

New Edinburgh Community Alliance

Minutes

NECA Board Meeting – 21 October 2025 - 7:00 pm

In person at the Fieldhouse with a Zoom option

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

Absent: Sharon Nyangweso

Guests: Councillor King, Erin McCracken (from the Councillor's Office) and 8 members of the community.

1. Welcome (Jason presided in Ray's absence)

- Agenda - APPROVED
- May and September 2025 meeting minutes - APPROVED

3. NECA AGM Planning

- [Draft agenda](#) - approved
- [Strategic priorities](#) - Jason will circulate for updates
- Refreshments - Cindy will bring snacks and drinks, Sarah will check on wine

2. Councillor's Report

- **Parking** – Making headway. Circulating petition to change regulation on upper McKay and Crichton. 90-min 7-7 M-F. Safety and parking review on Q. Vic for issues related to congestion and safety. Petition being circulated for residents to qualify for on-street parking permits - on a per address basis.
- **Budget consultation** – Will invite ward 13 virtual consultation on the budget – date is Nov 17 6:30pm. In response to Sarah's question, Councillor King intends to vote against the Lansdowne proposal – although they have not had a chance to review the docs that just came out.
- **Zoning bylaw review** – Having final meetings with community organizations to feed into a white paper that he is working on to submit for consideration by the City. Targeting late Oct/early Nov.
- **Questions from guests:**
 - o Can the parking permit be applied to guests? Answer is no unless you have guests park in your driveway and you park on the street as the permits are vehicle specific. Visitor parking permits are a separate process. It's an application where the permit allows for 2-weeks parking. There is concern by staff that permits may not be returned.

4. Financial Update

- Approval of the 2024-25 Financial Statements - Sean presented the financial report for the past FY. Noted that the ongoing insurance cost for GL will be covered by the City going forward, but not the D&O. He also noted that the cost for NEN insurance has gone up significantly over the past few years. He has reached out to a couple of other community papers to see what they do. Old Ottawa South only have coverage under their GL insurance and do not have a separate insurance for community newspaper. MOTION TO

APPROVE the financial statements was unanimously approved.

- Review of the NEN budget for 2025-26 - Karen has sent upcoming increased costs to Ted and Sean, but has not created a budget. This is normally done right after the AGM. There will be a meeting (aiming for evening week of Nov 10) to create a budget at that time.
- Decision on contribution to New Edinburgh History book - There was a discussion about how much NECA felt it could afford to contribute given increasing projected costs for the NEN. After noting that NECA aims to keep a minimum of \$10k in the fund balance and there is currently \$17K there was comfort in proceeding at this time. MOTION put forward to contribute \$1,000 in sponsorship plus purchase a dozen books to make available within the community.

Committee and working group updates

New Edinburgh News (Karen): There is a plan to increase production to 5,000 for the 50th anniversary year. Looking at ad sales it is felt to be time to seek support for the current ad mgmt role. John Leefe has volunteered to help to reach out to new potential advertisers. Dave is transitioning out as production manager but will continue as tech support. Email migration for the NEN is ongoing.

Communications (Cindy): Dave Rostenne will work on the NECA team next. Jason noted that he can lend NECA the A frames they use for the Artist tour for future NECA event promotion.

Traffic and Safety (Jason/Kostyantyn): No report.

Beechwood Development (Kostyantyn): He noted the NEN articles on 47 Beechwood and the Councillor's column on the Beechwood plan. He indicated that we will need to be active in the working group.

Heritage and Development (Gail):

- Sarah noted that the new zoning bylaw draft has come out. The N4B area will include a notation to harmonize the height to 11metres.
- Gail reported on a project that she has worked on over the past year – lead by Anne Davis and Vicky Solan – to get National Historical Site designation for New Edinburgh. Looking to submit the proposal in the next month or so and are seeking letters of support from NECA (among others groups). She also requested CCC support. There was unanimous support from the NECA Board. Gail will draft a letter for Ray to sign for NECA.

Friends of the Park (Karen/Katherine): Katherine noted that the (approx 81) trees scheduled to be planted primarily in the NCC areas are imminent. Agreement that the issues with whippersnippers on the trees and over mowing will be raised with relevant folks at the City again in the spring.

6. Community group updates

CCC (Chris): Very successful comedy night - standing room only. Have ordered more chairs. This weekend is Halloween Howl. Cindy to reach out to Loic, Chris, and including Jason to reestablish access to the MailChimp account. Still waiting on action on additional items to come such as sound attenuation and dividers as well as addressing bubbles in the seams of the flooring. Erin said that there should be an update coming shortly.

Erin noted that the New Ed tennis courts have qualified for adding pickle ball lines. Question regarding unevenness of the surface - this is outside of the workplan for this year, but will reassess in the spring and monitor for safety concerns over the summer.

Last year's ice-breaking caused significant damage. Initial remediation did not address the issue to any great extent. Erin will look to engage with relevant City groups earlier to address that and the mowing/whippersnipping issues.

Kichi Sibi Trails (Cindy): No report.

7. Other Business:

- Status of NECA's corporate info with provincial and federal agencies.
- John McNee noted that "Friends of Sussex Drive" has launched an online petition which has received a groundswell of support (798 so far). He asked about the status of the requested letter to the NCC. Ray noted that it is in the works. Another resident (David McKinnon) noted that attendees at NECA and community meetings does not necessarily reflect a broad sense of what residents are comfortable with. He is suggesting that NECA adopt a more positive approach rather than taking a stance against any development. Kostyantyn noted that at the last meeting NECA committed to send a letter to the NCC to request a meeting and early consultation with the community (i.e. not waiting until after the proponent is selected).

8. Adjournment

- Next regular Board meeting is 18 November 2025 at the Fieldhouse. AGM date - Tuesday 28 Oct at 7pm in person.
- Adjourned at 9:27pm.