



Minutes

NECA Board Meeting – 21 December 2021

7:30 pm

Virtual meeting via ZOOM

Board members present:

Ted Bennett, Samantha McAleese, Christina Leadlay, Heather Matthews, Gail McEachern, Cindy Parkanyi, Katherine Hall, Jason Tavoularis, Ari Abonyi, Karen Squires, Sean Flynn

Absent: Sarah Anson-Cartwright

Guests: Rawlson King, Peter Petrie, Lorna Bernbaum

1. Welcome

- Reviewed and approved agenda.
- Delayed approval of November minutes to January meeting.

2. Councillor's Report (Rawlson King)

- Busy navigating COVID, especially with the new variant. Hopes the city will increase capacity for rapid testing and booster shots.
- White paper on Beechwood Avenue to be released before the end of the year. Can't get a complete street re-build because infrastructure isn't broken down (things need to get worse before they can be made better). Rawlson's office will advocate along with Fleury's office (Rideau-Vanier) for a different approach to Beechwood and MacArthur. Shouldn't have to wait for infrastructure to degrade - paper will be a call for this.
- Canada Day / Chief Pinesi Day - Rawlson met with organizers and they've now reached out to NECA.
- Working on anti-racism strategy - will come to council for approval in Q2 2022.
- Community Safety and Well-Being Plan: moving forward with poverty reduction and food security policy alongside that.
 - Represents a different way of moving forward on public safety.
 - Reduced the police budget ask in response to this - budget still increased, just not by as much as the initial ask.
 - New money to go towards a new non-police mental health response.
- Rawlson voted against the 2022 budget. He didn't feel it was a 'change budget' as described by others. Describes the budget process as very frustrating.
- A brief conversation about encampments - concerns from the community that people will be sleeping outside over the Winter. Rawlson assured that there is ongoing communication with the city and social services to move forward on various housing initiatives and policies.
- Rawlson and Fleury working on the next steps for St. Patrick Bridge.

3. Chief Pinesi Day

- Everyone at NECA supports and welcomes the plan.
- **Cindy will reach back out to organizers for the next steps.**

4. Committee and working group updates

New Edinburgh News (Christina Leadlay): December edition was a success! Next edition in February. There will be a piece on the Metro land sale. Send pitches/stories to Christina, as always!

Beechwood Development (Ari Abonyi): Minto project site plan has been signed - BVA will liaise to ensure that they are keeping to the plan.

Sub-committee formed to work on secondary plan for the corridor. Focused on getting something to the Community Collective to discuss further. Importance of making the plan dynamic and innovative - with changes that will support specific needs of the corridor.

Metro update: keeping on top of the plan. Nathalie Belovic will update when she can.

Friends of the Park (Katherine Hall and Karen Squires): Report sent. Focus on winter maintenance. Waiting to hear about CSST maintenance schedule (January).

Need to plan ahead for dealing with LLD moths - might be funds available through the city.

Communications (Cindy Parkanyi and Sarah Anson-Cartwright): Working on getting Google workspace set up in the new year. Starting to review content on website.

Environment and Climate Change (no chair): No report.

Heritage and Development (Gail McEachern): New addition to house at 171 Stanley - with Heritage Planner right now.

Traffic & Safety (Jason Tavoularis): Some support for road closure proposal on Stanley in response to article in NEN. Asked for input on next steps - suggestions to post on listserv, reach out to city planners, engage in more intentional consultation, and maybe propose at next AGM. Survey in NEN.

Jason is working with Chris Straka on St. Patrick Bridge.

Communication is ongoing with Peter Petrie about flood mitigation.

SJEC Parkway Meeting (Heather): Report sent. Provide comments to Heather if you have any.

5. Community group update

CCC (Sean Flynn): Starting to prep the rinks. Not sure what will happen with Field House now that COVID numbers are back up. Not sure how long Beechwood Market will deliver out of the Field House on Saturdays - updates to come.

NECTAR (Sean Flynn): Full update on NECTAR in the latest edition of NEN.

Community Collective (Cindy Parkanyi): Sent readout earlier. Next meeting will be in early Jan.

6. Other Business:

- Some NECA members met up at the Beechwood Holiday Market at the Field House in early December. **Cindy will include a note about this in her column for NEN.**

7. Adjournment

- Meeting ended at 9:45.
- The next meeting will be on 18 January 2022 at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom.