



Minutes
NECA Board Meeting – 16 March 2021
(Virtual meeting using Zoom)

Present: Cindy Parkanyi (President), Ari Abonyi, Christina Leadlay, Heather Matthews, Sean Flynn, Alison Fabian, Katherine Hall, Ray Boomgaardt, Sarah Anson-Cartwright, Ted Bennett, Gail McEachern, Tamara Sorger

Absent: Marc Dorgeville, Sylvain Belanger

Guests: Councillor King, Andre Gagne; Nicole Poitras

1. Welcome, approval of minutes and agenda

Cindy Parkanyi opened the meeting and welcomed all participants.

Motion to approve the Feb minutes: passed

Motion to approve the March meeting agenda: passed.

2. Report of Councillor Rawlson King

Meeting began with an update on the Official Plan (OP) by Councillor King. The Councillor informed the NECA Board that he would be holding a public Town Hall on the OP on April 15. Community Associations, and especially residents, are encouraged to participate. The Councillor is committed to taking Ward 13's views on the OP to the City. King's own views are anchored in the principles of inclusivity and sustainability - regeneration that makes Ward 13 a better and greener place to live for all. This includes facilitating and planning for future economic growth. Q&A touched on the secondary plan, and plans for Beechwood and Montreal Road.

In terms of next steps, the Board agreed that at least a couple of NECA representatives should attend the April 15 Town Hall, presenting NECA's vision (2 page summary of the Vision Paper to be prepared. Need to identify by whom.)

The Councillor signed off.

3. Governance Review

NECA Board should discuss the issues raised in the Manor Park-organized governance session and make any necessary adjustments to the by-laws before the next AGM. For now, a Working Group was established (thank you to Sarah and Alison for having volunteered) that will review NECA governance in light of the information in the Manor Park session and will come back to the NECA Board with any recommendations, including for filling any gaps in the NECA Board's governance processes. At present, Cindy mentioned she is aware of one gap – NECA directors are not covered under Directors' and Officers' liability insurance.

4. Committee Group Updates

Traffic and Safety (Marc)

In an email sent prior to the meeting, Marc thanked the Board for its support for the pop-up bike lane on Beechwood.

Beechwood Planning (Ari)

Noted ongoing engagement with Minto and reinforced the importance of having a secondary plan for Beechwood, which the Beechwood Village Alliance is working on pursuing on behalf of all the Beechwood communities.

Communications (Alison)

Will bring a proposal for revamping the New Edinburgh website to an upcoming NECA Board meeting. Cindy asked if someone would be willing to look into options for better information management. Katherine Hall volunteered to look into online options for storing NECA data.

Environment & Climate Change (Tamara)

It was noted that Councillor King will support the motion to oppose the proposed Chalk River Nuclear Storage Facility (March 30, City's Environment Committee).

Heritage & Development (Gail)

No news is good news, for now. Quick discussion on options for the pontoons (officially called overhead structures) at the end of the Minto bridges on Union at Stanley. Heather agreed to look at some creative ways to address the problem.

Park vision (Katherine and Nicole)

Kathleen to clarify what is and is not included in the City's maintenance plan, and in particular what can be done to minimize the annual ice-breaking operations. Discussion about changing demographics and need for the park to offer activities for all age groups. For example, installing a "pickleball"/bocci court.

5. Community Group Updates

NECTAR (Sean)

NECTAR continues its plans to transition out of the current house in May. One option includes exploring contacting and seeking space in the convent on Maple Lane.

Crichton Community Council (Sean)

It was noted that the CCC monthly meeting is now on the same date as NECA board meetings.

6. Other business - none

7. Adjournment

Notetaker for April 20 meeting: Kathleen

Motion to adjourn: unanimously adopted around 9:20 pm