

## Minutes

### NECA Board Meeting – 16 April 2024 - 7:00 pm

*In-person at New Edinburgh Fieldhouse with option to join virtually by Zoom*

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**Board members present:** Ted Bennett, Ray Boomgaardt, Sean Flynn, Kostyantyn Frolov, Gail McEachern, Cindy Parkanyi, Chris Straka, Karen Squires, Jason Tavoularis, Sharon Nyangweso (online)

**Absent:** Sarah Anson-Cartwright, Sean McNulty, Katherine Hall

**Guests:** Athena and Erin McCracken [online] both from the Councillor King's office, Danielle, JR [online] Pierre, Andrew

#### 1. Welcome (Ray)

- Welcomed new guest
- Agenda approved
- March 2024 meeting minutes were approved
- Delivered land acknowledgment

**2. Councillor's Report** - Athena attended on behalf of the Councillor who could not attend. Will listen in and take back any questions or concerns to the Councillor

- **Parking Survey** - Seeking input from the community regarding various parking issues that have been raised.

#### 3. Update on Emblem re-design (Kostyantyn)

- Had meeting with the Artist. Cheque for first half of total payment has been prepared and signed. There will be a walkaround with the artist in the neighbourhood on Thursday. Preparing an article for the June *New Edinburgh News*.

#### 4. Fieldhouse covered outdoor space proposal (Chris/Jason)

- Jason explained the origins of the New Edinburgh Building Fund and the fact that it must be used towards enhancements to the Fieldhouse.
- Chris further explained that the original list of requests was approved in 2019 by CCC, NECA and NECTAR and provided to the City. These were then reconfirmed in 2023. They are in the City's queue for implementation. They are just starting the process but we don't have a specific timeline from the City.
- Remainder of funds available is in the order of \$150,000. Recommendation is to apply this to a new rain shelter/outdoor space adjacent to the Fieldhouse. Proposed location is a roofed patio at the front of the Fieldhouse (between the building and Stanley).
- There may be some concern from the broader community. The need to ensure adequate consultation was discussed, particularly the need for a plan or clear visual to do this.
- The notional idea for this proposal came from the CCC and their need to address a need that stems from user groups of the Fieldhouse.

- If there is consensus to move forward, there will most likely need to be additional fundraising to cover the full cost (which would also include the cost of obtaining architectural plans).

**NEXT STEPS:** Jason will draft an article for the NEN and potentially incorporate renderings from Chris. Jason and Chris will work together to approach the City to begin exploring the possibility. Could include a discussion item on the agenda of the NECA AGM for further feedback.

**MOTION:** To begin consultation with the community via NEN and approach the City on the proposal to use the remaining funds towards a covered outdoor space adjacent to the Fieldhouse, with a view to having information that can be presented at the NECA AGM in October. Moved by Jason, seconded by Ted. Approved unanimously.

## 5. Committee and working group updates

**Traffic and Safety** (Jason): Nothing to report.

**New Edinburgh News** (Karen): Early days for the June edition but coming together. Was wondering if the Beechwood Market would be providing an article. Chris suggested contacting them directly.

**Heritage and Development** (Gail):

- **253 MacKay** - Came before the Built Heritage Committee opposing the proposal, contrary to the Heritage staff as well as Councillor King, as did Heritage Ottawa. Gail was the only person who spoke against the building.
- **255 MacKay** - Application coming in to sever the section of the property facing the lane. Our HCD precludes the severing of property facing the lanes. Despite this, the H&D Committee, in discussion with the owner and heritage planner; Gail will be going to the Committee of Adjustment to support the application. Concern about this as setting a precedent was expressed. Gail noted that when the heritage application is submitted there will be a condition that this is "site specific".
- **BRICK awards** - Christine has received hers. The other one had to be mailed to Alcove Holdings (Stanley Ave redevelopment).

**Friends of the Park** (Karen):

- Tri-waste receptacles (5) are coming to the park very soon. They will not be placed right next to a bench. If we need more, the City is willing to come and look at it.
- This Sunday will be the annual park cleanup in conjunction with the City. This year they have engaged and teamed up with Ottawa Riverkeeper so expect about 100 people. Haven't yet connected with the RVCA on the river cleanup, but will bring this up when they meet on the tree planting project.
- One guest (Pierre) noted that many trees have fallen and may need to be cleaned up. There are areas that - in the winter months - are fairly bare because there are only deciduous trees and no conifers. Karen will engage with the City to explore possibilities for additional trees. Suggestion was for Pierre to work with Karen on this.
- Pierre also expressed his concern about the use of blasting and the effect on the wildlife. It was suggested that there be engagement with the Ottawa Riverkeepers on this issue. Pierre was encouraged to write a letter to the editor for the NEN - in French if that is his preference.
- Erin will provide an update on the Ward Spring planting plan.

**Communications** (Cindy): Continuing to send out a monthly E-newsletter, usually the weekend before the NECA meeting. She gave a shout out to the Councillor's office on their newsletter that we pull information from.

## **6. Community group updates**

**CCC (Chris):**

- Their AGM is coming up. They are still looking for a Director/Secretary.
- June 1, there will be a ticketed event, a concert by Jeremy Fisher. The Ottawa Rotary Club is now meeting at the Fieldhouse a couple times a month. Currently working on a Seniors Forum for June. Playgroup is struggling to find a champion/coordinator.
- They are looking for more/new volunteers.

**Kichi Sibi Trails (Cindy):** Planning is ongoing for Chief Pinesi Day and the leadup event - the Pinesi Paddle from Oka to Ottawa. Hoping to get the Heritage Ottawa grant. As a fallback, have also applied for a couple of City of Ottawa grants. Paddle starts on June 26 in Oka (where Chief Pinesi) is buried and paddlers arrive in Ottawa on July 1 to join the Chief Pinesi Day festivities. Without the grants, the events may be in jeopardy.

**7. Other business** - none

## **8. Adjournment**

- The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.
- Next Board meeting is May 21 at 7 pm.