



Minutes

NECA Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2021, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Via ZOOM

Board Members present:

Sean Flynn, Ted Bennett, Marc, d'Orgeville, Ray Boomgaardt, Gail McEachern, Katherine Hall, Sarah Anson-Cartwright, Abonyi Arpad

Absent: Heather Matthews, Sylvain Belanger

Guests: Samantha McAleese, J Chan, Michael & Charles Wesley-James, Raymond Bailey, Philippe Nolet, Gemma Kerr, Rawlson King, Vincent Roche, Charles Parker, Eileen Olexiuk, Angus Munroe, James Trottier, John Rodney, Stephen Anderson, William MacGowan, David Pyman, Karen Squires, Judith Allen, Alex Kolb, Miguel Gonzalez, David Slinn, Marion Siekierski, Jason Tavoularis

1. **Welcome:** NECA President (Cindy)
 - Welcomed all present and noted procedure on Zoom call
 - Noted the need for quorum for the AGM (ie. Need 25 attendees)
 - Councillor King expected at around 8pm
 - Approval of agenda. (once quorum reached)
 - Motion by Gail, seconded by Sean
 - Agenda approved
 - Approval of 2020 AGM minutes.
 - Motion by Christina, seconded by Katherine, 1 abstention
 - Minutes approved with one minor edit

2. Strategic Priorities – this topic was started while waiting for quorum was obtained.
 - Cindy shared her screen and provided an overview of past strategic plans.
 - The first priority was related to the **Official Plan** and Ari provided some additional information about the BVA and the Community Design Plan.
 - Second priority (**Traffic & Safety**) was summarized and Marc commented on making reports to police (ie. When and for what).
 - Third priority (**Protecting Heritage**) was summarized by Gail, which was followed by some discussion on heritage districts in the context of the Official Plan. Some edits were made to the goals of this priority.



- Fourth priority (**Fostering Community Engagement**) was summarized by Cindy and highlighted that there is no chair for the Comms committee. There was some discussion on how the web site is operated and maintained.
 - Fifth priority (**Promoting Awareness of Climate Change**) was summarized noting the loss of a committee chair. Marion Siekieski indicated an interest in getting involved. There was an indication that we should maintain linkage to CAFES and keep this priority for the time being.
 - 6th priority (**Pursuing enhancements for the Park**) During this discussion it was noted that the charitable organization **Friends of the Park** had been dormant for years and a second signatory was needed for the CRA paperwork to keep it going. Charles Wesley-James agreed to be the second signatory.
3. Approval of the 2020-21 revised financial statements
- Ted provided an overview of the statements and there was one question from Sean about the overall bottom line. Ted indicated that although some costs had increased (e.g. CGL and Directors insurance), the NEN had found some cost savings (new printer).
 - Motion to approve financial statements
 - Motion by Marc, seconded by Sean
 - Approved
4. Councillor King Update
- Thanked the Community Association for all the work being done.
 - With respect to the Official Plan he noted that they secured a secondary plan for the Beechwood corridor during the recent OP deliberations. He also summarized pros and cons of the OP from his perspective.
 - He provided an overview of a number of topics including the release of an Active Transportation Paper, the 30km speed limit and related traffic calming measures, Beechwood corridor redevelopment, Safer street crossings and cycling lanes throughout the ward, the passage of a Community Safety and Well-being Paper, and Poverty reduction and Food Security Strategies.
 - There were questions to the Councillor on the Beechwood Corridor development, safety and policing.
5. B.R.I.C.K. Awards
- Gail: gave overview/background of the award.
 - The BRICK Award was created by NECA in 2009. B.R.I.C.K. stands for “the Burgh, Renovation, Improvement, and Construction Kudos” Award. Its purpose



was to recognize and honour the construction of an addition to a building, the restoration of architectural details of an existing house, or a new infill development which was compatible and sensitive to the surrounding neighbourhood aesthetic. The concept was later expanded to include a separate award for an exceptional person who has generously and consistently contributed their time and talents to enriching the New Edinburgh community.

