

Minutes

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

By Zoom

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

Absent: Sharon Nyangweso, Chris Straka

Guests: Phil Hurcomb, Jared Kaprove, David McKinnon, Danielle, Councillor King, Erin McCracken (Councillor's office).

1. Welcome (Ray)

- Agenda was approved
- January and February 2025 meeting minutes were approved

2. Councillor's Report

- **Renewal of St. Patrick Street Bridge** – Construction equipment arriving. Will begin in earnest in April. dedicated cycle paths will be provided..
- **Fieldhouse** – Concrete pad for repair station and bike rack are in the works.
- **Planter** – 411 Mackay (Minto building). Looking for a volunteer for the care and feeding of the box.
- **Park pathway safety**– City's safety coordinator met with Friends of the park group and presented their plan for improving safety along the pathways, including pruning vegetation, installing or relocating signage, pictogram pathway markings and adding a centre line.
- **2nd draft of new Zoning By Law (ZBL)** - City project team announced a joint meeting (Planning Committee and Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee) on March 31. Documents (including the staff report and draft ZBL) will be available on March 20.
- **Parking** - Still being evaluated. Question was asked about coordination with Global Affairs Canada (GAC) and OC Transpo regarding parking issues. Councillor King noted that they have not had success engaging with GAC. He also noted that there are changes coming in April that hopefully will improve the situation.
- A question was raised about the return of the Kettle Island Bridge in the Federal budget. Money has been allocated for studies. There is no enthusiasm for this approach from the Councillor or the Mayor. Local liberal MPs are also not supportive. There are other priorities for this money. A more holistic solution should be sought. The NCC has not engaged in any consultation on this with the City.

3. Ottawa New Edinburgh Club - Phil Hurcomb, Vice President ONEC

Phil gave a presentation on Ottawa New Edinburgh Club (ONEC). Their mix of four sports is unique - tennis, paddling, rowing and sailing. Challenges include rent costs, limited spaces offer fewer amenities, limited parking. He noted that the community and NECA's interventions on an earlier proposed NCC development in their space was very effective. Happy ending and great example of successful cooperation. It was noted that there will be a feature in the April NEN on ONEC programs.

4. Planning for a Candidates Forum for the Federal Election - Ray

Sarah noted that she sent an email thread from the group of other community associations on planning for a possible April 8 event in Manor Park. Just waiting to see when the writ is dropped.

5. Committee and working group updates

Beechwood Development (Sarah): Waiting for updates.

Heritage and Development (Gail/Sarah): Not much other than the developments with respect to the proposed development along Sussex. March 6 was the information workshop with the NCC ~75 people. NCC presentation, plus Q&A then workshop tables. Sarah has written an article for the April NEN. A comment was made that the ink is set in that there will be some form of development, so we should focus on where we can have positive influence, such as design guidelines/standards (i.e. will the NCC retain control of the design or hand it off).

Friends of the Park (Karen): Katherine's assessment of the meeting with the City's safety coordinator - he was clearly not interested in hearing any ideas the community might have. Her assessment is that the proposed measures will have little effect. City says compliance is a police responsibility. Power-assisted bikes are a huge danger. There are two main issues: 1) bikes on the pedestrian path and 2) speed on the MUP.

There will be a few more trees planted in the spring. There will be a park cleanup on 21 April.

Park Trust - We either have to make it active or shut it down.

=> MOTION passed to shut down the trust.

Emblem (Kostyantyn): Question for the committee is whether to pause, or move forward with a particular design, or request more ideas. At this point, if we pause we can ask what the artists' expectations are regarding a refund of the original down payment of \$2,500.

=> MOTION - That we stop the engagement with the artist and seek a partial (50%) refund of funds already provided. PASSED.

New Edinburgh News (Karen): Have great content and almost everything is in already. New distribution manager and ad manager are doing well. The current production manager will be moving on so work will begin in the next few months to find a replacement.

Communications (Cindy): No report.

Traffic and Safety (Jason): No report.

6. Community group updates

CCC (Chris): No report

Kichi Sibi Trails (Cindy): Announced that a City grant of \$10K has been awarded for Chief Pinesi Day.

7. Other Business: None.

8. Adjournment

- Next regular Board meeting is April 15, 2025 at 7 pm [at the Fieldhouse in hybrid format].