



Minutes
NECA Board Meeting - 21 April 2020
Electronic Virtual Meeting – due to Corona virus quarantine

Present: Ari Abonyi, Ted Bennett, Roslyn Butler, Natasha Cappon, Marc Dorgeville, Sean Flynn, Katherine Hall, Christina Leadlay, Heather Matthews, Gail McEachern, Cindy Parkanyi, Chris Straka

Absent: Dave Arnold, Tamara Sorger

Guests: Susan Ong, Councillor Rawlson King, David Paget, Peter Wilson and Anne Hennessy

1. Welcome, approval of minutes and agenda:

Cindy asked for approval of the meeting agenda that will include a report on “Dogs in the Park” under “Other Business”. Christina moved the motion for approval of the revised Agenda. Gail McEachern seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Cindy asked for the approval of two sets of Minutes – for those of the 18 February 2020 and those of 24 March 2020 Board meetings. Christina Leadlay moved that they be approved, this was seconded by Sean Flynn. The minutes for Feb and March 2020 were approved with two abstentions by board members who were absent at these meetings.

2. Councillor’s Report:

Councillor King could only attend for a brief time. He warmly thanked the Community groups such as NECA in ward 13 for all the good work they are doing during these difficult times. Everyone is working very hard with limited human resources due to “self -isolation”.

He is working on community support funding (at this point the Councillor had to leave to attend on another virtual meeting).

3. Covid-19 - Community Collective activities:

Cindy noted she is taking part in the Community Collective Group (virtually) which consists of New Edinburgh, Rockcliffe, Lindenlea, Manor Park, Vanier and Cardinal Glen. There are meeting almost weekly to discuss how we can work together on files of common interest and to communicate with the Councillor, our MPP and MP on these files. The Community Collective has drafted an Attestation of cooperation document (see Annex A) that can be used by the Councillor in his interventions to seek community funding and other initiatives

Board members asked what kind of official status this community group has and why it needs to be recognized at this point.

Cindy explained that the Attestation was requested by the Councillor so that he can demonstrate more unanimous support for official requests made to City Council. It does not constitute the creation of a new entity or create any obligations; it is meant to attest to the intra-community association cooperation that exists. Some of the issues to be addressed are emergency response (currently COVID-19), youth engagement, poverty, development (R4, urban boundary, ward boundary, Beechwood, etc.) and traffic.

Cindy Parkanyi proposed a motion that the Board approve her to sign the Community Collective attestation on behalf of NECA. The motion was seconded by Katherine Hall. The motion carried.

4. Urban Boundary Review:

Cindy reported that Ecology Ottawa, Federation of Citizens' Association, and Greenspace Alliance Ottawa are asking the City to say no to expansion of the urban boundary as part of the new Official Plan for the City. That is, they want to stop the City from approving continual urban creep that happens when surrounding farmland is purchased and developed into ever further out suburbs, which the City must then service with roads, sewer and water, schools as so forth. NECA's Environment Committee is also behind this initiative.

By limiting expansion of the urban boundary we will have more density within the existing city core. To make this work, we need smart density with good building design. Upcoming zoning reviews, starting with the current R4 zoning review and a close look at "infill" development are good places for us to put our input.

Cindy drafted a letter to the Councillor, copied to the Mayor (see Annex B), in support of restricting expansion of the urban boundary.

Ted Bennett made a motion to approve the sending of this letter the City Councillor. Natasha Cappon seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

5. Committee/Work Group updates:

Beechwood Development: Ari Abonyi reported that the new Minto project on Beechwood (south side) will be nine stories high on Barrette St. and six stories on the Beechwood side. There will be a walkthrough beside Arturos. There are four public parking spaces proposed at the front on Beechwood Ave. and sidewalk. Ari feels that the sidewalk will be too narrow and not enough set-back has been planned. There will be underground parking for residents only. Three to six retail spaces are planned for (rents will theoretically allow for small shop size). This building is to be a rental (not condo) development. Thus the rent/sq. ft. will be 33% lower for the business spaces.

This development is in fact in the Rideau-Vanier ward, but anything along Beechwood Ave. very much concerns us it is part of our "Mainstreet".

