



**Minutes**  
**NECA Board Meeting – 17 April 2018**  
**New Edinburgh House, 255 MacKay Street**

**Present:** Dave Arnold, Ted Bennett, Roslyn Butler, Natasha Cappon (late), Joe Chouinard, Ann Davis, Matt DeWolff, Sean Flynn, Christina Leadlay, Gail McEachern

**Absent:** Phil Nowotny, Cindy Parkanyi

**Guests:** Murray Gibson

### **1. Welcome, approval of minutes and agenda**

NECA President Cindy Parkanyi was absent. Joe Chouinard - Vice President, Chaired the meeting. Ann Davis moved that the meeting Agenda be approved with some small additions: for item #5 - Suggestions for questions to ask at the All Candidates Meeting on 29 May. And also for item #7 - Other Business – Thomas McKay Day Street Party this summer. The motion was seconded by Sean Flynn and approved by vote.

The April 2018 Minutes were approved electronically.

### **2. Councillor's Report:**

Councillor Tobi Nussbaum was not present so there was no report.

### **3. CCMC Update:**

The new Odour Control Building will be finished by mid-July.

The Tunnel boring machine is to start in mid-September and be drilling/excavating for about one year. A large gantry will be erected over the tunnel opening to assist with the moving of the extracted materials. The boring machine is expected to move about 20 – 25 metres/day and all of the muck produced from this drilling process will be trucked away from the park through our community. There will be trucks going all day with the loads of this muck material.

A micro tunnel will be dug from the main dig to the junction of River Lane and Queen Victoria St. A large chamber is being constructed underground at this point. This part of the project is expected to be finished by Jan 2019.

The revised estimate of the length of the CSST project has now been extended at least 6 months so that completion will be in summer of 2020.

On the issue of diesel exhaust fumes experienced by nearby residents, monitoring in early March 2018 by a company called Geofirma Engineering Ltd., showed no noxious gasses at all. The exhaust has been declared not dangerous, just smelly – and City is of the opinion that the smell is not a problem.

It has been discovered that monies for the rehabilitation of the park will be only for the part enclosed by the fenced off construction site. It may not be much money at all – only for replacement trees and bushes and sod for grassed areas.

It is important that we (NECA) get our Park Vision complete and ready to present to the City.

#### **4. Traffic and Safety Update:**

The Traffic Committee has met with the new members – Joe Chouinard and Dave Arnold. Most of the discussion was about the re-engineering and construction of the junction of Dufferin Rd and Crichton St. where it then becomes Stanley St. David Salie the owner of the corner unit of the townhouses (16 Dufferin Road) will lose between 12 - 18 inches of his front lawn/garden. (This is actually part of the right-of-way owned by the City.) Mr. Salie does not support this project. Councillor Nussbaum offered to help with the negotiations. The City says that by narrowing the road most of the space needed for construction of a sidewalk will be available without encroaching too much on the frontage of the 2 townhouses on Dufferin Road. This may make the narrower road safer from a pedestrian point of view. Some street parking spots will be lost.

The City will organize an information session about this project, especially for the townhouse residents and people living nearby.

The Traffic and Safety Committee is trying to get the City to do something about commuter “cut-through” traffic. They want the City to install traffic counting stations in various locations to establish evidence of “cut-through” drivers. The best evidence would also include licence plates so the City can see how many are Quebec residents passing through our community. This may be impossible without good cameras or human observers present.

Joe has a list of the proposed traffic counting locations. He will send this information to Christina Leadlay for publishing in the New Edinburgh News.

#### **5. All Candidates Forum:**

Ann Davis reported that this All Candidates Meeting will take place at Rockcliffe Park Public School – Queen Juliana Hall on Tuesday 29 May from 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. As in the past, this is a joint undertaking with the community associations of Lindenlea and Rockcliffe.

All four parties (Liberals, Progressive Conservatives, NDP and Green Party) will be sending their candidates to answer our questions. The public will be asked to provide questions. NECA and the other community associations will submit these questions to the candidates.

The *New Edinburgh News* will be published on the 23 or 24<sup>th</sup> of May and will have a middle section spread-sheet featuring the candidates and their platforms. The idea of this timing is to give everyone a chance to read and evaluate the choices for electing our next MPP to the Ontario government.

