

**Federation of Citizens' Associations of Ottawa-Carleton**  
**Minutes of Monthly General Meeting – October 20, 2011**  
**@ Old Town Hall, 61 Main St.**

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## **1. PRESENT**

Cardinal Glen – Bob Publicover  
Carleton Heights – Diane Gorman  
Carlington – Margaux Carson  
Centretown – Shawn Menard  
Champlain Park – Amy Kempster  
Citizens for Safe Cycling –  
Cityview – Peter Runia, (secretary)  
Copeland Park - Marjorie Shaver-Jones,  
Dalhousie - Archie Campbell  
Faircrest Heights –  
Glebe - Bob Brocklebank  
Glens -  
Greenspace Alliance – Amy Kempster  
Hampton-Iona – Lorne Cutler  
Kanata Beaverbrook –

Leslie Park –  
March Rural - Marjorie Edwards, Judy Makin  
New Edinburgh –  
Old Ottawa East –Jamie Brougham, Nick Masciantonio,  
Christian Pupp  
Old Ottawa South – Anna Sudin  
Overbrook -  
Richmond Village -  
Riverview Park -  
Rockcliffe Park –Iona Price  
Sandy Hill – Jane Guin  
Stittsville – Metin Akgun  
Tanglewood-Hillsdale – Graeme Roderick (chair)  
Trend-Arlington – James O'Grady  
Westboro Beach –

## **2. OPENING**

### ***2.1. Welcome***

The Chair called the meeting to order @7:25pm and welcomed all present; introductions were made around the table. The agenda was approved with following additions: Amy and 40 km. limit. The Chair distributed placeholders with each Community Association (CA) name printed on it; thanks to Graeme for preparing these nameplates, to be used @ each monthly general meeting.

### ***2.2 Host Comments***

Nick, president of Old Ottawa East CA (host) provided a briefing on Ottawa East area:

- Community Design Plan and Secondary Plan (which is an extract of CDP and part of Official Plan) approved after 5 years; Peter Hume stated that CDPs shall be respected.
- Oblate lands are part of the CDP and the Secondary Plan. Maximum height limit is 9 storeys on the Oblate lands (designated sites only), 6 storeys on the Traditional Mainstreet (without exception!) and 4 storeys in the residential ("General Urban") area. The minimum density target is 1500units. This provides a level playing field for community and developers.
- Second footbridge planned across canal into the Glebe– open house Nov.17 @ Glebe Community Centre.
- Main St. rehabilitation re sewers, water, etc. badly needed; this is the principal capital request from Capital ward.
- Children's garden located at Clegg and Main; other community gardens also in area.
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### ***2.3 Minutes***

General Minutes of Sept. 27 were approved with addition to item 4.4.4 – Communications Plan is deferred to Nov.; Executive (EX) minutes of 110911 were received for information; no questions.

## **3. BUSINESS FROM EXECUTIVE MEETING**

### ***3.1 Governance***

Bob B. presented an overview of the City's Governance Review to examine citizen engagement and public consultation. There has been talk in the past of reforming advisory committees; no new members are being appointed and these committees are starting to whittle away. As this is an opportunity for the FCA to provide input on city governance and public consultation, Bob proposed the FCA establish its own governance committee; this was approved. In the discussion, the following points were raised:

- This review is very timely for Cardinal Glen area, as it is facing a vacant property redevelopment.
- *Along with Bob B., Bob P, Amy, Jamie, James offered to serve; this group will provide a report to next general meeting.*
- City may defer this review until after budget process; a staff report was promised in mid-year but not yet issued.
- City could use more technology to facilitate reports and educate citizens in undertaking reviews such as this one...

### **3.2 Speakers**

Graeme proposed that the FCA add an educational component at its general meetings; e.g., a speaker @ every other meeting beginning in Nov. *Archie will coordinate speaker arrangements* and a maximum ¾ hour agenda time slot will be allowed for the presentation. Discussion:

- bimonthly may be too frequent and 2X @ year was suggested;
- another suggestion was to consider special weekend events for speakers. *This will be discussed further by EX.*

### **3.3 Meetings**

Next general meeting is on Nov.24 @ Overbrook Community Centre. March Rural and Centretown have also offered to host meetings. Next EX meeting is 2 weeks prior to general meeting on Nov.10 @ 1230p.

## **4. BUSINESS FROM LAST GENERAL MEETING**

### **4.1 Communications**

James reported on the communications committee (ComCom). Presentation of a communications plan is deferred to the Nov. meeting. James reviewed the plan outline which includes as its main item a proposal to build a new website. He also described a communications protocol for issuing press releases and social media postings, consisting of three stages – concept, execution, production. Last month the FCA issued 2 press releases (election survey and OMB costs), and a letter was sent to City planning committee re Greenbank condo development. The following points were raised in the discussion:

- Committee could follow-up re use of FCA press releases by public media; e.g., Citizen picked up FCA press release re change in city policy on recouping OMB costs from appellants.
- Originator of a document should be kept in loop with a phone call if necessary.
- FCA public communications are to be circulated to EX and originator; FCA committee chairs to sign off as determined by subject.

