New Edinburgh Community Alliance

Minutes

NECA Board Meeting – 15 September 2026 - 7:00 pm
In hybrid format - in-person at the New Edinburgh Fieldhouse and via Zoom

---

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

Absent: Sean Flynn, Sharon Nyangweso, Chris Straka

Guests: Councillor King, Athena (from the Councillor's Office), Kathleen Turnock, Jennifer Manning and John Rodney (online)

1. Welcome (Ray)

- Agenda - Approved
- May 2026 meeting minutes - Approved

2. Councillor's Report

- **Fieldhouse rooftop expansion & solar -** City design team hoping to assign a project mgr. City parks planning staff is interested in exploring installation of solar panels and will report back with updates. Community garden application is still under review - ~45 day timeline.
- **Beechwood public realm plan** - a kiosk was set up during BeechFest along with two public events to collect community input. Feedback can be submitted by Sept 18.
- **Parking changes** - progress on Crichton St. (Union - Q. Victoria). Have passed the requirement to allow moving forward. Other areas are dependent on volunteer canvassing. Councillor's office has connected with GAC and OC Transpo to explore more options for employees coming to work.
- **Proposed Kettle Island Bridge** - Council approved a motion Councillor King brought forward to extend the consultation period beyond Oct 9 for the impact assessment until after the soon to be newly elected council consider it.
- **Army Run** - Sept 20 - road closures will happen.
- **QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:**
    - Concern regarding the numerous appeals that the NCC has made regarding zoning. These were not easy to find and one of the appeals relates to the Sussex Blocks. Response - City does not necessarily receive notices of process of these appeals and decisions, but the City can ask the Solicitor for a list, but will be dependent on their resources.
    - Question about a boat dock near the Fieldhouse. The cost may be prohibitive (~$50k - $100K) and there is a priority list for parkland improvements. They will continue to explore, but the process might be sped up by pursuing matching grants (even City grants), etc. Either CCC and/or NECA would need to put in an application to get on the list. Chris noted that given the cost and other priorities, they were not planning to pursue at this time.

3. NECA AGM planning (Cindy)

- **Date and location:** Wednesday, October 28 at 7pm at the Fieldhouse with virtual option available

- **Board nominations:** confirmed that the current board members whose term is ending would like to continue. This includes Sarah Anson-Cartwright, Ray Boomgaardt, Sean Flynn (TBC), Katherine Lloyd, Karen Squires and Cindy Parkanyi
- **Refreshments:** Ted agreed to bring drinks; Katherine will bring snacks (TBC)
- **BRICK Awards:** A longtime member of the community was chosen for a Community Builder award.
- **Strategic priorities:** Board members were asked to review the priorities and propose adjustments
- **Committee reports**: will need to be submitted for publishing on the website at least 2 weeks prior to the AGM (Oct 14)
- **Financial statements:** will need to be ready for Board review at the October 20 meeting.

4. Committee and working group updates

Sussex Blocks Task Team (Sarah): Asked NCC about the appeal to the new zoning of the Sussex Blocks. NCC replied that the zoning had not been amended. Based on the news that 24 Sussex is to be renovated, she asked NCC how this might impact the timing for the Sussex Blocks. She also wonders if it is time to seek a follow up with Tobi Nussbaum, CEO of the NCC. The Board is supportive; a letter should come from Ray.

She also noted that on Nov 3, NECA enviro-inspired group is hosting a waste reduction information session at the Fieldhouse at 7pm.

Friends of the Park (Karen): Evergreens that were planted all died. They have replaced them with deciduous trees. The City put in pickle ball lines at the tennis courts. Invasive species - City has hired a consultant who is gathering data but has not produced any plans yet. There is a group of willing volunteers to work on the invasive species - Katherine would like to seek approval from the City to tackle some areas. Bicycle signs - the park group had asked for some that are clearer a few years ago and has now followed up with Erin who will look into it. One resident noted the issue of an encampment at the north end of Maple Island and that there is no trash receptacle in the south part of Maple Island.

Communications (Cindy): No report.

New Edinburgh News (Karen): Lots of good content. Will be in layout this weekend. Could be 36 - 40 pages. Great news regarding ad sales, which are up significantly (with 6 or 7 new advertisers). They have some new contributors.

Traffic and Safety (Jason): No report. Will look at finding an appropriate mic solution for the AGM.

Beechwood development (Kostyantyn): Beechwood Ave functional design study is preliminary - there will be a more detailed design later when they get funding. Design as-is looks pretty good, with the exception that it doesn't include the Vanier Parkway intersection. Hydro poles need to be moved, so this would be a good opportunity to bury them. If they were buried we could have a larger tree canopy.

Heritage and Development (Gail): 255 MacKay - a sign has gone up - luxurious 5-bed, 2 car garage and patio. Gail has asked for more information.

6. Community group updates

CCC (Chris): No report

Kichi Sibi Trails (Cindy): Cindy noted that at the last Kichi Sibi Trails meeting it was determined that there would be a Chief Pinesi Day on July 1, 2027, since the paddle will end in Ottawa on that day. It had not yet been decided whether the event would take place in New Edinburgh Park or at the Museum of History. There was consensus among Board members that the preference would be to have it take place in New Edinburgh Park. Cindy indicated that she would bring this message back to the organizers.

7. Other Business:

- There will now be a meet-and-greet of the candidates on Oct 4 at Lindenlea Community Centre from 5 to 7pm. Oct 15 will be the mayoral debate in the Glebe.
- CAFES has requested contributions for a debate that they are running. Ted indicated that he has already committed to $100 and will send that. He then moved to reconfirm the policy that the co-treasurers can approve disbursements of $250 or less and then inform the Board. This motion was passed.

8. Adjournment

- Next meeting is 20 October 2026. AGM planned for October 28 at 7pm. Adjourned at 9:01 pm.