



Minutes

NECA Board Meeting - 18 June 2019 Stanley Park Fieldhouse, 203 Stanley Ave. 19:30

Present: Dave Arnold, Sylvain Belanger, Roslyn Butler, Natasha Cappon, Sean Flynn, Christina Leadlay, Gail McEachern, Cindy Parkanyi, Chris Straka

Absent: Ari Abonyi, Ted Bennett, Joe Chouinard,

Guests: David Sacks, Jorge Sorger, Lyle Young, Nicole Poitras, Trish Roche, Jane Thompson, D. Sahe, John Jarelson, Laura McGregor, Pam Eisenhauer, Paula Pincombe, Steve Grabnen, Debre Conner, Sylvain Belanger, Chris Hamilton, Mike MacPhee, Lois Gouadec, David Lawrence

1. Welcome, approval of minutes and agenda

Cindy Parkanyi welcomed Chris Straka to the NECA Board as the newly-elected President of the 3C's, who as such is also a member of NECA.

She noted that the Ward 13 Councillor, Rawlson King would not be present at our meeting, but was hoping to send his assistant in his stead. Unfortunately as there was no Ward 13 Councillor assistant present there would be no Councillor's report.

Approval of the Agenda: Gail McEachern moved that the Agenda be approved as submitted. Christina Leadlay seconded the motion. The Agenda was approved.

Approval of the May 2019 minutes: Natasha Cappon moved that the NECA May 2019 Board meeting be approved. The motion was seconded by Cindy Parkanyi. The motion carried and the May Minutes were approved.

2. Councillor's Report:

There was no report (see above)

3. NECA Heritage & Development:

Position on re-zoning – The zoning in question is for the property at 14 Noel St. The request is for a “spot zoning” change for this property from R3 to R4. Which would allow increased density in the re-built dwelling being proposed for that address. Many neighbours are very concerned with this kind of “spot zoning” as they fear it would set a precedent for developers to use whenever a house is sold elsewhere on Noel Street and in other areas of New Edinburgh.

The Architect for the project, Jane Thompson, said there had been consultation with the nearest neighbours. She said that the building would not be larger than what has been approved (she brought some copies of her architectural plans to put on record for those interested), but said that the proposal is allow an increased number of units within the planned building. She pointed out that this results in more small units, which equates to more affordable housing.

The neighbours, residents of Noel St., were not convinced and stated again that they did not want a change to the zoning. They expressed as well concerns regarding extra traffic and a scarcity of parking spaces at the lower end of Noel St.

Cindy Parkanyi proposed the following motion: ***“NECA does not support any rezoning change within New Edinburgh without support obtained through consultation with nearby residents and with the larger community.”*** The motion was seconded by Dave Arnold and passed with no opposition.

Gail McEachern, as chair of the Heritage & Development Committee, proposed a follow-up motion: ***“Only the NECA Board and not the Heritage & Development Committee, can make decisions to support or not support issues regarding zoning and variances.”*** The motion was seconded by Sylvain Belanger. The motion passed unanimously.

Heritage & Development Committee Governance and Communications

The initial update of the H&D web page is complete. It will be adding more detailed information on proposed development in the community – especially outside the areas of New Edinburgh ‘HCD’ (Heritage Conservation District). Residents were requested to alert NECA right away if they hear of any developments happening in their area.

Given the large turnout of interested/concerned residents, Cindy took the opportunity to encourage those present to consider joining the NECA board if they have any interest in what is happening in New Edinburgh; or perhaps joining the Heritage & Development Committee to provide input from outside the HCD.

Cindy then spoke generally about NECA’s efforts to remain active and informed of events affecting our community. She pointed out that NECA is involved with other communities near New Edinburgh, through the Community Collective (of nearby community associations), the Federation of Community Associations and through attendance at the quarterly “Ward (13) Council” established by our Councillor Rawlson King.