### **4.2 Break**

Thanks to Old Ottawa East CA for hosting the meeting. Purpose of the break is to get to know each-other better.

### **4.3 Election**

James reported on the FCA's involvement in the Ontario election, with the main purpose of bringing municipal issues to the forefront. Created a list of questions for all candidates meetings and a summary of survey results plus press release. Fifteen responses were received. About 25 hours was spent on undertaking these three items; thanks to Don and James for leading this initiative. In the discussion, the following points were raised:

- Next time start the survey a bit earlier.
- Surveys like this are also useful at municipal level.
- Responses tended to follow party lines; difficult to get personal views.
- May get better responses if respondent knows survey has some influence/weight on campaign.
- Also helps to grow awareness of FCA so they may take it more seriously.
- FUN (Federation of Urban Neighbourhoods) did a survey of leaders and results were posted on their website.
- Is FCA leading or supporting, or both? It was started 26 years ago to facilitate communications between city hall and community groups; tried to do things by consensus; focus has been on maintaining integrity of the official plan.
- FCA tries to reflect needs of individual associations/communities, be an advocate for common causes, and support associations the image of FCA has an impact on seriousness of the respondents to surveys.

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

### **5.1 Ottawa East**

Christian gave an overview of the Ottawa East Community Design Plan (CDP) and responded to questions, highlighting the following:

- City Council approved the CDP and the Secondary Plan (SP) on August 29 and the latter was not appealed to OMB within the allowable appeal period (20 working days). The lack of appeal is uncommon, and the likely reason was the strength of the plan resulting from the collaboration of the community, property owners and developers on the Public Advisory Committee, and from the involvement of land use planners and architects.

The CDP includes 30 acres of undeveloped Oblate lands (for comparison, the size of Lansdowne Park is approx. 40 acres), and another (approximately) 15 ha, part of the Lees Mixed-Use-Centre but currently reserved for the planned Alta Vista Transportation Corridor.

The plan sets minimum density targets for Mainstreets and Oblate/Sisters land (1,000 dwelling units for Oblate lands, another 500 for Mainstreets). This is the first setting of minimum density targets on a Traditional Mainstreet (required in the 2009 Official Plan).

A pedestrian and cycling path is to be built along the river, and at least thirty metres from the shore are reserved as green space. A pedestrian bridge across the Rideau Canal connecting Ottawa East and the Glebe are also part of the CDP (and of the City's Pedestrian and Cycling Plans).

The development of the 30 acres of Oblate/Sisters land is based on a demonstration plan developed by the Montreal Architectural Firm DCYSA. The number of units proposed in the demonstration plan for Oblate lands alone exceeds the minimum density targets stated in the SP (1,500 units instead of 1,000). To provide confidence that it will be implemented, "holding" zoning, heritage designation, and explicit statements in the Secondary Plan were used.

## **5.2 Greenbank Condo**

James reported on this project on behalf of the Trend-Arlington CA (TACA), and responded to questions:

- The proposed development represents the first intrusion of intensification into the Community and is right in middle of large school zone. Nothing in this area of Greenbank is higher than 2 stories.
- The process included two meetings with city staff which were not that useful and a peer review, a process not that common for smaller projects.
- TACA got a chance to put forward their case in peer review process. Although the proposal was for 6 stories, the peer review recommended a 5-3-step down (5 stories on GB and 3 behind bordering the neighbourhood), and brought down the density from 72 to 61 units.
- The Community supports the compromise from the peer review process. Communications with the community were through a thirty member advisory panel, TA community meetings, and TACA newsletter (no community paper). A petition of 200 signatures was also submitted to the ward councillor..
- At the Trend-Arlington AGM held Oct. 28, Councillor Peter Hume (chair of city planning committee) confirmed his support for the peer review process and recommendations.
- Final plan may not be cast in stone, as zoning can be changed by the City to comply with official plan.

## **5.3 OMB Updates**

Amey indicated that the OMB prehearing of the second phase of urban boundary issue is underway to determine where the 850 hectares will be added, as the present methodology excludes agricultural land, some of which is held by developers. Another OMB prehearing starts Monday on country lots.

## **5.4 Forty Km**

Iola reported on the initiative (begun in 2008) to have all streets in residential areas pegged @ 40 km. an hour limit. City did a survey of other municipalities, but only 30 /140 provided input. City plans to consult with the Ont. Traffic Council for more input. The FCA had previously established a task force to discuss and deal with this issue, led by Iola.

## **6, CLOSING**

### **6.1 General**

Bob B. mentioned the "downtown moves" initiative which included talks re walking and cycling; details are on FCA website. Meeting requested information on parking @ meetings; Archie will identify parking areas at meeting sites.

### **6.2 Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned @ 9:20pm.