



Minutes
NECA Board Meeting – 15 Jan 2019
New Edinburgh House, 255 MacKay Street

Present: Ari Abonyi, Dave Arnold, Ted Bennett, Roslyn Butler, Natasha Cappon, Joe Chouinard, Matt DeWolfe, Sean Flynn, Christina Leadlay, Gail McEachern, Cindy Parkanyi

Absent: xxx

Guests: About eight New Edinburgh residents (incl. Sarah Anson-Cartwright, David Horley, Marcus Pistor, Nicole Poitras, Andrew Sacret, Jamie Kwong, David Tobin, Brian Casagrande and his assistant Emily)

Councillor Tobi Nussbaum and his assistant Elizabeth Whyte.

1. Welcome, approval of minutes and agenda

NECA President Cindy Parkanyi welcomed everyone back after the Christmas/New year break. She asked for approval of the Agenda for the meeting. The approval motion was made by Joe Chouinard and seconded by Dave Arnold. The Agenda was approved.

Then Cindy said that the NECA Board minutes for both October and November 2018 were approved electronically with no corrections, so they stand as written.

2. Councillor's Report – Tobi Nussbaum

The Councillor announced that he has been appointed as the new NCC Chairman and will step down from his duties as Councillor for Rideau/Rockcliffe on Feb 4, 2019. There will most likely be a by-election for a new councillor, the details to be determined by City Council at their meeting at the end of January. This by-election will need to be carried out within 60 days of being announced by the City Clerk. In the interim some other nearby Councillors will take over necessary duties in support of ward residents.

The City will conduct Budget Consultations in the month of February. Rideau/Rockcliffe will not be represented, which could be a problem, but the five remaining central urban Councillors will try to keep their urban concerns on the agenda in spite of a large contingent of suburban and rural councillors. The top two concerns are affordable housing and transportation.

Tobi reported that City staff are working with the CSST construction companies on the future park rehabilitation. He has recommended to them that flood control and the creation of a berm along the low banks of the park near Stanley St. and the Union Bridges are important as part of reinstating the park.

NECA wants to explore what options exist for materials and money for this flood prevention. They will bring these questions to the next CCMC meeting.

Tobi discussed the results of the reports generated by the Automatic Traffic Monitors that were placed in three locations in our neighbourhood during the fall. These counters

showed results that were a little under the critical volume of vehicles to generate traffic-calming measures.

More heritage street signs have been installed in the Heritage District.

The NECA Board thanked Tobi for his work on our behalf and wished him well in his new position with the NCC.

3. Committee Reports/ Work group Updates:

Traffic and Safety: Joe Chouinard reporting – He said that there was not much to report from over the holidays. The results of the ATM traffic counts were only just reported by the Councillor in his report (see above).

There are complaints about traffic congestion on Beechwood Ave., especially from Lindenlea. People are finding the new “traffic-flow” design put in place on Beechwood to be confusing and frustrating. Pedestrians do not find crossing the street an easy task. It was suggested that Ari Abonyi and his Beechwood development group might look to finding appropriate solutions to the pedestrian crossing problems.

Guest David Horley asked about snowbank removal. He said that many streets are effectively only one lane due to large snowbanks clogging the streets. He asked that we request the City to remove some of the snowbanks.

Beechwood Development: Ari Abonyi reporting - Jacobson’s have not yet begun to build their new premises yet.

The US Corporation that is thought to have bought the Lauzon property along Beechwood, will be holding hearings to explain what is going on and what they plan to build. A group from Vanier has been invited but so far neither New Edinburgh nor Lindenlea were asked to attend as it requires a non-disclosure agreement to be in place.

Guest David Tobin said that he was very concerned about this. He said that he was willing to work with Ari’s group on the Beechwood Development file.

Park Vision: Nicole reporting – She said that the CSST project team would like an answer by the spring about the building of a high-water berm.

She noted that the NCC is also asking the City to re-instate their land that has been affected by the CSST construction. She reported that the NCC has been very helpful and has kept the Park Vision up-to-date with emailed information.

