

Minutes

NECA Board Meeting – 17 October 2023

7:00 pm

Hybrid meeting via ZOOM and New Edinburgh Fieldhouse

Board members present: Sarah Anson-Cartwright, Gail McEachern, Sharon Nyangweso, Sean Flynn, Chris Straka, Karen Squires, Ted Bennett, Jason Tavoularis, Heather Matthews, Ray Boomgaardt, Kostyantyn Frolov

Absent: Cindy Parkanyi, Katherine Hall

Guests: Councillor Rawlson King, Erin McCracken

Welcome (Ray)

- Approval of agenda
- Approval of September minutes

New Edinburgh News (Sharon): Pleased with great success of her first issue as managing editor. Hoping to make a few tweaks and experiment in future, for example prompt for submissions earlier.

(Karen): Great feedback from readers on the last issue.

Nov 10 is the deadline for submissions for the December issue.

AGM Planning

BRICK award 2023 discussion. Discussed various nominees including one recommendation sent from a resident to Karen. At the end of the discussion the board voted unanimously for this year's winners:

- Christine Garand, owner of Union Street Cafe for her community building
- the developer of a great heritage friendly yet density increasing infill at 189 Stanley Ave

Confirmed virtual only for AGM because it's less complicated.

Discussed the need to vote in a slate of board members at the AGM.

Financial report discussion. NECA funds keep increasing every year. Jason proposed spending more next year. Sean confirmed NECA financials are tied to NEN financials which have been good in recent years, but Ted/Sean need to discuss some details with Karen to determine the amount that would be healthy for NECA to maintain acceptable risk if NEN financials decline. Agreed to discuss how much money to keep and how much to spend in upcoming NECA board meetings.

Councillor's Report

- Wi-fi vote is successful at City Council. Wi-fi is going ahead at New Edinburgh Fieldhouse!
- Working towards New Edinburgh Fieldhouse to become official emergency shelter location
- Starting winter maintenance discussions with City staff
- Continued traffic calming discussions
- Data coming in from by-law summer students regarding dogs in New Edinburgh park but not ready to share insights/conclusions yet

Councillor King answers traffic calming questions from board members. Further discussion on Fieldhouse wi-fi.

Sarah asked Councillor King about the City budget and how he intends to vote on the Lansdowne 2.0 proposal. Councillor King thoroughly reviewed the proposal, still listening but states he is not inclined to support Lansdowne 2.0.

General Discussion and Committee updates

Digitally archiving more NEN editions. Need to speak with Dave Rostenne who was known to be working on this.

Short discussion on Airbnb problems on Ivy Crescent.

Heritage and Development (Gail McEachern): Proposal presented to City Heritage planners for 255 MacKay but it's not at a stage where Gail is permitted to discuss it with NECA board.

Traffic and Safety (Jason Tavoularis): Discussion of postponement of Beechwood sidewalk renewal. Jason will write a NEN article.

CCC (Chris Straka): the CCC has a new secretary. Many more CCC events are coming up including an exciting comedy show.

More discussions on finances and spending opportunities including for the ~\$250,000 capital account allocated to a New Edinburgh community centre investment following the sale of NECTAR 255 MacKay.

Beechwood Development (Ari Abonyi): No report.

Friends of the Park (Karen Squires and Katherine Hall): Flood plain project started with Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RCVA) and the NCC near the beach on the flood plain. Removing invasive species and then planting replacements in October and more to come in spring 2024 - more details later.

Communications (Cindy Parkanyi): No report.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned around 9:00pm. Next NECA board meeting is November 21th at the fieldhouse at 7:00pm – will try to set up hybrid.