

Minutes

NECA Board Meeting – 18 February 2025 - 7:00 pm

By Zoom

Board members present: Ray Boomgaardt, Sarah Anson-Cartwright, Sean Flynn, Kostyantyn Frolov, Gail McEachern, Cindy Parkanyi, Karen Squires, Jason Tavoularis

Absent: Katherine Lloyd, Sean McNulty, Sharon Nyangweso, Chris Straka

Guests: Lorna Bernbaum, John Rodney, Jennifer Toby, Eileen Olexiuk, Councillor King, Erin McCracken and Athena Oriet (Councillor King's office).

1. Welcome (Jason)

- Delivered land acknowledgment
- Agenda was approved
- January 2025 meeting minutes will be recirculated for approval by email after Sarah's changes are incorporated

2. Councillor's Report

- **Winter ops update** – Rec'd more than 70 cm snow in three days. He is aware of issues within New Ed. Snow bank removal has begun.
- **Fieldhouse** – Acoustic panels and room divider work underway.
- **Short term rental on Ivy** – Bylaw has issued notices and will continue to monitor.
- **245 Mackay** – Severage of property has gone through but not sure if the sale includes severance.
- **Parking** - Progress is slow, but they want to ensure appropriate consultation has taken place. Jennifer noted that parking along cross streets (e.g. Queen Vic and Union) becomes problematic during snow events to the point that they cannot get onto River Lane (which is now impassable). The Councillor noted that things have gotten progressively better and that for major events there will still be some issues but he will bring back to staff the concerns raised.
- Ray noted that he had copied the Councillor's office on NECA's preliminary comments on the NCC Core Area Plan - Sussex Blocks proposal.
- Ray asked about position on the Kettle Island Bridge proposal – Councillor King said he stands by his original stance which is that he is opposed to this proposal.

3. NCC Core Area Plan update - Sarah

Preliminary comments were provided to the NCC. Alain reached out to discuss comments before submission of NECA's formal comments. They are on a tight timeframe to get this ready before the writ drops. NCC was encouraged to host a community meeting to allow for comments from the community. An information session has been set for March 6.

4. Financial update - Sean

Sean provided a snapshot of the P&L so far this year as compared to the same period last year. While revenues are slightly down from last year, NECA is in good financial shape. He also noted that the City is now covering the cost (~\$1K) of our CGL insurance. Karen noted that Feb edition revenues were way down and made a connection to downturn of retail along Beechwood. She also noted that there have been 5 incidents of vandalism in the last year. She would like to raise the issue of retail on Beechwood with the Councillor.

5. Committee and working group updates

Traffic and Safety (Jason): No report.

Heritage and Development (Gail/Sarah): Rec'd response on NECA comments on the new zoning bylaw - primarily with respect to two zones with a major height disparity. The other issue was the applicability of the higher height allowance to the HCD. Wanted to make sure the HCP takes precedence over the new zoning bylaw – City confirmed that this is the case. There was a suggestion to share NECA's comments and the City's response with the FCA and other community associations with HCDs.

Emblem (Kostyantyn): A couple of weeks ago he had sent around the latest concepts. After much discussion, it was decided that board members need more time to review the concepts, but that a determination on the way forward needs to be made at the next meeting.

Friends of the Park (Karen): City will be planting new trees in the spring around the fieldhouse, tennis court area and around the CSST plant. The NCC plans to plant a large number of trees further down the park toward Sussex. Ottawa Riverkeepers would like to assist with this year's park cleanup. Will need to discuss the Friends of the Park charitable trust as CRA seems to be indicating that we need to use it or lose it.

New Edinburgh News (Karen): They have some new writers for the BBB. Cindy volunteered to do an article on the cutting of the keys. John Leefe had asked if there was any possibility of distributing to Lindenlea. Cindy noted that we used to distribute to the lower Lindenlea triangle and to the library (which still happens). Suggested perhaps dropping a stack at the Lindenlea Community Centre.

Communications (Cindy): Encouraged board members to send in any information items they would like to be disseminated either in the e-newsletter or on the listserv. Work is continuing on updating the website.

Beechwood Development (Sarah): No news; in wait-and-see mode.

6. Community group updates

CCC (Chris): No report.

Kichi Sibi Trails (Cindy): No report.

7. Other Business: None.

8. Adjournment

- Next regular Board meeting is March 18, 2025 at 7 pm on Zoom.