

Minutes

NECA Board Meeting – 19 September 2025 - 7:00 pm

In person at the Fieldhouse with a Zoom option

Board members present: Ted Bennett, Ray Boomgaardt, Sean Flynn, Katherine Lloyd, Gail McEachern, Kostyantyn Frolov, Cindy Parkanyi, Karen Squires,

Absent: Sarah Anson-Cartwright, Sean McNulty, Sharon Nyangweso, Chris Straka, Jason Tavoularis

Guests: Amanda Jackson from Lucille Collard's office, Councillor King, Erin McCracken (from the Councillor's Office) and 7 members of the community.

1. Welcome (Ray)

- Agenda was approved, with addition of a new item to discuss the NCC proposed Sussex development and two items under other business – finance and neighborhood watch
- May 2025 meeting minutes will be sent out for virtual approval (with Sarah's changes)

2. A NCC-proposed Sussex Development

- John McNee noted that a Friends of Sussex Drive group has been formed and that the group has serious concerns. They note that the NCC response to the community letter was vague but troubling. He suggests seeking a meeting with the NCC CEO Tobi Nussbaum and reaching out to Mona Fortier.
- Dilshad Macklem added that they are concerned about the lack of transparency and she asked that NECA spearhead interaction with the City and NCC.
- There was discussion around looking for something more concrete than transparency – such as a plan for regular dialog with us.
- **Discussion after Councillor King's item:** It was agreed that NECA would send a communication to the NCC to express the deep concern within the community, particularly regarding a lack of transparency, in addition to issues around traffic and safety, environment, heritage and flooding. We would also seek more information on the timelines around the RFP and selection process.

2. B Councillor's Report

- **Bylaw**– Draft will be presented in mid-dec to joint committee. Asking for stronger transitions for 47 Beechwood. Working on a position paper that will be released once the full review is completed.
- **Public realm projects**– Entering 2nd phase - for Beechwood enhancements. There will be public consultations.
- **Beechwood**– Spoke to Vanier BIA about holding a multi-community meeting to discuss this important mainstreet and the work of the BIA.
- **Army Run**– Will come through the community, so he is working on communicating this to residents as Canada Post is not delivering flyers.
- **Questions from guests:**

- Question re Sussex Blocks development - how involved can your office be in order to help negotiate some tracking of proposals and changes, particularly in light of the HCD designation. Answer - In the context of the draft by-law... in the case of Sussex Blocks it is notional, a concept. They will weigh in when there is a file, and concrete proposal. Gail - we would like to know what the criteria are for the RFP, not wait until there are planning requests, which would be too late. King would like to see a process in place to ensure consultation.

A resident noted that there is a great deal of concern in the community and he hopes that the Councillor will be sensitive to that.

Another member of the Friends of Sussex Drive queried if it would not be too late to wait until an application has been filed?

4. Committee and working group updates

Friends of the Park (Karen/Katherine): The people who mow in the park are pushing back on not mowing in certain areas where there is a habitat. Noted that there were speed meters in the park, but the City was not aware. So it seems that the NCC uses them, but the City does not. We would like the City to deploy them as well. NCC is scheduled to plant 81 trees near the gravel pathway along the NCC part of the path.

New Edinburgh News (Karen): Things are going well. Businesses on Beechwood and Beechwood development are being merged for this edition. Also flagging some vandalism issues. Advertising is down about 23% this edition.

Communications (Cindy): Noted that she will set up a working group and is looking for interested parties – Kostyantyn said he would come to a meeting to see what is involved.

Traffic and Safety (Jason/Kostyantyn): Noted added plastic barriers along MacKay on two sides of Ivy. Kostyantyn is not sure why they are there. First meeting with BVA and BIA. Kos noted that NECA is not part of the Beechwood Public Realm Plan Public Advisory Committee. Erin will check on that. Kos would volunteer.

Beechwood Development (Kostyantyn): 47 Beechwood development was approved by the Planning & Housing Committee so at this point there is nothing to be done at this point. We will need to wait and see what comes out in the next step of the process. There seemed to be confusion as to why New Edinburgh was not there to make a presentation on this proposal. Ray suggested that NECA will need to be more proactive on projects that are planned nearby.

Heritage and Development (Gail): Not much to report ... waiting for the new bylaw to be passed. There was discussion on B.R.I.C.K. awards for 2025. Decision was to proceed with two Community Builder awards.

6. Community group updates

CCC (Chris): No report.

Kichi Sibi Trails (Cindy): No report

FCA: Should we support the Wateridge proposal? Should we be attending the FCA meetings? Gail and Sarah get value from the communications that they received, particularly from the Planning and Zoning.

7. Other Business:

- **Ray** - Request for financial support for the New Edinburgh book by Janet Uren. There was consensus that NECA contribute. Ted suggested that NECA decide on the amount after reviewing the financial report that is being prepared for the AGM.
- **Ted** - HST installments. A refund is on hold awaiting the submission of forms. Will work with Sean to figure out what they need.
- **NEN** - Next year is the 50th anniversary. They are looking at increasing print run and do some additional drops.

8. Adjournment

- Next regular Board meeting is 21 October 2025 at the Fieldhouse. AGM date - Tuesday 28 Oct at 7pm - TBC