Ari has also presented a neighbourhood shuttle service to the Councillor who likes the idea and will support it. He may be able to get the City Environment Committee to help with funding.

Environment and Climate Change: Tamara Sorger was not present so there was no report.

Heritage and Development: Gail McEachern reported that the refurbishment of the apartment bldg. at 60 Stanley St. will go ahead without the "add-on decorative" panels initially proposed for the front of the building. Instead the windows will be larger and a grander entrance is planned.

There was a request for a house at 189 Stanley to be demolished and replaced with four glass and concrete units. Gail reported that the applicant has changed architects and now has someone who will hopefully work with the community to ensure that the plans are sympathetic to the existing streetscape.

Cindy said she would like to talk off-line with Gail on the subject of our Heritage designation vis à vis the proposed R4 zoning changes. While the sections of New Edinburgh within the Heritage Conservation District (HCD) may be protected, the areas outside the HCD will be fully subject to

the new R4 Zoning, which will have implications for density, greenspace and potential loss of single family homes for multi-unit dwellings.

Pathway Design Committee: Chris Straka reported that there has been an email dialogue on “Option 2” – which the City identified as the best choice, in the short term, for filling the gap in the NCC “multi-use” pathway from Stanley St. to the Fieldhouse south lawn. The Pathway Design Committee has proposed some variations of the route of option #2 to be considered by the CSST construction team. Chris displayed a map with the options marked out in different colours. The map also indicated two areas which may be tricky – where the new multi-use path is very close to the existing pedestrian path, and where it crosses laneway to the Fieldhouse.

The Pathway Design Committee is ready to submit this map with these considerations to the CSST and the City planners. The City has indicated that they will hold a consultation (broader than just within New Edinburgh) before finalizing the design.

Traffic and Safety: Marc Dorgeville reported that there is NO traffic anywhere at the moment due to everyone “self - isolating” – no school, no work.

On the subject of traffic counts, Stephanie at the Councillor’s office said some results will finally come in a week or two.

Some members of New Edinburgh requested permission from the Councillor’s office to close Stanley but were told that was not possible due to cost. He would have to take the costs out of the traffic calming budget and was reluctant to do so.

Marc said that members of New Edinburgh, Rockcliffe Park, Lindenlea and Manor Park community associations will meet to discuss the traffic problems on our stretch of Beechwood Ave. Heather Matthews is interested in this topic. Cindy suggested that the idea of temporary street closures may be discussed at the next meeting of the combined traffic committee.

Park Vision: Nicole Poitras sent her report to Cindy. It can be found in Cindy’s email as an attachment sent 21 April 2020 at 18:51 – just before the ZOOM board meeting.

6. Community Group updates:

NECTAR: Sean Flynn reported that the NECTAR board resigned and has been replaced with a new Board. NECTAR has filed for charitable status. They now have an Arts/Community minded focus. The new Board is looking to have talks with the Crichton Community Council.

Crichton Community Council (3Cs): Chris Straka reported there is nothing happening now due to the closures required because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The board is considering some ideas that could possibly go ahead if isolation rules are lifted.

7. Other business:

Dogs in the Park: Katherine Hall reported that she and other dog-walkers agreed that better signage is needed to explain what areas are where, and where the on-leash/off-leash/no dogs rules apply. During Covid-19, the City owned parts of the park is still off-leash, just no lingering - the NCC areas are on-leash only for now.

Katherine is proposing that small fences (similar to the ones partially around the playground) be installed in areas beside the pedestrian pathway as it passes the play field and splash-pad near the Fieldhouse. These fences would serve as a visual reminder and barrier to keep dogs away from the play areas and to keep small children away from the banks of the Rideau River.

The Councillor's assistant Susan Ong confirmed with a map that the pathway is just slightly more than the required 5 metres away from the playfield and splash-pad, so there is room for a small fence.

Katherine noted that we also need a solution to the squeeze point where the #2 Option bike path proposed by Chris Straka and CSST almost touches the pedestrian footpath beside the river. Perhaps another short fence?

7. Next Meeting / Adjourn:

The next meeting will be Tuesday, 19 May 2020 at 7:30. Ari Abonyi moved to adjourn at 10:08 p.m. Carried.

