



Minutes
NECA Board Meeting – 15 May 2018
New Edinburgh House, 255 MacKay Street

Present: Dave Arnold, Ted Bennett, Roslyn Butler, Natasha Cappon, Matt DeWolf, Sean Flynn (by phone), Christina Leadlay, Gail McEachern, Phil Nowotny, Cindy Parkanyi

Absent: Joe Chouinard, Ann Davis

Guests: Mr. Ari Abonyi, and four other interested neighbours

1. Welcome, approval of minutes and agenda

Cindy welcomed everyone although many came a little late for the 19:30 start of this meeting as they were used to the usual 20:00 starting time.

Ted Bennett moved that the proposed Agenda for this meeting be approved. Dave Arnold seconded the motion which was passed.

The minutes for the April 2018 NECA Board meeting had been approved by an on-line vote before the 10 May 2018.

2. Councillor's Report

Councillor Tobi Nussbaum reported that

- A new PXO (Pedestrian crosswalk) will be installed on Springfield Rd. at Putman.
- Planter boxes will be installed on Crichton near the School of Dance.
- More “flexi posts” will be installed on Crichton and Dufferin (as last year).
- The proposed public meeting on the Dufferin/Stanley sidewalk installation will be held at the Fieldhouse on June 4, from 5 to 7:00 p.m.
- The former Rideau high school is to become a Community Hub (the monies are available).
- New Edinburgh has a Mature Community designation. Tobi is working with the Crichton Community Council and other interested parties on activities that relate to this designation.
- Speed boards and traffic counters will be installed especially along Lisgar St., Dufferin Rd., MacKay St. They are still working on where best to locate them.
- New Ontario legislation will permit communities to put in place lower speed limits in neighbourhood areas. However, the legislation will only come into effect after the June 7 provincial election.

The noise by-law violations occurring by the construction on the CSST project were discussed. The noise has been exceeding 65db at night. Tobi agreed that there needs to be a system whereby contractors will be alerted right away to be able to shut down if the noise levels are too high after 11:00 p.m.

Cindy Parkanyi said we have questions about developments on Beechwood Ave. The Community Design Plan is in place but it seems to be ignored by planned developments. She noted the sale of the Lauzon properties to an out-of-town developer. Tobi noted that once they have development plans, they need to have a community meeting at the beginning of their project (as per the Beechwood Community Design Plan). Tobi also noted that the community should identify one or two people to take the necessary training to be able to attend pre-consultation meetings on proposed developments.

Cindy introduced the Councillor to Mr. Ari Abonyi, who has agreed to be the New Edinburgh representative to the larger community group monitoring future developments along Beechwood Ave.

3. Heritage & Development Committee – Gail McEachern

Gail showed us the Feb 23, 2018, plan that everyone had approved (City Heritage Committee, City Council, local residents and NECA H & D) and which is posted on the official sign on the lawn of New Edinburgh House – 255 MacKay. Now the architect and development team of the purchaser have revised these plans and must seek all new approvals to proceed.

Gail pointed out that the new plans do not meet the heritage architectural criteria that reflect those of this original heritage house.

These revisions and the resulting timeline delay impacts NECTAR and may have implications with respect to the sale of the property.

4. Near East Community Associations – “Community Collective” – Cindy Parkanyi

A “Community Collective” of executive board members of nearby community associations, including Rockcliffe Park, Lindenlea, Manor Park and Vanier, as well as the Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Centre, has had its first meeting. The group aims to explore areas of common interest and ways in which we can collaborate to reduce burdens across the board (e.g., common website/communications resource).

Cindy reported that there will be quarterly meetings. The next meeting was to be held on June 12 but has been put off a bit.

One area of particular concern that was discussed at length at the meeting was the news that some major sales have occurred or are soon to occur on Beechwood Ave. A separate group of representatives from each community association will collectively monitor and engage on development along Beechwood Ave. This group may merge with, or effectively replace, the seemingly now defunct Beechwood Village Alliance (BVA).

The idea is to identify developments/problems early and to proactively engage with the developers before development plans and designs are set.

Motion: Cindy proposed a motion that NECA designate Mr. Ari Abonyi to be our representative at the inter-community group that has been formed to follow the future developments on Beechwood Ave. Dave Arnold seconded this motion. The motion passed.

5. CCMC / CSST

The CCMC is the monthly meeting of the CSST Project contractors, City of Ottawa officials supervising and concerned residents from our community. Cindy reported that at these meetings there is always lots of discussions on the issues but not so much on the solutions.

Residents have recently been reporting a strong sewage smell in addition to the diesel fumes afflicting the residents of Stanley Ave. and Queen Victoria. This is especially problematic now that the weather has warmed up and people have windows open or want to spend time in their outdoors spaces. Add this to the seemingly ceaseless and loud noise from the drilling and other construction activity, nearby residents are effectively under siege.

Large piles of tunnel excavation muck is building up under tarps, eventually to be loaded onto large trucks, which then rumble along Stanley and Crichton leaving muck and dust behind on the road.

6. Park Vision:

Cindy reported that she has not had time to move this activity forward but is working with the City to have a meeting between the Park Vision working group and an expert from the City to review the “reinstatement plan”.

An incident was reported that indicated that a fight between two dogs in the park caused a woman to be knocked over and sustain some injuries.

The issue of how to ensure that the multi-use as well as the pedestrian-only paths are safe for all users is the subject of ongoing discussion – including as part of the Park Vision work. Use of physical deterrents and signage has been part of this discussion, as had the possible reconfiguration of paths and locations of different user zones (e.g., off-leash areas).

These topics will be explored as part of the Park Vision work and potential solutions will be brought to the community at next fall’s NECA AGM.

Action item: NECA will ask the City/NCC about the possibility of erecting a barrier at Union and the Multi-use path to encourage cyclists to take the detour route and not continue on the path (which currently ends up leading to pedestrian only paths due to CSST construction).

7. Upcoming Events:

Cindy reported that the next FCA meeting will be tomorrow, May 16, and said that she is unable to attend. She encouraged other board members to attend. The topic is “Ottawa Planning infrastructure updates”.

The Dufferin Street sidewalk information session will be held on June 4 at the Fieldhouse and is open to all.

The All Candidates’ Meeting on climate change has been cancelled.

The All Candidates’ Meeting (organized by local community associations including NECA) will be held on Friday May, 25, at Rockcliffe Park Public School – Queen Julianna Hall from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

8. Other Business:

A question was asked about what will happen to the community garden planters on the New Edinburgh House property after September. Can they be moved to another location in our community? Can they be used as sidewalk planters or for traffic calming? Any ideas?

Marta Klepaczek needs some funding for continuing with the "Health Survey" follow-up to the questionnaires sent out in the winter 2017/18. She needs about \$150 for printing costs.

Motion: Cindy Parkanyi moved, seconded by Phil Nowotny, that up to \$150 be made available to Marta Kilpatrick. The motion passed.

9. Next NECA Meeting / Adjourn

The next NECA Boards meeting will be on **June 19 at 7:30 p.m.** (*NOTE: earlier start time.*)

Dave Arnold moved, seconded by Roslyn Butler that the meeting adjourn. Carried.