

Federation of Citizens' Associations of Ottawa (FCA-FAC)
General Meeting Minutes: March 20, 2019
Aquaview Community Centre, 318 Aquaview Drive, Orléans
Approved at the April 17 meeting

Attendees: Alex Cullen – chair, Belltown NA; Guy Boone, Barrhaven East CA; Morley Brownstein, Bel Air CA; John Stevenson, Bike Ottawa; Robert Brinker, Carlington CA; Stephen Blais, Chaperal RA; Alice Nakanishi, Centretown Citizens CA; Roland Dorsay, Champlain Park CA; Mireille Brownhill, Convent Glen, Orleans Wood CA; Archie Campbell, Dalhousie CA; Denys Cooper, Dows Lake RA; Maria Lùisa Marti, Friends of James & Bay; Sue Stefko, Glebe Annex CA; Cyan Berkel, Greater Avalon CA; Stafan Boginski, Greater Avalon CA; Rachel Lecours, Greater Avalon CA; Erwin Dreessen, Greenspace Alliance; Ray Barton, Kanata; John Hansen, Katimavik-Hazeldean CA; Kul Kupoor, Katimavik-Hazeldean CA; Rod MacLean, Katimavik-Hazeldean CA; Dorothy Tweedie, McKellar Park CA; Brian Ure, Old Ottawa South CA, Sheila Perry, Overbrook CA; Anne Stairs, Riverview Park CA; Graeme Roderick, Tanglewood-Hillsdale CA; Chris Greenshields, Vanier CA; Don Stewart, Westboro Beach CA; Heather Mitchell, Westboro CA and Erica Dath, Woodpark CA.

Guests: Councillor Stephen Blais, Cumberland Ward (19) and Katie Carr (Ottawa Neighbourhood Study)

1.0 Welcome: 7:20 pm. Alex Cullen welcomed members and guests to the Aquaview Community Centre. The theme of this meeting was Community Associations' Future Access to and Use of Big Data in Smart Neighbourhood Solutions.

2.0 Approval of Agenda: Moved by D. Stewart and R. Brinker

CARRIED

3.0 Greetings:

3.1 From the Greater Avalon Community Association. Association president R. Lecours extended welcome and spoke of their Association:

Greater Avalon is the area in Orléans along Portobello Boulevard, including the neighbourhoods of Avalon, Avalon South, Summerfield, Notting Gate and Notting Hill. Population: 20,000 citizens. The Portobello South Community Development Association, established in 2007, changed its name to Greater Avalon Community Association in 2015. It is volunteer based, not-for-profit and non-partisan. It a) provides a forum for discussion and conclusion-finding of community issues, b) co-operates with and supports community organizations undertaking local activities and projects, c) from time to time hosts social, educational and recreational activities, d) interacts with the City of Ottawa on issues impacting their community. It regularly conducts surveys and keeps residents informed. Events can be free due to the support of sponsors. As seen in their greenhouse and community garden, the Association is committed to stewardship of the environment. It has a website: gaca-acga.com, facebook.com/Greater.Avalon and an e-mail address: president@gaca-acga.com

3.2 Cumberland Ward (19)

Former president of the Queenswood Heights Community Association, in 2010 Municipal Councillor Blais was first elected for Cumberland, a 370 sq. km ward. It remains predominantly rural with a population of 50,000. The ward's ridership on OC Transpo buses is the highest in the City and residents look forward to the LRT extension in 2024. By 2018, the councillor has assisted in the development of a dozen parks, including Millennium Sports Park and the expansion of the Dupuis Recreation Centre. Regarding businesses, Amazon has partnered with Broccolini Construction to establish a 1 million sq. ft Centre in Carlsbad Springs.

4.0 Comparative Profile of Neighbourhoods:

Since 2006, the Ottawa Neighbourhood Study has been a work in progress. It's funded by the United Way and the University of Ottawa. Since commencing, it has been broadening its scope to meet the needs of an ever-widening audience. It has become an authoritative source for those who seek to achieve evidence-based decision-making. The Study's underlying constructs are: a) the social determinants of health, and b) proximity/access to amenities of living. Profiles have practical application for decision making at the community association level. The Study fits well, but it seeks to fit better, with 'big data' decision-making models being utilized by such municipalities at Ottawa to plan Smart Cities

5.0 The use of data in Good Planning the Cities of the Future:

When comparisons are made between Cities, the comparator is livability. What Ottawans want for their Ottawa-of-the-Future is continued or improved livability. Elements of livability have been identified. What data does our City need to gather to make informed planning decisions related to the various elements of sustained livability? As Ottawa grows, the connectivity and complexity of these data sets also grows. Should that data be shared, such that citizens and organizations like ourselves can co-participate in the planning for our livable city? FCA hopes to contribute to the development of a 'data governance framework' which would foster the sharing of data with the City's various publics. Our point of reference will be Ottawa: a City of [livable] Neighbourhoods. What are the predictive indicators of livability? [Live, Work, Play]. FCA also endorses evidence-based decision-making. How does FCA envisage going forward?

