



Minutes

NECA Board Meeting – 20 June 2023

7:30 pm

Hybrid Meeting (Fieldhouse and Zoom)

Board members present: Cindy Parkanyi, Sean Flynn, Chris Straka, Karen Squires, Ted Bennett, Jason Tavoularis, Ray Boomgaardt, Kostyantyn Frolov, Katherine Hall, Samantha McAleese, Sarah Anson-Cartwright, Gail McEachern

Absent: Sean McNulty, Heather Matthews, Sharon Nyangweso

Guests: Erin McCracken, Christina Leadlay, Janet Uren, Lorna Bernbaum, Danielle, Roberto, Mary, India, Catherine, Nala, Ari

1. Welcome (Cindy)

- Delivered land acknowledgment.
- A 'farewell' to Christina after 9 years as editor of the New Edinburgh News!
- Approval of agenda (moved by Katherine, seconded by Jason)
- Approval of May meeting minutes.
- Round of introductions:
 - o Note that this is Samantha's last NECA meeting as she is moving out of the neighbourhood at the end of the summer.

2. Councillor's Report

- No report.

3. StreetFest (Guest: Janet Uren)

- 500 people bought tickets last year, raised ~\$40,000
- There's a bigger team working on the event this year
- The event will be focused on Heritage and music; more people are participating this year (more verandas), and some open houses, concerts, doorstep guides, etc. - Event from 4-6 in Stanley Park with the Scottish Society of Ottawa
- Date: September 9th
- Tickets will be \$30 and will include a history booklet
- Fundraising once again for Inuuqatigiit: inuuqatigiit.ca/

4. Committee and working group updates

New Edinburgh News (Christina Leadlay): No report. Karen and Christina continue to work with Sharon as she settles into the editor role. Christina will remain on the advisory board.

Beechwood Development (Ari Abonyi): No report. Reviewed the Secondary Plan for Beechwood with Councillor King's office. Takeaways: the BVA needs to be proactive when it comes to consultation on planning and development in the area – need one or two designated people who want to be more involved with the planning process. NECA needs to decide what elements of the Secondary Plan are most important (at the neighbourhood level). BVA is doing a lot-by-lot inventory of Beechwood.

Heritage and Development (Gail McEachern): No report. 255 MacKay is up for sale again.
Friends of the Park (Karen Squires and Katherine Hall): Report sent before meeting. Ecology Ottawa is going to support the monarch meadow. RVCA is working on the floodplain. The City is working on the beach area. Need to keep talking about signage in the park that helps ensure everyone can use the park safely. Working on a solution to contain the equipment used during the winter to blast the river (e.g., creating a path with stakes or barrels to direct the workers). There will be more bylaw officers in the park this summer.

Traffic and Safety (Jason Tavoularis): No report. Jason has some 'slow down, children playing' signs if people would like one in their area.

- Brief discussion of encampments:

- o Need for ongoing awareness and advocacy from NECA about housing and homelessness in Ottawa. If people are removed from encampments, where do they go? Importance of supporting people in the moment while also addressing root causes of homelessness and working collectively to end homelessness in Ottawa.

Communications (Cindy Parkanyi): No report.

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

5. Community group updates

Kichi Sibi Trails (Cindy):

- Chief Pinesi Day is coming up on July 1: <https://www.newedinburgh.ca/event/pinesi/> - No grants were provided for this year's event, ask from Cindy for NECA to contribute, Board to decide the amount.
- Plan for next year to organize earlier and apply for grants to cover the costs of the event.

MOTION to provide \$1,000 from NECA to support Chief Pinesi Day – moved by Ray, seconded by Sean. Approved.

CCC (Chris):

- AGM last Monday night, great turnout! And new members/engagement as a result.
- Still looking for a director of communications.
- Events:
 - o Canada Day fireworks at the park
 - o July 15th – Shakespeare in the Park: Hamlet
 - o July 22nd – Films at the Fieldhouse
 - o September 16th – New Edinburgh Garage Sale
 - o Trying to plan a bike day in the Fall
 - o Halloween Howl: October 28th
 - o Holiday Lights: November 25th
 - o New Year's Brunch: January 6th
- Early talks of planning for a community garden in the park

6. Other Business

- Dogs in the park:

- Discussion about the boundaries of the park and confusion based on various renditions of maps. Need to go back to the NCC and find out what the boundaries are so that people aren't fined for places where they think they are allowed to be.
- Proposal to change meeting start time to 7pm and a mixture of in person and virtual

7. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 9:55pm.
- Next NECA board meeting is September 16 at the Fieldhouse at 7pm.