ANNEX A: Proposed Community Collective Attestation of Cooperation

Attestation of Cooperation

Recognizing that

- We are in a time of unprecedented crisis and that many people in our communities will find themselves in great difficulty, and
- Efforts to provide assistance to the residents of our communities may be magnified, be more efficiently and equitably delivered by working in cooperation, and
- A shared voice representing a larger community will be more effective in escalating challenges discovered through local implementation to higher levels of government, and
- Higher levels of emergency assistance (City, Red Cross) will be able to respond to community needs faster through the Community Collective than through numerous community associations, and
- The community of Vanier is physically, culturally and geographically more closely linked with the rest of Ward 13.

The Community Associations of Cardinal Glen, Lindenlea, Manor Park, New Edinburgh, Overbrook and Rockcliffe Park, all communities being located in Municipal Ward 13; and the Community Association of Vanier, being located in Municipal Ward 12 but physically adjacent to and surrounded by the above communities and possessing strong cultural and geographic linkages:

Do Hereby Agree:

Without prejudice to their own requirements and activities of their own community associations, to collaborate and work together as a single collective with the purpose of harmonizing and optimizing tools needed at the community level, sharing lessons and assisting and guiding the relevant authorities to most effectively deliver emergency services such as but not necessarily limited to the delivery of emergency food supplies to vulnerable and food insecure individuals or mental health services, to request with a collective voice such emergency assistance deemed necessary for the larger community, and to represent to the three levels of government a coordinated voice regarding such demands as are deemed necessary and reasonable.

We the undersigned are thus agreed this April 9, 2020



Alan Martel
President: Cardinal Glen Community Association

Stelios Toglou
President: Lindenlea Community Association

Elizabeth McAllister
President: Manor Park Community Association

Cindy Parkanyi
President: New Edinburgh Community Alliance

Heather Amys
President: Overbrook Community Association

Russ Gibson
President: Rockcliffe Park Residents Association

Lauren Touchant
President: Vanier Community Association

ANNEX B: Proposed Letter to Councillor on Urban Boundary



New Edinburgh Community Alliance
Alliance communautaire de New Edinburgh
(NECA)

www.newedinburgh.ca

April 22, 2020

Councillor Rawlson King
City of Ottawa
110 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1J1

Dear Councillor King,

I am writing you today as President of the New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA) to thank you for your hard work to keep Ottawa's residents safe during the current COVID-19 pandemic, and to request your support in saying to no to further urban expansion and upholding the current urban boundary.

During this term of Council, you have declared both a Climate Emergency and a Housing and Homelessness Emergency. We applaud these steps because they acknowledge what residents of Ottawa—including those in New Edinburgh—truly care about: the challenges of finding affordable and adequate shelter and the threats to health and safety posed by the climate crisis.

In keeping with these declarations, NECA and the New Edinburgh Environment Committee, urge you to vote for an Official Plan that does not require expansion of the urban boundary. We can no longer afford a pattern of urban development that extends municipal services further out, paves over farmland and rural areas needed by future generations of young farmers, compounds the problems of car dependency, and impedes our ability to meet critical city priorities: curbing greenhouse gas emissions and delivering financially sustainable public services.

We understand that saying no to urban boundary expansion means saying yes to more density in our urban community. However, we also understand that densification done right will allow us to invest in the type of housing, services and quality of life that every Ottawa resident deserves, including:

- The ability to walk or bike safely with our kids to our local school, parks, library, grocery store or transit.
- Access to more affordable housing options that allow us to downsize, or raise a growing family, close to where we currently live.
- The ability to buy fresh, local food and enjoy Ottawa's beautiful green spaces.
- The ability to grow fresh, local food and support the next generation of young farmers.

We know we can achieve it all by investing in gentle- and medium-density development and high-quality urban design in our existing urban neighbourhoods and rural villages, while protecting and preserving our rural areas, and in particular, avoiding developer-driven projects that do not adhere to the urban design based zoning and infill by-laws established to protect the vibrancy of neighbourhoods and local communities.

We know you care deeply, as we do, about the affordability, livability and sustainability of our community—today and tomorrow. That's why we are urging you to vote to maintain the current urban boundary in Ottawa's new Official Plan. It's a critical decision to help us build the communities we want for our families, neighbours, and for future generations.