Christina would like to have several questions to put to each candidate to answer as part of their profile to be published in the NEN late May edition. She asked the Board to think of and send her relevant questions to submit to the candidates. She read out some sample questions which she has already received. She is planning about 6 questions - two on health care, two on education, one on the economy and one on the environment.

A sum of money has already been approved by the NECA Board to be used for our share of the costs of incurred by the All Candidates Meeting in late May.

## 6. Upcoming Events for possible NECA participation:

- Federation of Community Associations (FCA) Wed. 18 April 7:15 – 9:15 p.m.
  - No one volunteered to attend
- Community Associations for Environmental Sustainability (CAFES) Thurs. 19 April 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. To look at the City's Urban Tree Conservation By-Law and express our inputs and proposals for the review of this by-law.
- Park Summit Saturday, 21 April 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. at Allsaints Sandy Hill
- Heritage Inventory Project drop in sessions Mon 23 April 4:00 – 8:00 and Sat 28 Apr 10 – 2:00 p.m. (This is of interest to other communities as our heritage inventory has been done.)

## 7. Other Business:

### a) Thomas MacKay Day.

We all agreed that the “Thomas MacKay Day” street party was a good idea. The inaugural one was held last year on Fri. the 1<sup>st</sup> September was well attended and not too much work to organize – it all came together in a few days before the event. Everyone reported having a good time. Christina suggested we have it again on the Friday before the Labour Day weekend which will be 31 August this year. After a little discussion of other places to hold this, we agreed to have it once again on a closed-off portion of MacKay St. in front of New Edinburgh House (which should still be available to use at the end of August).

The Board will discuss this item again at next month's meeting.

### b) 255 MacKay.

Gail McEachern, Chair of the Heritage and Development Committee tabled her concerns about a proposed change to the redevelopment plans for 255 MacKay (New Edinburgh House). The Architect, Robin Fyfe, would like to revise his already-approved plans to this re build. His revision dramatically changes the façade and materials, as originally proposed. So far, the community has accepted the official plans as posted as has the H & D Committee, but, this new version does not have the approval of the H & D Committee. Gail McEachern as the Chair of the H & D would like to write to Mr. Fyfe expressing our concerns and objections.

Ann Davis proposed a motion “that the NECA Board support its Heritage and Development Committee's approval of the first set of plans, submitted to City Council and approved by them for the expansion and construction the building known as “New Edinburgh House” at 255 MacKay St.

A picture of the expansion and the permission by the City of Ottawa have been posted on a large sign on the lawn of New Edinburgh House and by a website so that residents of New Edinburgh are informed of what is going to happen. So far these residents are accepting, even approving of this first set of plans.

The project's architect Mr. Robin Fyfe, now wants to change this official proposal to something NECA and its Heritage and Development Committee cannot support. Nor does this revised plan have any approvals from the City.

The NECA Board "supports the Heritage and Development Committee and its Chair Gail McEachern, writing to Mr. Fyfe the architect asking him to abandon this second set of plans and to continue with the already approved first plan as per the official sign and the website information."

This motion was seconded by Ted Bennett. The NECA Board members voted their approval of this motion. Board member Sean Flynn abstained from this vote since he is the Chair of the NECTAR Board as well, and he wished to avoid any conflict of interest in this matter.

(NOTE: Gail McEachern has experienced difficulties in contacting the architect Robin Fyfe about NECA's view of changes to the proposed plan for 255 MacKay St. The architect has yet another plan for Gail and the H & D Committee to look at. Since events have moved beyond what we actually discussed at the NECA Board meeting on 17 April, I have decided to record events as they were at that meeting. Subsequent events will be discussed and recorded at the next NECA Board meeting.)

## **8. Next NECA Board Meeting:**

By general consensus the Board members agreed to start the NECA meetings at (19:30) 7:30 p.m. rather than 8:00 p.m. By doing so we hope to get home before 9:30 – 10:00 p.m. which is rather late. After this trial we will see if it is workable and then make a motion to have the new starting time made official.

The next NECA Board meeting will be Tuesday, 15 May 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at 255 MacKay House.

Sean Flynn moved to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. seconded by Ann Davis. The motion passed.