4. Initial Planning for NECA AGM

Cindy suggested Thursday, October 24, 2019, as the day to hold the Annual General Meeting. We will need to book the St. Bartholomew’s Church hall. This date is good as it follows the Oct 15 NECA Board meeting and the federal election to be held on 21 Oct 2019. The New Edinburgh News will be published on Oct 1 and can inform the residents of issues of concern and the call for people to step forward to join the NECA Board.

There are three NECA Board members – Dave Arnold, Ted Bennett and Gail McEachern whose terms are up. It would be good to know who is stepping down - to know how many spots we may need to try to fill. Cindy herself is awaiting news from her work whether she can continue as a member of the NECA board. She will know by the end of June, and will keep us informed. A slate of candidates needs to be created for the NECA Board elections.

Jorge Sorger has formed an Environment Committee and held the first meeting. Cindy said he should become a temporary Board member and then put himself forward to be elected at the NECA AGM.

Sylvain Belanger proposed a motion that Jorge Sorger be accepted as a NECA Board member until the AGM in October 2019. Sean Flynn seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

5. Park Vision Update

The “Park Vision” Forum was held on Saturday, June 8. It was very well attended by at least 50 very engaged residents. Because the City nursery must grow the plants to be planted next spring, they need to start them in early July. The Park Vision need to decide what materials and location they want to have for the re-habilitation and report to the CSST.

They also have to have some ideas of what they need going forward in the future of the park. Nicole has concerns about the future of the CSST and the Ottawa Sewer system. They will need to do maintenance ongoing – which means accessing the tunnel structure which will sits in the midst of the park. Cindy asked her to attend the next CCMC meeting in September to voice her concerns. Nicole has sent a large email outlining her concerns to Cindy and others last week. Cindy said she will forward it to the City officials.

The CSST wants to have feedback regarding the spring ice-breaking that takes place from a small beach (the “dog beach”) in the park. In the past this has caused a portion of the park to be heavily damaged by the weight of the vehicles and the ice-breaker accessing this beach over partially thawed soil. The CSST wanted to know if we want them to put in place some measures that can be used to control the ‘chewing-up’ of the park soil. The use of “waffle bricks”, which permit grasses and plants to grow through in the summer but create a firm surface was suggested. Planting bushes along the path that the ice-clearing vehicles use may help to keep them more confined was another suggestion by the CSST team.

The Park Vision Committee will meet with the NCC regarding the bike path routing through the park. Now is the time to make alterations in the path before the plans are finalized. In the past there have been problems with dog walkers, free running dogs, seniors with walkers and speeding bikes on the stretch from the service road to Union St. This needs to happen by the fall.

6. Committee /Work Group Updates

Heritage & Development: Gail McEachern reported. Chris Straka is seeking approval to develop #201 Crichton St. property which he owns. He especially wants to re build and expand the back addition on this house which backs onto River Lane.

The house at 189 Stanley (was owned by David Horley) has been sold. The developer wants to tear down this house and re-build a pair of large doubles.

Cindy received an email from someone who has questions about basement flooding in New Edinburgh.

Traffic and Safety Committee: Joe Chouinard the Chair is away. David Arnold reported. They are trying to get New Edinburgh into a reduced speed zone. Doing so may discourage some “cut-through” traffic. It may also make it safer for cyclists and pedestrians.

Beechwood Development: Ari Abonyi was absent, but he provided Cindy with a quick update – “We are still working on a strategy paper in the sub-committee of the four community associations – NECA, Manor Park, Lindenlea and Rockcliffe Park. The paper dealing with the creation of a community investment vehicle should be ready for discussion of the sub-committee in about two weeks. First the sub-committee will review and discuss it. Then we are generating an operational plan to accompany the strategy, both of which will be provided to a meeting of all four associations for discussion and support.”

Environment and Climate Change: Jorge Sorger reported that they have created a mandate to promote awareness of “Climate change and environment sustainability.”

They have a request for the NECA Board to create a webpage on the New Edinburgh web site specifically for the Environment Committee. The committee would very much like to get youth involved.

