

Minutes

NECA Board Meeting – 21 March 2023

7:30 pm

Virtual meeting via ZOOM



Board members present: Karen Squires, Christina Leadlay, Chris Straka, Sarah Anson-Cartwright, Ray Boomgaardt, Ted Bennett, Samantha McAleese, Heather Matthews, Katherine Hall

Regrets/Absent: Gail McEachern, Jason Tavoularis, Cindy Parkanyi, Sean Flynn, Sean McNulty

Guests: Councillor Rawlson King, Kostyantyn Frolov, Michelle Nash (Councillor King's office), Erin McCracken (Councillor King's office)

1. Welcome (Ray)

- Minutes from the February meeting approved (motion by Karen, seconded by Christina).
- Agenda approved (motion by Katherine, seconded by Karen).

2. Councillor's Report (Rawlson King)

- There will be an upcoming public consultation for transit needs in the area (addressing concerns with frequency and stop locations).
- Also, upcoming consultations re: Field House renovations (in New Edinburgh and elsewhere) and park/recreational facilities.
- Already thinking about the next budget. Hoping to start consultations much earlier.

3. New Edinburgh Banners Working Group Update

- Sarah, Samantha, and Kostyantyn met, but Sharon was unable to make the first meeting.
- Plans to remove the damaged banner.
 - o Kostyantyn plans to remove it in the spring after the ice and snow have disappeared, and when it is safer to do so.
- Purpose of the banners
 - o We should not focus only on the heritage district; we should go beyond. We could work with local Indigenous groups and work on reconciliation in this neighbourhood. In that respect, we may want to rethink the visuals to represent this neighbourhood, including the banners.
- Kostyantyn noted that the Kichi Sibi Trails (<https://kichisibiancienstrails.ca/>) commissioned Simon Brascoupé as an artist-designer for the logo for the trails. That might be something to look at incorporating into our visual.
- In terms of an engagement session with the community, Samantha noted that perhaps Sharon could help identify facilitators. We could consider a contest or an event for kids at the Fieldhouse for them to create some visuals.
- Initial suggestion to reach out to the organizers for Chief Pinesi Day (July 1st) to consider this activity as part of the programming, but a suggestion to explore other dates as well.
- Heather expressed interest in supporting graphic design.
- Plan to write an article for the June issue of New Ed News to promote this community consultation/engagement/design session.
- Plan for installations in 2024.
- For the next meeting: look at fundraising. Ask the Councillor's staff if there are funds for the neighbourhoods with these kinds of projects/ promotions.

4. CAFES (Sarah)

- Question to NECA about whether we should join CAFES (Community Associations for Environmental Sustainability)
- Fee would be \$100/year
- Given that we currently do not have a Chair for the Environment and Climate Change committee, it would be a good opportunity to build capacity and knowledge for that.
- Motion by Sarah, seconded by Ray. Approved.

5. Consultations for new Zoning Bylaws

- <https://engage.ottawa.ca/zoning>
 - o Surveys close on July 28, with a report in Q4 2023
- Erin to find out from the Engage Ottawa team whether there will be opportunities (outside of the surveys) for Community Associations to engage in this consultation.
- Suggestion for everyone to look at the content on the Engage Ottawa page and come prepared to offer comments at our next meeting.

6. Committee and working group updates

Beechwood Development (Ari Abonyi): No report. There will be a write-up on the secondary plan in the paper.

New Edinburgh News (Christina and Karen): Working on the April edition. June is Christina's last edition, and Karen won't be able to stay on either. Suggestion to change strategies for recruitment – idea for an “open house” so that people can learn more about the paper and the responsibilities involved. Suggestion to use the NECA listserv as well to keep getting the message out there (as a standalone item).

Heritage and Development (Gail McEachern): No report.

Friends of the Park (Karen Squires and Katherine Hall): Still asking about benches, trash cans, and a pickleball court. The recycling/green bin program through the City is on hold at the moment, so we cannot apply. Ice blasting was done, and there seemed to be less damage to the park as a result. Park walkthrough scheduled for mid-April with the City and RVCA to continue conversations about how we can continue to work together on park and water cleanup. Park cleanup day on April 22 – meetup afterwards at the Fieldhouse.

Traffic and Safety (Jason Tavoularis): No report.

Communications (Cindy Parkanyi): No report.

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

7. Community group updates

CCC (Chris): No report – but there will be an update in the paper.

NECTAR (Sean): No report.

Community Collective (Ray): No report.

Kichi Sibi Trails (Cindy): No report.

8. Other Business

- None.

9. Adjournment

- Meeting ended at 9:07pm.
- Next NECA Board meeting on April 18 at 7:30pm.