- Brick Mortar category: 34 Union.
 - The recipient this year in the ‘bricks and mortar’ category is Roya Azarm, who has spent the past year restoring an 1810 one and half storey house at 34 Union Street in New Edinburgh’s Historic District. The house had endured considerable damage and changes to the exterior over the years, but the owner’s goal was to bring it back as much as possible to the way it had looked in the early 19th century. The later ‘add-ons’ such as the stucco finish and vinyl trim, were carefully removed exposing the original ship-lapped wood siding which was either repaired or replaced by boards with the same profile. Vinyl trim was replaced with wood, and other historic architectural elements have been preserved. This is a thoughtful and sensitive restoration which is deserving of recognition.
- Community Builder: **Barbara Benoit**
 - The second Brick Award for a ‘Community Builder’ is being given to Barbara Benoit. Barbara and her family have lived in New Edinburgh since 1984, and there is not a single significant community improvement project over the years that has not been blessed by her active involvement. To name a few: fundraising to support legal challenges to the proposed Vanier Parkway Extension, Editor of the New Edinburgh News, park improvements, the design and building of the Fieldhouse, and participating in local theatrical productions.

She has always had her hand on the pulse of the New Edinburgh community and deserves to be honoured for her many contributions.

Details about the endeavours of both recipients will appear in the December issue of the New Edinburgh News.



6. Committee / Working Group Reports.

- Cindy indicated that most of the committees have provided reports on the website. She suggested that attendees could pose questions based on these reports or sub committee chairs could make any additions.
 - Beechwood Development Working Group (under the Community Collective) - Ari
 - Communications – Cindy/Sarah
 - Environment and Climate Change Committee - Tamara
 - Heritage and Development Committee - Gail
 - New Edinburgh News Advisory Committee - Christina
 - Park Vision Working Group - Katherine
 - Traffic and Safety Committee - Marc
- MARC added a few points from the Traffic and Safety Committee. They are waiting for gateway speed zone to go down to 30 K and noting that Crichton will stay at 40 K. Also the speed bumps will be coming on Dufferin. Finally in he mentioned that a member of the committee would be the future chair of the committee, Jason T and had helped make that latter achievement happen.
- There were no other comments or questions on sub-committee reports.

7. NECA Board of Directors nominations:

- Cindy listed directors not up for election, which included the three *ex officio* positions (Sylvain B. CCC, Sean F. NECTAR, Christina L. NEN). Cindy also indicated that three Directors were stepping down, (Alison Fabian, Marc D’Orgeville, Tamara Sorger). Cindy added that we can have 15 Directors on the Board.
- Cindy then invited community members who had expressed an interest in becoming NECA Board members to say a few words. First, Samantha McAleese introduced herself noting that she has been attending traffic and safety and NECA for the past year and had been in the Neighborhood for 8 years. Jason Tavoularis had already introduced himself earlier in the meeting. He mentioned he had lived in New Edinburgh his whole life and been a recent member of the Traffic and Safety sub-committee. Two people in attendance said they might be interested in becoming board members. David Pyman and Karen Squires spoke about their background and potential interest. David and Karen decided not be on the slate to be voted upon.



- Cindy opened the floor to any other expressions of interest and since there was none proceeded with a slate of 5 for election (listed below).
- List of candidates for re-election and new members
 - Ted Bennett (current Treasurer)
 - Heather Matthews
 - Gail McEachern (current chair of H&D)
 - Samantha McAleese
 - Jason Tavoularis (willing to become chair of T&S)
- The Motion for the above slate of 5 candidate was made by Marc and seconded by Ray. The motion was approved unanimously.

8. Adjournment

- Cindy thanked everyone and noted that the next NECA board meeting would be Nov 16th.
- Motion by Gemma, seconded by Christina
- Adjourned at 8:57PM