



## Minutes

**NECA Board Meeting – 20 September 2022**

**7:30 pm**

*Virtual meeting via ZOOM*

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### **Board members present:**

Cindy Parkanyi, Ted Bennett, Karen Squires, Chris Straka, Heather Matthews, Sean Flynn, Jason Tavoularis, Gail McEachern, Christina Leadlay, Ray Boomgaardt

**Absent:** Samantha McAleese, Sarah Anson-Cartwright, Katherine Hall

**Guests:** Councillor Rawlson King, Peter Petrie

### **1. Welcome (Cindy)**

- Welcomed guests.
- Approval of agenda.
  - o Approved
- Approval of June minutes (moved until after Councillor King's report)
  - o No changes required, approved.

### **2. Councillor's Report (Rawlson King)**

- Road resurfacing on Crichton and on Springfield – weekend work anticipated – not going as quickly as everyone hoped because of labour disruptions.
  - o Question asked re: burying hydro lines – decision for that lies with Hydro Ottawa. According to current CEO, the money isn't there right now to do this work.
  - o Councillor King worked on a motion with Councillor Brockington to improve grid reliability/resiliency and improved communication after storms.
- Question asked re: flooding on River Lane (see previous meeting minutes) – request to keep an eye on it after heavy rainfall. Councillor King will follow up.
- Question about tents/encampments in the park – Councillor King re-iterated the encampment policy that facilitates connections between social/housing workers and people living in the park. Police will intervene at certain points. Focus is on providing support and resources in a compassionate way.
  - o Chris Straka invited Councillor King to reach out to the Crichton Community Council regarding this issue as well. Strong desire to work towards solutions as a community – especially as we get closer to the colder weather.
- Chris also brought up the request for public WiFi at the Fieldhouse – noted that this would have been helpful during the derecho storm and would be nice to have this in place before the next storm/power outage. Cindy also added the request of a generator.

### 3. Municipal Election

- So far, no plans for a more localized election event/debate, but NECA was contacted by Capital Ward who is looking for Community Association partners to co-host an event in their area. This would require a volunteer/liaison from NECA.
- **Cindy will respond letting them know that there is no capacity on our end, but NECA can support with advertising the event.**

### 4. AGM

- Date: Thursday, October 27
- Time: 7-9pm (Chris will make the reservation starting at 6pm for setup)
- Location: Fieldhouse, but the meeting will be hybrid
  - o **Jason can bring mic and camera – and we can create a hotspot with someone's phone.**
- Refreshments: need to get an alcohol permit (CCC is in the process of getting a license that would last for 4 years, might be complete by the AGM)
  - o **Christina offered to help with refreshments, and Chris will ensure that we have a license.**
- Major motions/decisions need to be published in the October edition of the New Edinburgh News, and all committee and working group reports need to be made available before the meeting. This includes the motion from Traffic & Safety re: closure of Stanley Avenue.
  - o **Send reports to Cindy and Christina by October 8.**
- Nominations: Cindy reviewed who does and who does not have to submit for re-election to the board (should they choose to do so).
  - o Still seeking more directors – reach out to neighbours who might be interested!
- Signage for the meeting:
  - o CCC working on acquiring a marquee sign board – something that might be more visible/noticeable (probably won't be ready before the AGM, but the idea is to have something that replaces all the postering in the neighbourhood).
  - o Discussion of sandwich/a-frame boards as well.
  - o **Jason and Heather will work together on this issue.**
- B.R.I.C.K awards
  - o Discussion of several possible nominees for this year's awards.
    - There was some follow-up on this item via email with an additional nomination.
  - o **Gail will work on profiles and wording for the awards.**
- **Cindy with circulate NECA priorities for review by the Board before the AGM.**

## 5. Committee and working group updates

**Heritage and Development** (Gail McEachern): Working on an article for the NEN re: Provincial [Bill-109](#) and recommendations from the [Housing Affordability Task Force](#). Suggestion to send the article to the [FCA](#) and perhaps connect with the [Federation of Urban Neighbourhoods](#).

**Traffic and Safety** (Jason Tavoularis): Discussion of motion re: closure of Stanley Avenue that has been updated since the last meeting based on everyone's feedback. Suggestion that the motion, at this point, should be more about *intention* to activate the space on Stanley near the Fieldhouse rather than prescribe specific details. What we are looking for is the time and space to explore specifics with neighbours and the City depending on how the discussion goes at the AGM.

- Motion to approve this motion for presentation at the AGM
  - o Moved by Sean, seconded by Jason.
  - o Approved.

Traffic calming efforts remain a priority as people continue to use New Edinburgh as a shortcut.

**New Edinburgh News** (Christina Leadlay): Working on October edition. Currently co-editing with Karen Squires but still posting for a new editor. Worked on collecting responses to a couple of questions from both mayoral and councillor candidates for the upcoming municipal election. Suggestion of going from five editions per year to four – to lighten the workload for volunteers and to make it a seasonal publication. There was also a discussion of increasing the honorarium for the managing editor(s). Lots of budget considerations to review as things shift at NEN.

**Thank you, Christina, for everything you've done to keep the paper going and to support this transition to a new editor!**

**Friends of the Park** (Karen Squires and Katherine Hall): Apart from what was discussed earlier in the meeting, Karen and Katherine continue to follow-up with the City on all things park-related. There will be another park clean-up in October, see upcoming edition of NEN for details.

**Beechwood Development** (Ari Abonyi): No report.

**Communications** (Cindy Parkanyi): No report.

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

## 6. Community group updates

**CCC** (Chris): A new group of volunteers has re-energized the CCC! There will be no Halloween Howl this year. A holiday gathering is planned for late November (more details will be in NEN). The Fieldhouse will host a movie night mid-October (weekend after Thanksgiving). The New Edinburgh Garage Sale was a success! Only about \$750 in donations came in (\$1,500 total with the sale of vendor spaces and refreshments – this is notably less than previous years). There will be a QR code in the NEN for neighbours who still wish to donate based on their sales – people can send e-transfers as well. There are benefits to the sale that go beyond donations! It was a wonderful day to connect with neighbours – great to have it back after a two-year hiatus!

Improvements to the Fieldhouse – Chris hoping to pick-up where things left off in 2019/2020. More details here: <https://www.newedinburgh.ca/fieldhouse-improvements/>. See letter here: <https://www.newedinburgh.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Letter-from-CCC-NECA-Nectar-to-Councillor-King-200122.pdf>

- CCC wants to see some progress on these items, and also create space for consideration of new items.

**NECTAR** (Sean Flynn): In conversation with other people and organizations to discuss the potential of securing the space at St. Brigid's Church in Lowertown.

**Community Collective** (Cindy): No meeting since the summer.

## 7. Other Business

- Ceremonial unveiling of the new mural (Chief Pinesi Miskwi/Bloodline Algonquin Mural) at the Fieldhouse will take place this week.
  - o Discussions with the City around the re-naming of the park.
  - o More permanent trail marker signs will also be installed.

## 8. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 10:00pm.
- Next meeting is October 18<sup>th</sup>.