



Minutes
NECA Board Meeting – 16 April 2019
New Edinburgh House, 255 MacKay Street

Present: Ted Bennett, Roslyn Butler, Natasha Cappon, Joe Chouinard, Matt DeWolfe, Christina Leadlay, Gail McEachern, Cindy Parkanyi

Absent: Ari Abonyi, Dave Arnold, Sean Flynn

Guests: Nicole Poitras, Marie Mallalia, Dianna Vaillancourt

1. Welcome, approval of minutes and agenda:

Cindy Parkanyi, President, welcomed everyone and introduced the guests. Ted Bennett moved that we approve the Agenda for this meeting. This was seconded by Matt DeWolfe. The motion carried.

Cindy noticed that the copy of the March 2019 Minutes which she circulated were not the final corrected version (there was an incomplete “Ward 13 Report” contained in them). She said she would circulate the corrected version and we would be able to approve them online.

2. Report for Ward 13 Office and ward election results:

Our new Councillor is Rawlson King. He was victorious over the sixteen other candidates for Councillor. The voting turnout was just over 30% in the ward. Cindy reported that she congratulated him on his victory and invited him to attend this meeting. He was understandably busy with other matters.

She said that we can send our requests to him via the Ward 13 office.

3. Minto Bridges Signage:

The Mayor has offered to paint the Minto Bridges height restriction sign posts, if we thought them an ugly addition to our heritage neighbourhood.

At the last (March) CCMC meeting Alain Gonthier, head of City infrastructure, related to Cindy the importance the City places on having signage to ensure that big trucks don't try to cross the bridges, particularly given the structural impact this might have. The first span (most westerly and nearest to King Edward Ave.) has been built stronger to handle additional truck weight, but the other two spans are not reinforced. Cindy reiterated to Mr. Gonthier the community's contention the height warnings are overkill for the potential risk and seriously detract from the appearance of the heritage structures.

The President of the Lowertown Community Association has also indicated that they do not see the need for the signage.

It is unclear what other leverage we have to get the height warning structures removed. Cindy also noted that one of the yellow height warning “pontoons” was

hanging by one chain and dangling dangerously over the bridge entry roadway. She said that she sent an email to the Mayor informing him of this problem.

4. Working with the new Councillor:

NECA will need to inform the Councillor of the issues which are important to New Edinburgh. There was discussion on whether we should write a transition brief to give to the new councillor.

There were numerous concerns expressed that the City-set requirements for someone to become a candidate to run in municipal elections are too easy. There were too many candidates in this latest election. It was very difficult for the public to listen to and evaluate the platforms of everyone and keep track of who said what. We would like the City to raise the requirements to run.

5. CCMC:

The next meeting will be held May 01, 2019. Cindy listed the issues she is aware of currently to bring to this meeting:

- The big “muck” removal trucks are not following the appointed routes through New Edinburgh. They can be seen and heard on many streets in our neighbourhood.
- Obtain more detailed information on the fire in one of the construction office trailers.

6. Committee/work group updates:

Traffic and Safety: Joe Chouinard reported that they are still waiting for the new traffic counts.

The City is going to build a traffic ‘bump out’ at the PXO on Crichton St. and Electric St. The hope is to make the sidewalk flatter in front of the door of the building on the west side of this PXO (the resident there is legally blind).

The province is allowing lowered speed limits in residential neighbourhoods – so we should see a reduction of the 50km/h speed limit on our streets.

Guest Marie Mallalia from the townhouse condos between Avon Lane and 215 MacKay St. has complaints about the condition of the snow plowing and ice removal on Avon Lane – and all lanes in New Edinburgh – this past winter. It was so bad that small sedans using the lane to access their properties were scraped and even damaged as they tried to drive along the lane. Also the ruts were so deep that small vehicles could not get out of said ruts to make a safe turn into laneways. The ice was so bad that it was impossible to walk along these lanes without serious ice crampons. The thick ice did not melt away until the first week of April. She would like NECA’s support to send a letter about the terrible conditions on the lanes, to the Mayor, the Councillors and the City Traffic Committee.

Joe said he would try to find the right people at City Hall who are in a position of responsibility, to contact for this letter. He offered to help draft the letter and added that any contact with the City should also be frequent and insistent, so that they don’t just ignore us.

Heritage and Development: Gail McEachern reported that H & D is making some progress. They have a meeting a Mr. Arpin from the Mayor’s Office who is on the Heritage file. The meeting is scheduled to be one and a half hours long and will be attended by a sub-

committee of four main heritage district representatives in the city. Gail also reported that she attended a meeting in Stittsville with Councillor Gower on the heritage topic.

Gail said that she is “keeping an eye” on the corner bungalow at Crichton and Dufferin. The renovations have started, and the plan is to add a second story plus roof as per the original plans that were found and which date from 1945.

The new development on Crichton near the Macdonald - Cartier Academy has begun. The excavations are being undertaken in order to build the parking garage and basement. The plan is for 36 units in a four- storey building.

The proposed rebuild of 14 Noel will have a five-unit building replace the existing home and will be finished in brick similar to the church.

Beechwood Development Report: There was no report as Ari Abonyi was absent.

Park Vision: Nicole Poitras reported that the working group is planning a meeting for before the end of April so that they have something for the CCMC meeting on the first of May.

They are also working on the public Forum which they want to hold in June. The Board recommended that the best time would be mid -June and held at the Fieldhouse. Cindy agreed to book the Fieldhouse for them to be sure it is available.

7. Community Group updates:

3 C's: Matt DeWolfe said the Bicycle Rodeo will be more ambitious this year and held on Saturday April 27, 2019.

The annual Plant Sale is on Saturday May 11, 2019 at the Field House – all day as long as the plants last.

He said that NECA can move its postal address from New Edinburgh House to the Fieldhouse on Stanley St. We can attach a mail collection box to the “bunker” which means that it may be accessed at all hours and added that it MUST be solid and secure and well attached. He pointed out that the postman will deliver mail to the Fieldhouse where our mail will be separated and then placed into our secure drop box. Cindy said that NECA will think about his suggestion before we give our final decision and get back to Matt.

NECTAR Report: There was no report since Sean Flynn was absent due to travel.

8. Other business:

Environmental Debate: Jorge Sorgas, who organized the environmental debate with 8 of the candidates vying for election be Councillor for Ward 13, wants to set up an Environmental Group to report to the Councillor on environmental issues.

Cindy is asking if someone can take this on and be our representative on this group.

The following names were suggested: Marc Dorgeville, Sarah Anson-Cartwright, Joanne Chelo, Ann Davis. Natasha Cappon is willing to be a #2 assistant

The next FCA meeting: will be held tomorrow April 17 and it would be good if someone from NECA could attend. Gail McEachern said she would go. The meeting will be held in Old Ottawa South in the former firehall.

9. Next NECA Meeting / Adjourn

The next NECA meeting will be held on May 21, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

At 9:02 p.m. Joe Chouinard moved that the meeting adjourn and was seconded by Ted Bennett. Carried.