



Minutes

NECA Board Meeting – 15 March 2022

7:30 pm

Virtual meeting via ZOOM

Board members present:

Cindy Parkanyi, Samantha McAleese, Christina Leadlay, Ari Abonyi, Karen Squires, Sarah Anson-Cartwright, Ray Boomgaardt, Ted Bennett, Heather Matthews, Jason Tavoularis

Absent: Katherine Hall, Sean Flynn, Gail McEachern

Guests: Rawlson King, Peter Petrie, Victoria Henry, Lorna Bernbaum, Charles and Michael Wesley-James

1. Welcome

- Land acknowledgement.
- Welcomed guests.
- Councillor's report - see next item.
- Approval of agenda.
 - Agenda approved.
- Approval of February minutes.
 - Approved with minor changes.

2. Councillor's Report (Rawlson King)

- [Affordable housing public consultation event](#) on March 17 - consultation on MPP Lucille Collard's private member's bill
- New housing developments in the ward: Ottawa Community Housing development in Wateridge Village, new Shepherds of Good Hope building on Montreal Road (permanent and supportive housing).
- Continues to advocate for appropriate intensification in the ward. Working on a 'community benefits agreement' with new Manor Park development (ensuring that people and families don't lose affordable housing).
- Motion at upcoming environment committee re: ending the use of gas-powered equipment at the City.
 - Other work happening re: boulevard gardens. As of now, the City continues to address this on an ad hoc basis.
- Claridge development: upcoming meeting in April - further discussions with Community Associations to come around urging for commercial space in the building and additional work on ensuring investments in main streets (setting stage for future legislative changes).
- City asked for resources from the federal government to support Ukrainian refugees. Working with Refugee613 and other local groups/efforts as well.

3. Report on Homelessness in Ottawa (Lorna Bernbaum)

- The Family Homelessness Lab still needs volunteers. Trying to move over 300 families into homes. Contact Allan Martel.
 - allanmartel@allanmartelconsulting.com or at 613-890-3651
 - See article in [February 2022 edition](#) of NEN for more information
- Shared concerns about encampment in New Ed park - what approach should we take for folks who are reluctant to access supports (for various reasons, like previous trauma).
 - Rawlson talked about the city's encampment policy that includes ongoing engagement with unhoused folks.

4. **New Edinburgh StreetFest** (Janet Uren)

- Janet was not present at the meeting.
- Cindy provided a brief update: Unable to use Field House on Saturdays due to ongoing booking - this interferes with a plan for the StreetFest to host a vintage car show.

5. **Committee and working group updates**

New Edinburgh News (Christina Leadlay): Working on April edition - will include updates from NECA (Friends of the Park, Heritage and Development). A piece from Janet Uren about StreetFest. A piece from Victoria Henry about a potential new art installation in the park.

Beechwood Development (Ari Abonyi): BVA focused on secondary plan for Beechwood corridor - releasing draft paper later this week. **Ari is looking for input on this draft report. Cindy will set up a meeting for NECA members who want to be involved in the discussion.**

Friends of the Park (Karen Squires and Katherine Hall): Report received before the meeting. Residents are looking for more biodiversity in the park - discussion of a grant opportunity that might be able to support this (e.g., a butterfly garden).

Communications (Cindy Parkanyi): Did not meet this month. Still working through updates for the website.

Environment and Climate Change (no chair, no report):

Heritage and Development (Gail McEachern): Report received before the meeting. Still no update on 255 MacKay.

Traffic & Safety (Jason Tavoularis): Drafted an online survey to go with the visuals for the proposed Stanley Ave revamp. Concerns were shared about parking, traffic flow, barriers due to pre-existing infrastructure under the road. Support for broader and ongoing community consultation on this issue.

6. **Community group updates**

CCC (Sean Flynn): No report.

NECTAR (Sean Flynn): No report.

Community Collective (Cindy Parkanyi): March meeting was cancelled. Next meeting April 11. FCA meeting tomorrow: topic is community benefits.

7. Other Business

- Still looking for fiddlers for Chief Pinesi Day and any descendants from the Mackay family or any highlanders who settled in the area.
- **Samantha to find out more information about 'NextDoor'** and share with NECA - people concerned about letters they received in the mail during the past couple of weeks.

8. Adjournment

- The next NECA meeting will be on 19 April 2022 at 7:30 p.m. - virtual
- Meeting adjourned at 9:48 p.m.