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Citizens'  
Associations of  
Ottawa

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Fédération des  
associations  
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d'Ottawa

## General Meeting of October 11, 2016, Dalhousie Community Centre

### Draft Minutes

**Participants:** Maria Luisa Marti (Centretown C A), Bob Brocklebank (Glebe C A), Chad Rollins (Action Sandy Hill), Alex Cullen (Belltown N A), Rod MacLean ( Katimavik Hazeldean C A), Don Stewart (Westboro Beach C A), Roland Dorsal (Champlain Park C A), Bruce Lindsay ( Greenspace Alliance), John Stevenson (Cask), Eric Darwin (Dalhousie C A), James McLaren (Heron Park C A), Rosella MacNeil (Heron Park C A), Robert Brinker (Carlington C A), Phillip Bartend (Carlington C A), Andy Reside (MWCA), Erwin Dreessen (Greenspace Alliance), Charity Bartlett (Carlington C A), Karen Wright (CHNA) Paul Johanis (Greenspace Alliance), Phil Sweetnam (Stittsville C A), Shelia Perry (Overbrook C A), Thierry Harris (Lowertown C A), Archie Campbell (Dalhousie C A)

**Guest:** Catherine McKenney, Councillor Ward 14

#### 1. Welcome

**Gary Sealey** welcomed participants and guest and invited all participants to introduce themselves. Gary thanked Archie Campbell for organizing the meeting facility

#### 2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

#### 3a). Dalhousie Community Association

**Eric Darwin** (Dalhousie C A) welcomed FCA and advised participants that the name Dalhousie was in honour of Lord Dalhousie. Originally Dalhousie Ward' had been recognized until 1994 when it was joined to the Wellington Ward to become part of Somerset Ward. The Association represents Chinatown, Little Italy and LeBreton Flats to the River and may host a relocated Civic Hospital if it is set just south of Carling near Dows Lake and a new Main Branch of the City Library. Should the Civic Hospital be moved into the area, the Rochester Street access to and from Highway 417 would need to become a four lane intersection. Eric applauded City's willingness to plant trees and greenery on the Trillium Pathway and also to plant street trees, but pointed out that the City does not maintain the trees and plants thereby not really improving walking and biking facilities in the neighbourhood.

#### 3b). Councillor Ward 14 (Somerset)

**Councillor McKenney** noted that she had proposed that the Library Board should reveal the locations being considered for the main branch of the library but her motion was defeated 8 to 1. Residents will know what the locations are and which is preferred in November with a decision made by the Library Board at its December meeting. Centretown Councillors will be holding a budget consultation on Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup> which will focus on how the City decides budget matters rather than what amounts are allocated to programs. Councillor McKenney indicated that the City ought to increase the funding in support of food banks and that the City has allocated \$500,000 to its sustainability fund. The Councillor acknowledged that each Councillor has a small fund to be used to improve traffic flow and she does so as the opportunities present themselves. She believes that the City needs to make a stronger effort to put resources into safer mobility by pedestrians,

bicyclists, and vehicle drivers so as to achieve zero transportation deaths each year especially by setting slower speeds for City streets.

**Gary** added that the City should pursue a formal meeting places strategy so that all communities both old and new within the City have proper places within their neighbourhoods to meet.

**Charity Bartlett** (Carlington C A) urged Councillor McKenney to have the Library Board place a new branch library within the Carlington neighbourhood. The library would encourage Carlington residents to enjoy new perspectives.

**Maria Luisa Marti** (Centretown C A) requested that City install flashing lights should be permanently added to each Pedestrian Crossing place designated by the City of Ottawa in that was increasing pedestrian safety and that due to the low cost more should be added in other areas of the City not just the central core.

#### **4a). A New Civic Hospital -- A Civic Issue of Multiple Dimensions -- Basic Thoughts**

**Bob Brocklebank** (Glebe C A) initiated consideration of the various issues involved in the basic themes related to FCA's approach. He drew attention to the fact that locating of the Civic is first of all a land use project, as well as a matter of social interaction among people and also transforms a neighbourhood. Moreover, the Civic involves not just the Provincial Government but also the character of both the City of Ottawa and the Federal Government through the NCC.

#### **4b) A New Civic Hospital -- A Civic Issue of Multiple Dimensions.-- Panel Presentations**

Panel members Karen Wright, Charity Bartlett, Paul Johanis, Alex Cullen then set out their positions on the new Civic Hospital.

**Karen Wright** (Civic Hospital N A) questioned whether the Hospital would actually need 60 acres of space particularly for revenue generating surface parking areas given the likely changes in transportation facilities and future transit development. The unknown is where is the Hospital to be relocated to. The 2007 study set five sites and 2014 studies identified five sites as well. Now the NCC is to reveal its weighting and evaluation on November 24<sup>th</sup>. Traffic issues are and will be a concern with 6,000 staff vehicles accessing the Hospital, the loss of the Experimental Farm space. Most important the process for selecting the new Civic Hospital must be o-p-e-n.

**Charity Bartlett** disputes the choice between having green space or a hospital. Patients seem to be the one group that are left out of the picture by the Civic decision makers. She does not accept a need for 60 acres on which to build a hospital. Carlington residents will need to cope with light pollution big time if field No. 1 becomes the new Civic location. The impact of using Field No. 1 on adjacent neighbourhoods - including Carlington N A, Dalhousie C A, as well as North of the existing location - from a move will be huge.

