria cause, Tim moved that NECA donate \$2,000 to the former and \$1,500 to the latter. Sarah seconded the motion. All voted in favour.

Note: As transpired subsequently, the \$1,500 allocated for the OMB campaign will not be used; it remains in NECA’s assets as of September 2013. In July the OMB campaign had to be forgone, due to technical reasons.

NCC's Kettle Island Bridge recommendation

The National Capital Commission (NCC) has named the Kettle Island corridor as its selected route for the new bridge to be built across the Ottawa River. The Ontario government has announced it will not support this bridge option. The Quebec government is in favour. The City of Ottawa is not in favour. The question now is, What will the federal government do?

What is the position of the NECA Board? NECA will wait and see. Some on the Board are in favour, and some opposed.

Report on the June 2nd Strategic Planning session

Tim moved, "As revised by committee work and decided by the session, the restated 'Mandate' will be put forth to the AGM for approval, and will then be incorporated in the NECA bylaws." Paula seconded this motion. The motion passed.

For the context and the precise changes of wording referred to, please see the Appendix at bottom here, excerpted from the Record of Discussion of the Board's June 2nd Strategic Planning Session.

Paula is condensing and refining the "basket" of Strategic Priorities. She wants to consolidate them to around five, from the original ten. She will first put this to the subcommittee (Cindy and Simon), before bringing it to the NECA Board. The Board can then create a Calendar of Actions (timeline), to give a plan for future actions.

Paula pointed out that should NECTAR fail financially, a community facility would then become a NECA priority.

A special Board meeting for governance review

David wishes to hold a special meeting in early July or late June, and the Board agreed that a Doodle scheduling email be sent around to find a date. Tim and Paula will finalize their Recommendations memo and send it to the Board in the next ten days.

AGM planning

The date of Wednesday, Oct. 16, was chosen for the Annual General Meeting (AGM). That will be a full two weeks after the necessary meeting notice and relevant documents will have been published in the October 1st *New Edinburgh News*, as required by the NECA Bylaw. The regular NECA Board meeting will take place on the following Monday, 21 October.

Tim pointed out that the election of the new Board Officers can take place almost immediately after the AGM elections, on the same evening. This can happen in a small side room, to take only a few minutes.

With Michael Histed having announced that he will not seek Board re-election, and Michael Larrass having resigned previously, Jim and David are the Board members whose terms will expire in October 2013. Jim said that he thought he would be available to keep his position.

Regarding NECA Board recruitment, David read a brief list of suggested people who might be approached to stand for election to the Board. He encouraged everyone at the table to submit informally other names of possible candidates.

In September there will be a call for Committee Reports to be ready well in time for the Information Package at the AGM. The Package will be emailed as a pdf to the NECA membership in advance of the AGM and will be available in a few hard copies at the AGM.

Other business

The September Board meeting will be on the 16th in the Field House.

At 9:35, Tim moved to adjourn the meeting. Paula seconded the motion, and all were in favour.

APPENDIX

Excerpt from the Record of Discussion of the Board's June 2nd Strategic Planning Session

Mandate Review

Current mandate as presented in NECA's July 1989 Letters Patent, Item 6

- a. Developing and fostering a sense of community among the residents of New Edinburgh;
- b. Promoting organized events and other community endeavours;
- c. Researching, developing positions and making representations to various levels of government on matters affecting the community and its residents;
- d. Co-ordinating activities of the Corporation with those of organizations, associations and individuals with similar interests or activities whether in the community or outside it;

and other complementary purposes not inconsistent with these objectives.

The following changes to the mandate were discussed and, if accepted by the NECA Board, will be proposed to at the AGM:

- with respect (b) to ADD “particularly that uphold one or more of the first three NECA objectives listed above.”
- Move (b) to be last in the order of the mandate objectives.
- (c) - REMOVE “to various levels of government” and REMOVE “and its residents”
- Note that it was agreed NOT to add to (c): “particularly matters that touch on the preservation of New Edinburgh’s character and heritage, both inside and outside of the Heritage Conservation District,” which had been proposed by the Strategic Planning Committee.

Proposed revised mandate

1. Developing and fostering a sense of community among the residents of New Edinburgh;
2. Researching, developing positions and making representations on matters affecting the community;
3. Co-ordinating activities of the Corporation with those of organizations, associations and individuals with similar interest or activities whether in the community or outside it;
4. Promoting organized events and other community endeavours, particularly those that uphold one or more of the first three NECA objectives listed above;

and other complementary purposes not inconsistent with these objectives.