

**Federation of Citizens' Associations of Ottawa-Carleton
Draft Minutes -- Board Meeting of September 22, 2008
Overbrook Community Centre, 33 Quill St.**

Attendees: Bob Brocklebank [Glebe CA, Acting Chair], Jay Baltz [Hintonburg CA], Klaus Beltzner [Manotick CA], Jane Brammer [Rothwell Heights Property Owners' Assn & CARAD], Sean Crossan [Cardinal Creek CA], Brian Dickson [Rockcliffe Park Residents' Assn], Joey Erjavec [Osgoode Village CA], John Forsey [Manor Park CA], Amy Kempster [Greenspace Alliance & Champlain Park CA], Michael Kostiuk [Carlington CA], Joanne Lockyear [Community Council of Overbrook], Rosella MacNeil [Heron Park CA], Alayne McGregor [Civic Hospital Neighbourhood Assn], Sheila Perry [Community Council of Overbrook], Christian Pupp [Ottawa East CA], Cam Robertson [City Centre Coalition], Tom Rodda [Manor Park CA], Robert Stehle [Action Sandy Hill], John Stevenson [Citizens for Safe Cycling], Don Stewart [Westboro Beach CA], Brian Tansley [West Manotick CA], Agnes Warda [Glens CA], Bruce Webster [Richmond CA]

Introduction to Overbrook: Sheila Perry commented that Overbrook is a diverse community which includes various forms of special needs housing. At one time Overbrook had the majority of City Living housing. The community faces challenges of development and traffic issues. The Vanier Parkway was an example where the community worked with New Edinburgh to get trucks off the parkway.

1. Approval of agenda

The draft agenda was adopted with the addition of the following items: 129 Main Street; the Development Review Process, the Greenbelt, and planning for the future of the city

2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of June 23, 2008

Moved & Seconded by Agnes Warda & Michael Kostiuk CARRIED

3. Business arising from the minutes

a) Membership outreach

Brocklebank reported that attempts were being made to open contact with associations in Orleans

b) Strategic lawsuits against public participation update

Bruce Webster noted their was experience in Richmond of this kind of suit

c) Transportation Master Plan

Several participants expressed concern about the validity of consultations conducted by the city

d) Official plan review

Questions were raised about the current status and timing for next steps. It is not clear what follows in the process.

e) FCA website

No comments received

f) Property tax reform

Participants were asked to set up appointments with their Councillors so that they could be informed of the FCA proposals

g) Interprovincial crossing studies

John Forsey proposed a draft letter on the process of the study. Sean Crossan opposed the specific letter and called for FCA to receive an expert briefing on the study, probably by the engineering firm that had conducted the study.

In the midst of discussion indicating apparent disagreement, Jay Baltz proposed that a letter be sent indicating FCA 's disappointment that the issue of heavy truck traffic through the city centre failed to be resolved by any of the crossing proposals. This action was accepted through general consensus.

Sean Crossan noted that Cardinal Creek is to hold a meeting on development issues in Orleans on Nov. 6 and it was agreed that info be distributed to all on the FCA mailing list.

h) Urban tree conservation project

Brocklebank noted that the proposal for consultations on an urban tree strategy are to go to Planning and Environment Committee on Sept 23. By consensus it was agreed that a letter be sent encouraging discussion of the concept.

i) Rural Settlement Strategy

There were questions about the meaning of the topic. Brocklebank noted that FCA had appealed the country lot estates provision of the Official Plan of 2003. It had been agreed that the policy would be re-examined in the revision of the OP in 2008.

Bruce Webster commented that the policy direction was to foster rural growth in villages rather than in the general rural area. He said that in the country private water and sewer services are required; this means that small lots will not work and dense development is unworkable.

Amy Kempster mentioned that the Planning Dept. had not recommended country lot estates at the time of the drafting of the Official Plan but they had been inserted by Council. The Provincial Policy Statement had stopped short of banning country lot estates.

Klaus Beltzner said villages have been centres of commerce for their vicinity, not bedroom communities for commuters.

Bruce Webster supported FCA opposition to country lot estates and called for growth of the villages to be supported instead.

j) Rideau Canal Corridor Pedestrian Crossing study

John Stevenson noted that the NCC had conducted a consultation and further reports were expected. Much of the discussion in the first round of consultations had been to identify particular locations where safety issues warranted further study.

k) Intensification committee

David Sacks could not attend because of a conflict with his own association's meetings.

However several participants noted that New Edinburgh had held a very successful forum on intensification and heritage on Sept. 10.

4. New Business

a) Transit tunnel consultations

Will Ney, former President of Greely CA, has agreed to act as FCA rep for these consultations. (The communities in the immediate vicinity of the planned transit tunnel have direct representation.) Brocklebank noted that Ney had reported that the first meeting had been restricted to introductory presentations on the mandate, scope of the project and roles of the advisory committees. Further information is expected.

b) Development charges study

Brocklebank reported that the meetings of the advisory committees had just begun. He noted that he was a rep for communities in the city core, with Scott Hodge from Riverside South representing suburban areas. Bruce Webster commented that the important issue was cross subsidization through the Development Charge process. Sheila Perry commented that it was important that costs are fully covered in the DC calculation.

Participants agreed to form an informal committee on DC's composed of Webster, Stewart, Kempster, Brammer, Robertson, and Perry

c) Manotick OMB hearing

Brocklebank said the FCA needs to decide if it will be a participant or a party before the OMB. Discussion indicated that participant status was the preferred role.

As a participant, FCA is to file a paper by Oct 11. Stewart & McGregor agreed to work with Brocklebank on the paper. Consultation on the paper will also continue with Webster and Tansley

d) 129 Main Street

Christian Pupp presented the background on this interesting case. The community association struck a compromise with the developer. This is then opposed by members of community who then assume prominence in the community association. This puts the association on the other side of the issue at the time it appears before the OMB. The Board finding is available as PL071253.

e) Development Review Process

Brocklebank noted that the FCA had talked of preparing a brief on possible improvements to the city's development review process. Now it appears that the city is considering revising the process. It was agreed that an informal committee composed of Stewart, Stehle and Beltzner would work on drafting some position statements for FCA consideration.

f) Greenbelt

Agnes Warda reported on discussion at the Rural Issues Advisory Committee on the Greenbelt paper prepared by the city. There had been discussion about the reason the city produced the paper at all. This led to discussion about the preparation of an FCA letter expressing the view that further development not be permitted in the Greenbelt. The question was whether this prohibition be applied to institutional projects (Queensway Carleton Hospital was mentioned as an example.) Eventually a compromise was reached that no new development be permitted.

Moved by Webster, seconded by Kempster

That the position of the FCA is that no new development should be undertaken in the Greenbelt as designated by the NCC. CARRIED

g) Future of the City

Agnes Ward reported that the Rural Issues Advisory Committee had been informed of a study being launched about the long-term future of the city - a 50 or 100 year look into the future.

Although some initial meetings have been scheduled, these seem to be only for city employees or advisory committee members. If this project goes further there will no doubt be calls for public input.

5. Adjournment