- Set measurable targets for each indicator of livability (i.e. affordable housing)
- Make these Terms of Council Priorities.
- Track progress.
- Engage publics, neighbourhoods, voluntary and private sector.
- Challenge other cities to do the same.

6.0 Networking

7.0 Local Community Issues/Open Mic:

- New Interprovincial Bridge: The 2019 Federal Budget provides the National Capital Commission with refreshing existing plans and to develop a long-term integrated interprovincial plan. Mayors Watson and Maxime Pedneaud-Jobin said they were surprised by the announcement.
- A plan to cut down a 110-year-old living American Elm tree on Parliament Hill, to make way for an expanded visitor Centre. Greenspace Alliance is to appear before a parliamentary committee on Procedures and House Affairs on/about March 26 to get this tree protected. A petition is in circulation to stop it.
- Vanier Community Association (VCA) is not satisfied with the (ONS) Ottawa Neighbourhood Study's boundary definition (www.neighbourhoodstudy.ca/?s=vanier). Other CA s reported similar issues. VCA asked for a review. Apparently, boundaries are reviewed every five years, the last review being 2016. ONS remains a work in progress.
- Planning & Zoning: In one neighborhood, a builder recently constructed a quadruplex when zoned for triplex. The builders then went to the Committee of Adjustment for approval.
- Winter conditions: The maintenance standards were severely tested this past winter. Did Council put enough monies aside to ensure maintenance of sidewalks and road during these adverse conditions? Snow Clearing. The winter operations budget was increased by \$2.4 million to \$70.8 million. The standards warrant review.

8.0 Business Meeting:**8.1 Minutes of the February 20 meeting** (archived on FCA's website):

On a motion from G. Roderick, seconded by R. Dorsay, minutes be approved. CARRIED

8.2 Treasurer's report:

In the absence of the treasurer, it was noted that the financial position of the organization remains as described by L. Cutler at the February Meeting.

8.3 President's Report:

Public consultations on the 2019 City Budget continued with Community & Protective Services Committee hearing on February 21, Agriculture & Rural Affaires on February 22; Audit Committee on February 25, Transportation Committee on March 1, and Ottawa Public Library on March 4. FCA made a representation to the Transportation Committee. The budget was approved on March 6 with \$3.6 billion to be spent on operations and \$767 million on capital works – a tax increase of 3%. Ottawa Police Service will receive 345 million.

8.4 Communications:

Our e-newsletter is being sent to those who subscribe or provide us an e-mail address when attending meetings. If you are not receiving it, advise B. Brocklebank.

8.5 Logistics:

The April 17 meeting will be hosted by the Ottawa South Community Association and the May 15 meeting is to be hosted by Convent Glen, Orleans Wood CA.

8.6 Finance:

See the Treasurer's Report above. Our fiscal year end is April 30.

8.7 Membership:

The membership dues are presently due. As a reminder 'Renewals' not yet received, will be contacted directly. Inquiries or new members could speak to E. Taman.

8.8 Planning & Zoning:

The Committee meets the second Wednesday of the month at McNabb Recreation Centre, 180 Percy Street. It also has a subscribing network.

- i) The co-chairs of this committee will now be R Dorsay and C. Rollins.
- ii) On February 14, Council's Planning Committee approved a workplan that will guide completion of the new Official Plan (OP) by the end of 2021. An ongoing topic of our Committee is the Federations' contribution to the Plan Review process. We seek to ensure that one of the lenses used to articulate the new OP is Ottawa: A City of Neighbourhoods.
- iii) On Feb 14, Council's Planning Committee advanced its 2019 draft budget, which included \$6.5 allocated to the Affordable Housing branch. As can be seen in our own Committee and GM meeting proceedings, Affordable and Accessible Housing is an ongoing concern.

8.9 Transportation Committee:

The Transportation Committee met Mar 05 at McNabb Community Centre, 180 Percy Street.

It made a representation on the 2019 budget at the Transportation Committee on March 1.

- i) Transportation Master Plan Review is an aspect of the Official Plan Review. Our committee aspired to contribute to that Review. A preliminary draft of the Plan is expected to be in circulation in June. The Committee anticipates holding a workshop on it in the Fall.
- ii) At its last meeting our Committee considered the Municipal Parking Management Strategy Policy which is under staff review with a reporting date to the Transportation Committee of June. Of its five objectives, our committee tabled suggested changes to # 3 and # 5. These changes will be brought to our April 17th General Meeting for consideration and approval. If approved, these recommendations will be forwarded to the City.
- iii) The next meeting of the Committee will be April 3 at 7:00pm.

8.10 Nominations & Recognition Committee:

The Call for nominations for the Executive Board was made by the chair of the Committee. The summary of awards for 2019 were also contained in the circular. The closing date is May 17.

9.0 Adjournment: Moved by A. Campbell and seconded by consensus.

CARRIED

Graeme Roderick, Secretary

Alex Cullen, vice-president