

New Edinburgh Community Alliance

Minutes

NECA Board Meeting – 19 May 2026 - 7:00 pm

In hybrid format - in-person at the New Edinburgh Fieldhouse and via Zoom

Board members present: Ted Bennett, Sarah Anson-Cartwright, Kostyantyn Frolov, Gail McEachern, Cindy Parkanyi, Karen Squires, Chris Straka, Jason Tavoularis

Absent: Ray Boomgaardt, Sean Flynn, Katherine Lloyd, Sharon Nyangweso

Guests: Councillor King, Erin McCracken (from the Councillor's Office) and approximately 3 members of the community

1. Welcome (Jason)

- Agenda - Approved with addition of item on Noise issue at 60 Sussex
- April 2026 meeting minutes - Approved

2. Councillor's Report

- **Parking-** Councillor engaging with GAC on issues with overflow parking. Also talking to the Mayor about longer term fixes to the problem. Some of the discussions are around Bus route 9 reliability, setting up off-site parking with shuttles, building parking management such as encouraging car pooling. There is also continuing work to gather feedback on the parking survey. Considering traffic calming measures on MacKay.
- **Beechwood Public Plan** - What We Heard report is now online. Residents raised questions on a number of areas which will influence the design development.
- **Vanier BIA** - Interested in submitting an article on what they do.
- **QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:**
 - There was a comment that the What We Heard report seemed not to be specific to Beechwood – seemed too general. He also emphasized that the first two blocks after the St. Patrick Street bridge are the most critical. There does not appear to be recognition of the fact that Beechwood is a thoroughfare in addition to being a mainstreet. **Response:** Noted. They are only at the beginning of the process. The information will become more detailed as they move forward. There will be more opportunities for input.
 - Question about the traffic calming on MacKay. Is this the flexi-posts? Are they actually effective? **Response:** They are effective. There is monitoring as well so if they are not proving to be effective they would be removed. Also, it was noted that there are three intersections where there are safety issues with the current structure. Response from Kostyantyn was that two of these three intersections are to be designed as protected intersections. **Response from Councillor:** This is what the City is looking for, inputs from residents who experience interactions with Beechwood. Regarding the Vanier Parkway intersection, while not part of the Beechwood Public Realm plan, it will be looked at as part of their infrastructure updates.

- Karen asked about the Vanier BIA engagement. She noted that they have been liaising with them particularly in light of the loss of the *Vanier Perspectives* newsletter.
- A concern was raised regarding the loud noises at 60 Stanley (roof HVAC noise). The resident referenced some decisions taken in the Glebe in a similar situation that might be useful for addressing the issue in New Ed. There is a concern with the noise from a health perspective. The mitigation that was put in place in the Glebe was a noise dampening wall. There is a concern as well in light of potential new developments along Sussex that this may be the tip of the iceberg.
Response: Councillor King is aware of the work that Sean Menard has done and that there is interest in looking at solutions going forward, such as updating the noise by-law. The challenge is with compliance and getting property owners to address the issues. The good news is that the review of the noise by-law may be able to be added to the by-law work plan in the next term.

3. Proposal for survey to gauge interest in environmental topics (Sarah)

Ellen Hagerman has indicated her interest in putting together some workshops in the community. The first step in mind is to survey the community to get some feedback. There was clear consensus from the board to proceed. Question from Karen as to whether the survey would include the City? Response: yes. How do we get people to comply? Suggestion: encourage reporting to bylaw for things such as idling.

4. Committee and working group updates

Heritage and Development (Gail): Nothing to report.

Sussex Blocks Task Team (Sarah): There has been quite a lot of reporting on an “imminent decision” on 24 Sussex. Worth watching.

Friends of the Park (Karen): Met with the City’s park people about a week ago to look at the issues of overzealous mowing. They will be taking this input into consideration for the summer mowing. They will be adding new lines for pickleball as part of some upgrades to the courts. Question regarding the tent city on the island near GAC – City is liaising with the occupants to try to resolve.

Communications (Cindy/Jason): See [report](#).

New Edinburgh News (Karen): It’s the 50th year. She noted that there was a discussion at the last meeting about the dip in advertising. They made changes to the team and put more focus on advertising. They are cautiously optimistic for this edition with some new advertisers. They have more content overall and more from Vanier as well. Still not in a position to do French editing, but may look at putting a call out for assistance. They have 40 pages (based on estimated advertising) and more content than they can fit. Looking at doing an end-of-year event similar to last year at a business along Beechwood. She is suggesting Cafe Miracle, who seems willing to host within a specific budget (~\$500). She will come back with firm numbers from the June edition which hopefully will show a change in the tide with respect to advertising. She will send out an email next week with the particulars for decision by NECA.

Traffic and Safety (Jason): No report.

Beechwood development (Kostyantyn): The City is planning on finishing the report / design by end of summer so would recommend signing up for alerts (engage Ottawa site).

6. Community group updates

CCC (Chris): They have decided to offer tickets to CCC and NECA/NEN volunteers to the event taking place on Saturday evening. Send an email to CCC with the name and email. They have begun exploring with City

facilities staff the possibility for AC at the Fieldhouse. The response was that there was no plan for the moment. Erin noted that there are building audits happening with the smaller facilities which is required before any future enhancements. On the overhang project, they have created a project charter but may be still waiting for a project manager to be assigned. There is no new news on the proposed community garden. They are waiting for confirmation from the City's process.

Kichi Sibi Trails (Cindy): No Chief Pinesi Day for 2026 due to resource constraints and the fact that the paddle will not begin or end on that day at the park. Will return next year or the year after - TBD.

7. Other Business:

- Noted question from Rockcliffe regarding coordination of a mayoral (and possible ward) forum/debate.

8. Adjournment

- No formal Board meeting in June. Will look at doing a joint NECA/NEN gathering or a separate NECA gathering.