Jorge presented two motions on line which were voted on by the Board electronically earlier in June. The motions:

- *“Endorsement of Joint Declaration on the Official Plan and the Climate Emergency”* – carried.
- *“Motion to send a letter to Councillor King asking for his support of the call to end the sale of plastic bottles at City Hall”* – carried
- A letter was sent and the Councillor replied that he intends to support the motion when it comes to Council.

Jorge Sorger proposed a motion, seconded by Cindy Parkanyi: *“The Environment Committee wants NECA to co-sponsor the upcoming federal election debate on the topic “Climate Change and Environmental sustainability”. It will be held at the Unitarian Church on McArthur Ave. Jorge Sorger would also like help with publicizing this debate. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.*

Jorge would like a spot in the paper *New Edinburgh News* for a column on environmental issues. Christina Leadlay the editor, readily agreed.

7. Community Groups Updates:

Nectar: Sean Flynn reported that New Edinburgh House has been sold to the original buyers at the end of May 2019. The LPAT appeal is still on the burner with no decision. The sale should close in 2 months.

The original City stake of \$250,000 does have to go back to the City. This money may be lost to us if the City is in need of money due to Provincial cuts.

On the advice of Councillor King, Sean Flynn proposed a motion: *“That the three groups involved – NECA, Nectar and 3C’s support a ‘Memorandum of Understanding’ that this money can be used for capital improvements to the Fieldhouse and immediate area surrounding it. These capital improvements can be making the building accessible including the washrooms, sound baffling, window replacement, improve the floors etc.”*

The motion was seconded by Christina Leadlay. The motion carried.

3C’s: The 3C’s had their AGM yesterday and Chris Straka was elected as the new President of the Board, replacing Matt DeWolf. Thus, as for NECA Chris Straka will replace Matt as a member of the NECA Board. (Because he has bedtime duties for his two small children he was excused for this evening – Sylvain Bélanger acted in his stead). He stated that improvements to the Fieldhouse needed to be done – see item “Nectar” above.

Mailbox for NECA - 3C’s agreed to share a mailbox at the Fieldhouse. They asked that NECA purchase a larger, more secure mailbox for this purpose.

Cindy Parkanyi proposed a motion that NECA approve a budget of up to \$400 to purchase such a secure mailbox. The motion was seconded by Roslyn Butler and was approved by all.

The time frame for the mail to be re-directed to the new Fieldhouse address was from the middle to the end of July 2019. Most customers/co-respondents of NECA can be informed by email.

8. Other Business

The celebration of Thomas McKay Day Street Party will be held on Friday, August 30, 2019. It was decided that the venue would be moved to the Fieldhouse as the New Edinburgh House has been sold.

The Fieldhouse has its own BBQ, sound system and kitchen and toilets available. There are picnic tables, other tables and chairs and play facilities for children. Jorge would like it to have an environment theme – thus we try to avoid single use plastics and encourage people to bring their own plates and utensils, drinks cups etc... Rob Butler has offered to man the BBQ Joe Chouinard will provide the drinks and some of the salads will be “pot luck”. The burgers and hotdogs and buns are provided by NECA. We do need a volunteer to organize this event.

One of the guests present Mr. Lyle Young, requested that the “Butterfly Garden” be redone during the park re-habilitation. Perhaps it can be relocated to a better spot in the more open area of the park as the original “butterfly garden” has become overgrown by trees. He said that there is a fund that has been raised in remembrance of his wife and wondered if there would be a space on Green Island by the Union Bridges. (This would require permission from the NCC as they own Green Island.) He asked if we could re-name this garden “Elisabeth Christina Salm” in honour of his wife who was brutally murdered last year.

Jorge Sorger proposed a motion that NECA endorse the possibility of naming the eventual Butterfly Garden after Mr. Young’s wife “Elisabeth Christina Salm”. The motion was seconded by Sean Flynn and approved by all.

9. Adjourn

Cindy announced that the next NECA meeting will be Tuesday, 17 September 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the Fieldhouse.

At 9:45p.m. Jorge Sorger moved, seconded by Sylvain Belanger, that the meeting be adjourned.