



Minutes

NECA Board Meeting – 18 October 2022

7:30 pm

Virtual meeting via ZOOM

Board members present: Cindy Parkanyi, Sean Flynn, Chris Straka, Karen Squires, Christina Leadlay, Ari Abonyi, Ted Bennett, Jason Tavoularis, Heather Matthews, Ray Boomgaardt

Absent: Samantha McAleese, Sarah Anson-Cartwright, Katherine Hall, Gail McEachern

Guests: Peter Petrie

1. Welcome (Cindy)

- Delivered land acknowledgment.
- Adjustments made to agenda.
- Approval of agenda.
 - o Motion by Karen, seconded by Christina.
 - o Approved.
- Approval of September minutes
 - o Motion by Christina, seconded by Sean.
 - o Approved.

2. Councillor's Report

- No specific updates from the councillor.
- Chris spoke to email/letter sent by NECA, CCC, and NECTAR about improvements to the Field House. Immediate question around where the money will come from for some/all of the items listed.
- Also a question about construction on Crichton. Signage remains but work has yet to start.

3. Planning for AGM

- Reminder for everyone to send reports.
- Meeting will be hybrid.
- People offered to bring extra masks for those attending in person.
- Need for registration desk to collect information of people attending in person (Cindy will print a template and bring that to the Field House).
- Cindy will re-circulate the strategic priorities for a last look by NECA board before the AGM.
- Sean McNulty has expressed interest in becoming a board member – will stand for election at the AGM.
- Suggestion for people who have access to printers to print out posters to advertise AGM (need to ensure enough in attendance for quorum).
- Motion to approve budget for costs related to AGM - \$300
 - o Moved by Karen, seconded by Christina.
 - o Approved.

4. Committee and working group updates

Traffic and Safety (Jason Tavoularis): No report. Question about cars idling in the neighbourhood – noticing an increase in people keeping their cars/trucks on, including City of Ottawa workers. Is there something we can do to make people more aware of it? Concerns about people stopping/dropping people off in front of the retirement home (New Edinburgh Square) on MacKay as well. Suggestion to write something for the NEN to address both idling and parking on narrow roads. Also asked Peter to take these issues back to the Councillor's office, especially as a reminder to City workers.

New Edinburgh News (Christina Leadlay): October edition is out! First edition with Karen Squires as co-editor! Already working on December edition. Hoping for another new proofreader to help with the paper. Still looking for a new managing editor. Cindy asked NEN to prepare a budget based on the proposed increases so we can understand the impact of that.

Beechwood Development (Ari Abonyi): Meeting coming up to finalize a secondary plan for the Beechwood corridor to send to the Councillor's office.

Friends of the Park (Karen Squires and Katherine Hall): New garbage bins and benches. A new fence around the splash pad area. Worked with the City to remove larger debris from the park before the community park clean up date next Friday. Other groups have been in the park cleaning as well. Karen has also been in touch with the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority to coordinate park and river cleanings.

Heritage and Development (Gail McEachern): No report.

Communications (Cindy Parkanyi): No report.

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

5. Community group updates

CCC (Chris): Looking forward to having conversations with the Councillor post election regarding concerns related to the Field House and the immediate area around it. Hosted a successful event – Films at the Field House! Trying to keep events free/donation. November 26th is the Holiday Lights gathering. New Year's Brunch on January 7th. Request for bollards on the NCC side of Stanley Avenue across from the park, especially closer to River Lane. Lots of erosion/loss of grass due to parking and construction (e.g. gravel recently left behind from City workers). Also working on getting more trees for various places in the park, including the patch of grass between Stanley and River Lane. **Suggestion for Traffic & Safety committee to focus on requests for additional bollards.**

NECTAR (Sean Flynn): Talked about the No Borders Art Festival. Also potential news on a new arts centre – Sean will update as soon as possible!

Community Collective (Cindy): No update.

6. Other Business

- Update from Kichi Sibi Trails: Still in discussion with Indigenous partners around renaming the park – asking for input from CCC as well. Ongoing work to identify more trails around Ottawa. **Request to have someone from Kichi Sibi Trails attend a future NECA meetings to provide an update on how things are moving a long and to discuss the renaming of the park.**
- Heather also had a question about parking on Union Street, specifically parking restrictions on the weekend – put to Jason for follow up.

7. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.
- Next meeting is the AGM on October 27th
- Next NECA board meeting is November 15th