**Paul Johanis** (Greenspace Alliance) formed a Coalition to Protect the Farm after the decision to relocate the Civic Hospital to FIELD No. 1 was announced in 2014. It includes heritage, greenspace, and research groups. The 2007 evaluation was recycled for 2014 and in April 2016 the evaluation was repeated but not examined. Then in May 2016 the NCC was designated to re-examine the location of the Civic. Paul pointed out that the Federal Buildings on Booth Street are already partially vacant and were built with wide doorways and hallways suited to hospital gurneys and wheelchairs.

**Alex Cullen** (Belltown N A) outlined his experience in reference to provincial expectations for hospital financing, as a member of City Council in 2002. At that time the Harris Government hospital restructuring program (which closed and amalgamated hospitals) required a 30% contribution from the community towards the cost of the changes. The Ottawa-area hospitals then asked the City to grant the hospitals the amount of

\$120,000,000, via a property tax levy over 10 years. That was about half of the 30% that the hospitals were to raise from the community to pay for new construction. It would be about the same amount that the Civic Hospital would be required to meet half of the now projected 10% amount (\$200 million) to be raised by the community. In 2002 the City refused as property taxes raised by the City were for local responsibilities; health care was a provincial responsibility funded through provincial income & corporate taxes plus federal transfers. As well, property taxes are regressive (not based on ability to pay) and are inappropriate to fund social programs like health care. In the end the hospitals were able to raise the needed funds without the City's contribution. Alex doubts that the business case exists to support a need to have parking for 6,000 staff vehicles and the proposal to build a hospital with low rise buildings. Other Canadian communities have built new hospitals on 25 acres of land.

**5c). A New Civic Hospital – a civic issue of multiple dimensions: General Discussion -- Shelia Perry** (Overbrook C A) led the identification of issues, recommendations and other items presented as a result of group discussions following the panel presentations.

**ISSUES:**

Process of choice must be open and fair

What does the Hospital perceive to be the function that it needs to provide in society?

Has the actual cash value of the Experimental Farm been measured?

Can't we have both the current farm and the Hospital in a WIN – Win situation?

Why can't the parts of the Hospital be replaced part by part? How costly would this really be?

How efficient would it be to have everything on one floor? Re-examine size in relation to footprint!

What provision is there for future size of the buildings or construction of new buildings?

Transportation represents connectivity in all ways.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Proposal needs thorough dollar analysis of land use, social effect and neighbourhood impact choices including considering two locations - one for education and the other to treat trauma cases. Future impacts some 25 years from now should be included in the analysis

Size of the facility for the Hospital should be 25 acres. The smaller space is typical of new Canadian hospitals and meets peoples' needs better than having the facility sprawl over 60 acres

Should have a proper survey to identify transportation needs now

Transportation transit should be essential service for staff, patients & visitors

**OTHER:**

**6. FCA Committee Reports**

a). **Transportation Committee** In his report for the Transportation Committee seconded by **Chad Rollins, Alex Cullen** moved that The FCA agree to join the Vision Zero Campaign, subject to a member of the FCA volunteering to participate on behalf of FCA' 23 voted for this motion while there were "0" votes against and "0" abstentions. The Transportation Committee will be inquiring about the status of the Transportation Master Plan, as requires updating and obtain route ridership numbers from OC Transpo. The next meeting of the Committee will follow the tabling of the City's 2017 budget on November 9<sup>th</sup>.

b). **Planning Advisory Committee** **Shelia** announced that the new name of the FCA committee is the Planning Advisory Committee. Since the majority of associations have a local planning committee Sheila urged that all community associations organize a planning committee so as to focus abilities and concerns on neighbourhood planning matters. She assured participants that members would serve as resource advisors to community associations committees. The Coach Houses By-law will apply to the whole of the City and the FCA is concerned about tree survival and the impact of coach house foundations. FCA issued its first press release on its concerns with the Coach House By-law. The provincial communication on OMB reform invites submissions by December 19<sup>th</sup> and participation in the tentatively scheduled town hall meeting on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

c). **Communications Committee** **Thierry Harris** (Lowertown C A) reported that in addition to the Coach House press release, the committee has examined its assumptions on what media presentations should be and should attempt to convey. Thierry invited FCA members to come to communications committee meetings so they are familiar with its role and functions.

d). **Governance Committee.** **Bob Brocklebank** (Glebe C A) noted that it has been a year since the committee met with the City which after the Fall 2015 was to prepare information for the next meeting. The FCA committee has benefitted from having students undertake studies of public engagement issues. Bob urged that all FCA members complete the survey at [www.Surveymonkey.com](http://www.Surveymonkey.com) to help define FCA and its role for associations.

## 7. OPEN MIKE

i) Phil Sweetnam asked that FCA support transit passes for low income earners

ii) Doug proposed that bicycles ride on the opposite side of the road where cyclists would face and see risks from on-coming vehicle traffic.

iii) Shelia indicated that would be a session on Poverty in Canada on October 20<sup>th</sup> at St. Paul's University.

iv) Sheila also noted that on October 20 the Ottawa Sports Council is meeting. The Council supports amateur sports in Ottawa.

v) Bob Brocklebank stated that there is a Heritage celebration on Saturday, October 15.

vi) Bob said that on October 24 the NCC Urban Lab will have a special session on En Route to Smart City

viii) Gary reminded the meeting that the next FCA board meeting is at Tanglewood C A on Oct. 19 at 7:15 pm.

ix) The December 8 general meeting will be at Overbrook Community Centre and its topic will be the truck tunnel under King Edward Avenue.

x) The **next general meeting will be on Nov. 7** at the Manotick Legion Branch #3191 on 5050 Ann Street and focus of the meeting is to be the OMB

8. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.