

Federation of Citizens' Associations of Ottawa
Executive Meeting of 29 April 2015, Tanglewood Park Community Centre
Draft Minutes

Participants: Graeme Roderick [chair], Klaus Beltzner, Bob Brocklebank, Archie Campbell, John Chenier, Sheila Perry, Gary Sealey, Marjorie Shaver-Jones, Don Stewart, Agnes Warda, Karen Wright

1. Approval of agenda

Approved

2. Approval of Executive meeting minutes

The draft minutes of the March 11 Executive meeting had not been previously approved because it was considered that more detail on the Results presentation discussed at that meeting should enter the record. With the agreement that the text of the presentation be appended to the minutes, the draft minutes for the March 3 meeting were approved. The draft minutes for the Executive meeting of April 1 were approved.

3. Receipt of draft minutes for the General Meeting of April 14, 2015

Received

4. Business Arising

Community Mail Boxes

A meeting on the topic was going on that night. Marjorie Shaver-Jones reported that they had had a meeting with Canada Post. Some 200 municipalities have spoken out against the change but Ottawa seems silent. Councillor McKenney has asked about loss of greenspace in connection with the change. It was noted that decisions about placement of boxes are taken without any site visit. Kanata-Beaverbrook has written a report about their experience with the change.

Mayor Watson sent a letter dated January 17, 2013 setting out criteria for implementation of the change. One question is the degree of consultation Canada Post has had with Councillors regarding implementation. It is said that Councillor Leiper proposes to bring a motion and it was agreed that FCA should liaise with the Councillor to take appropriate action in support. There was discussion of issuing a letter and a press release.

There is an official in Transport with some connection to the implementation who could be contacted. FCA should enter into contact with other organizations (FUN possibly) to learn if they have taken a position on community mail boxes. One idea is that Minister Polievre has opened an office in Manotick and this could be a way of reaching the Cabinet.

Website

One issue which will need to be resolved is who is to put information into the site. There will be a facility for posting comments, subject to moderation, but the issue is the content of the site itself. Once certain changes are made, members of the Executive will be asked to work on the prototype site, to build

experience and to develop content for launch. A meeting with the web designer is scheduled for the following day.

Annual General Meeting Panel

The proposed theme is “transportation in transition” and Klaus Beltzer is to introduce John Manconi and David Jeans. Carolyn Clackdoyle is working on some sample questions. The idea is to have two presentations followed by questions and answers. This led to discussion about the role of Councillor Egli who has agreed to act as moderator, but, it was argued, should be provided an opportunity to speak.

It was agreed that \$150 be allocated to provide a contribution to charity in lieu of presents to the speakers. It was also agreed that coffee etc. comparable to that provided in past years be arranged.

Trees in Trust

At the previous Executive meeting there was discussion of securing a speaker from the City Forestry unit to speak. Sheila Perry will look into securing a speaker.

Member survey

The survey is still open and mass message will be sent to try to secure additional replies. Much of the comment was about communications and the conduct of meetings.

5. Committee structure following the Annual General Meeting

The current committee structure was considered. In addition to the executive committee and the nomination committee (which are required in the by-laws) we also have had committees dealing with membership, communications, education, planning & zoning, environment, transportation and governance. Decisions would need to be taken by the new Executive, but one idea is a committee to work on regional councils or similar initiatives for part of the city.

6. Nominations and Recognition

It was agreed that the City Builder Award for Bill Teron should be presented at the May 14 General Meeting if possible.

Nominations for the three 2015 awards have been received and more nominations would be welcome. It is anticipated that the individuals receiving the awards could be announced at the May 14 meeting.

It was agreed that expenditure of \$350 be authorized for preparation of the award materials.

The committee continues to look for candidates for the executive committee for next year.

7. Meeting schedule

The first general meeting of the new year is scheduled for September 7. Greenspace has indicated a willingness to host in October. Manotick and Overbrook are looking into dates for November and December. Tanglewood will take January.

8. Planning & Zoning

Infill 2 is to come to Planning Committee on May 12 and the staff report will only be available May 5.

Sheila Perry has been invited to be a panelist for a city staff professional development event on partnerships and will be looking for ideas to incorporate into her remarks.

An invitation has arrived from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing for FCA to nominate a representative to participate in the Planning Act Working Group. The Working Group is to provide advice on issues including:

- what constitutes a minor variance;
- regulation standards for notices; and
- regulation standards for public engagement.

It was agreed to empower Sheila Perry to identify a candidate and make a nomination on behalf of the FCA.

9. Other business

Campaign contributions

It was agreed that Phil Sweetnam's motion be put before the May 14 meeting

Community consultation

Some members attended a meeting on April 16 which seemed to centre around community engagement. Meeting documentation will be secured for the wider membership.

Ontario not-for-profit corporation legislation

An information kit has been received from the Ministry but the new legislation will only begin to come into effect in 2016. It was proposed that the information be presented to the General Meeting in September.

10. Adjournment

Next meeting

The next executive meeting is May 27 and it is recommended that the new Executive for 2015-2016 meet June 7.