

Federation of Citizens' Associations of Ottawa
General Meeting of September 09, 2015, Jules Morin Park in Lowertown
Draft Minutes

Participants: Gary Sealey [Kanata Beaverbrook CA – chair]; Charity Bartlett [Carlington CA]; Philip Bartlett [Carlington CA]; Liz Bernstein [Lowertown CA]; Robert Brinker [Carlington CA]; Bob Brocklebank [Glebe CA]; John Chenier [Lowertown CA]; Nancy Miller Chenier [Lowertown CA]; David Clark [City View CA]; Louise Clement [Dovercourt RA]; Caroline Crowe [Trend Arlington CA]; Alex Cullen [Belltown NA]; Roland Dorsay [Champlain Park CA]; Maureen Forsythe [Age Friendly Ottawa]; Eddie Gillis [Old Ottawa East CA]; Angela Keller Herzog [Glebe CA]; Laine Johnson [Citizens Academy]; Kul Kapoor [Katimavik Hazeldean CA]; Rod MacLean [Katimavik Hazeldean CA]; Maria Luisa Marti [Friends of James & Bay]; Paul Mennier [Centretown Citizens CA]; Dan Mullaly [Centretown Citizens CA]; Sheila Perry [Overbrook CA]; Gillian Salmond [Wellington West CA]; Graham Saul [Ecology Ottawa]; Marjorie Shaver-Jones [Copeland Park CA]; John Stevenson [Citizens for Safe Cycling]; Don Stewart [Westboro Beach CA]; Jim Strang [Old Ottawa East CA]; Phil Sweetnam [Stittsville VA]; Leslie Taylor [McKellar Park CA]; Agnes Warda [Glens CA]; Karen Wright [Civic Hospital NA]

Guests: Steve Box [Director, Corporate Services & Business Programmes, City of Ottawa]; Keith Egli [Councillor, Ward 9 – Knoxdale-Merivale]; Mathieu Fleury [Councillor, Ward 12 Rideau-Vanier]

1. Welcome

Gary Sealey invited all participants to introduce themselves.

2. Presentation on Lowertown

John Chenier gave a 19-slide presentation on the Lowertown community and community association.

3. Overview of Ward 12 Rideau-Vanier Issues

Councillor Fleury spoke about a number of issues including: the truck route on King Edward Street; the revitalization of the Byward Market; a streetscaping program for the Byward Market; homelessness and transportation issues. He emphasized collaboration among City councillors and among different levels of government.

4. Linking City of Ottawa Priority Planning with FCA Members

Steve Box gave a presentation on the City of Ottawa Term of Council Priorities 2015-2018 and the development of the City's Strategic Plan, including the priority-setting approach, the 7 strategic priorities, 21 strategic objectives and 65 strategic initiatives.

Councillor Egli confirmed that all 65 initiatives are meant to be implemented and that each one has an implementation plan. Councillor Egli also confirmed that the process of consultation between CA's and City councillors varies, depending on each councillor's approach, though there is considerable effort to engage in various public consultation processes. There was considerable discussion about how CA priorities could be reflected in Council priorities. There was also some discussion about how the City measures its performance in implementing strategic initiatives. There was one question about the limits of intensification and projected population growth.

Lorne Cutler gave a presentation which highlighted a dozen initiatives of the City that were of particular interest to CA's.

Bob Brocklebank introduced an exercise to get feedback on the particular interests of community associations among the priorities and strategic objectives outlined by Steve Box in his presentation. Participants were invited to place 3 coloured dots against their top three priorities.

Sheila Perry moderated the follow-up discussion, highlighting the top three priorities as follows: A - transportation, B - healthy and caring communities and C- governance, planning and decision-making. She suggested that 3 working groups could be formed to carry out advocacy for these priorities. Gary confirmed with Steve Box that he would be open to a follow-up meeting to discuss next steps.

BUSINESS MEETING

5. Minutes:

The final minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held in June 2015 have been posted online. Maria Luisa Marti and Phil Sweetnam were newly elected to the Executive Committee. Karen Wright and Marjorie Shaver-Jones were thanked for their service on the committee.

The FCA will be meeting as follows: 6th October (Hintonburg); 2nd November (Manotick); 10th December (Overbrook) and 6th January (Tanglewood).

6. Committees

6A. Regional Voices & Issues: Phil Sweetnam raised the issue of excessive water and sewer rate increases.

6B. Communication & Website: John Chenier confirmed that the new website is up and running, with a mailing list; a calendar and a bulletin board. Marjorie Shaver-Jones would like to see a city map with the CA boundaries.

6C. Environment Network: Sheila Perry met with Erwin Dreessen of Greenspace Alliance and spoke of the growing network of those interested in environmental issues.

6D. Planning Update, Infill and OMB: Sheila Perry acts as a liaison with the City's Planning & Zoning Committee. She spoke about the impact of Community Development Plans and decisions about Infill 1 and Infill 2 on communities. She emphasized the need for predictability for communities in planning decisions. There were appeals to OMB in July. Community groups are invited to participate in provincial consultations underway. It is expected that there will be general planning consultations on November 7. There was a question about the information flow and setting of priorities such as fossil fuel divestment. Maria Luisa Marti spoke about the disappointing results from a development application on Metcalfe reflecting a lack of respect for the community and community development plans.

6E. Transportation and Transit

Deferred

7. Dates of General Meetings:

Archie Campbell asked for clarification on bookings for upcoming meetings, and Sheila Perry will try to clarify.

8. Additional Items of Business:

Liz Bernstein spoke about the forum on environmental sustainability and support for complete street plans and safe cycling. There will be a Transportation Committee meeting at City Hall on 7th October. She prepared a draft letter recommending the approval and rapid implementation of the Complete Streets Implementation Framework, and accelerated funding for Ottawa's cycling and pedestrian plans, to be presented to members of this Transportation Committee on 7th October 2015.

There was a motion about FCA support for the initiative on complete streets and pedestrian safety (moved by Liz, seconded by ---)

That FCA supports the recommendation for i) approval and rapid implementation of the Complete Streets Implementation Framework ; ii) accelerated funding for Ottawa's cycling

and pedestrian plans and iii) the revitalization of the ByWard Market, especially efforts to fund cycling connectivity and more walkable communities in the run up to 2017.

The motion was carried, with several abstentions.

Additional Items of Business: Maria Luisa suggested that links to 3 City studies (parking, noise and setbacks from LRT) be posted on the FCA bulletin board.

Adjournment