She asked for clarification of the revised date of completion for this project – it will now be late 2019 or early 2020.

She was concerned about the replacement of the large trees which were removed for construction and of the quality of the disturbed and compacted soil new plantings will be planted in.

Cindy noted that NECA needs to submit the Park Vision requests to the CSST project team and the City before the fall, so that do not miss our opportunity to shape the end result of the park rehabilitation work.

Heritage and Development: Gail McEachern reporting – She noted that the owner of the property being constructed at 227 MacKay may be fined for demolishing the original house which was not permitted by the heritage guidelines.

She then introduced Brian Casagrande and his assistant Emily to speak about the re-development of 60 Stanley (a four and a half storey brick apartment building approx. 56 years old). The proposal is to remove the laundry and service facilities located on the top floor and relocate them to the basement. The basement flats will then be relocated to the new mostly full-sized top (5th) floor. This solves the flooding risk to these bottom floor flats and creates highly desirable “penthouse” flats with a view over the river. The new building will have 19 instead of 20 flats total. A variance is required from the City, but because the addition is at the top of the building and not the rear, there should be no problem. There will be no change to the ground use, pavements, plantings and so forth.

To illustrate his plans he had several artistic renditions of the reconfigured building and its facades. To all appearances, it will be a much improved building. The plan is for the construction/renovations to start in the spring and take about 8 months. If all goes to plan the project should be ready in a year.

He said that he would like to have a neighbourhood meeting before the end of January. The Board recommended he try a local church hall to hold it.

4. Ward election: Cindy reporting

There was some discussion as to whether NECA would also take part in a larger all-candidates meeting combined with Rockcliffe Park, Lindenlea and Manor Park.

The possibility of organizing a New Edinburgh All Candidates meeting to discuss our own issues was discussed. Natasha said she could help with this if we decided to go ahead.

Ted Bennett as Treasurer pointed out that NECA finances are not in good enough shape to support two such meetings.

Cindy read a list of people who she believes are considering running to replace Tobi.

- Peter Hayek, Rawlston King, Jamie Kwong, Oriana Ngabirano, Marc d’Orgeville, Sheila Perry, Andrew Sacret, Casia Adamiec.

With such a large number of candidates, organizing the debate will be a challenge.

NECA will need to decide what questions we want to ask the candidates.

5. CCMC - Next meeting Jan 23, 2019

Cindy called for any issues we wanted to ask them.

- Park Vision group wants to ask about soil quality after heavy construction.
- Stanley St. has complaints about the bright lights on 24hrs /day.
- Traffic and Safety committee wants to ask about the large amounts of muck carried out onto our streets by the tires of the large trucks.

6. Community Group Updates

NECTAR: Sean Flynn reported that a determination of the validity of the appeal submitted by the next door neighbour on MacKay will be determined next week on Jan 22. If the tribunal finds in favour of the appellant the sale may fall through.

A new buyer may have to be found and if there is any delay, Nectar may have to forfeit its ownership of the property. He wondered where the \$250,000 grant to Nectar from being ousted by The School of Dance, would go. He said there were still a few months until the final deadline.

CCC - Matt deWolfe reported that more than 200 enjoyed the pancake breakfast on New Year's Morning at the Fieldhouse. It was a big success.

The community Hockey Day is planned for the weekend of Jan 19 and 20. He was frustrated by the fact that the City had not levelled the ground where the main rink is located. It still has a slope so that when it is flooded most of the water flows off the rink area and down the riverside path towards the sports fields.

Skating continues as long as the weather co-operates.

The next event will be the Bicycle Rodeo held at the Fieldhouse in early May.

7. Other Business:

The NECA social gathering (instead of the Christmas Party) will now be a "Welcome to Spring" party sometime in March or April. Joe's house still is undergoing construction and awaiting the delivery of a special item from Japan.

The new date will be announced later.

8. Adjournment and Next NECA Meeting

The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 19, 2019, at 7:30 pm.

Sean Flynn moved that the meeting adjourn, seconded by Ted Bennett. The motion passed and everyone went home at 9:40 pm.