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April 26, 2017 -- Executive Committee Meeting

Draft Minutes

Present: Bruce Lindsay, Alex Cullen, Don Stewart, Kul Kapoor, Maria-Luisa Marti, Chad Rollins, Thierry Harris, Graeme Roderick, Bob Brocklebank, Rod MacLean
Regrets: Sheila Perry

In view of Sheila's absence Past President Graeme chaired the meeting and called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

The FCA Executive Committee received Gary Sealey's April 9 resignation with regret. The Executive Committee suggested that a letter expressing its deep regret with Mr. Sealey resignation be sent to Gary.

Graeme as Chair of the Nominating Committee repeated the statement he made at the General Meeting of April 19 recommending that Sheila Perry be confirmed as President until the AGM in June. This recommendation was unanimously agreed by the meeting.

Graeme reported that, as directed by the April 19 FCA meeting, each member of the Executive Committee was canvassed to determine whether he or she would be willing to be FCA Vice-President. Graeme announced that Don Stewart was willing to serve as FCA Vice-President until the June FCA AGM. He indicated that Don's CA is a member of the FCA in good standing. Graeme moved and the Committee approved Don's appointment as Vice-President until the FCA AGM in June.

Graeme noted that since the Executive Committee consists of a group of 15 people that is small enough to meet the rules of procedure which consider that a seconder is not required in support of motions within small groups.

Don pointed out that his regrets should be added to the minutes of the March 22 Executive Committee Meeting.

Alex moved that the Executive support the purchase of Two Million Dollars of liability insurance in paying up to \$500. The insurance covers all volunteers who participate in FCA events providing that the FCA has agreed to participate in advance of the activity. Committee passed the motion without opposition.

Rod will check with Alex to ensure that needed corrections to the March FCA General Meeting are made.

Bob reported that he had sent messages to 128 community associations. The message thanked those CA's which had paid 2017 membership fees. The messages invite those who were members in the past to rejoin FCA. Those who have not been members in the past were invited to join the FCA. Bob unofficially expects that there may be 40 CA's which are paid 2017 members of the FCA.

Don pointed out that the FCA does not have an Environmental Committee, nor is there a Social Issues Committee or a Heritage Committee. Don felt that especially the lack of an environmental committee placed the FCA in a difficult position. The critical element is to find a chair person to lead each committee.

Thierry presented the Communications Committee report on the yearend survey. John Chenier and Miranda Gray worked with him to write the survey questionnaire. It looks at FCA activities, FCA issues, information sharing and membership. The Committee proceeded to review the text with Thierry making suggestions as it went.

Thierry noted that the FCA would prepare a Newsletter in May to be sent to member organizations and to the media. The newsletter will update members on the yearend survey, executive changes and decisions, FCA activities and general matters of interest to the FCA.

Then Thierry presented a very through checklist of general meeting agenda items and an equally through second checklist for general meeting mail outs. Thierry distributed copies of an article on CA's dealing with Crime and Safety prepared jointly with Crime Prevention Ottawa as well as working on the art of recruiting and keeping vital volunteers. In addition he provided the Committee with a two page outline of police contact number changes part of which was to encourage participation in Neighbourhood Watch. Lastly Thierry indicated that the Communication group was

identifying a software package to assist FCA members in managing their individual membership.

Bob stated at the invitation of Charmaine Forgie on May 10th -- he and Maria-Luisa would be introduced to the mysterious beauties of public engagement whatever and whomever it may be seen by City staff to involve.

Don advised the FCA executive that the development approval process now involves a URL giving public access to planning related application documents.

On planning, Chad noted that the Planning Department had extended the R 4 Zoning comment deadline to May 31. It is an important project as it translates downtown experience into criteria for City rules controlling four storey and higher apartment up to 13 stories buildings. Further there is to be a consultation on May 3rd seeking feedback on the Section 37 process employed by the City. As well the Noise By-law review is flagged on the FCA website and there is a survey on the City website.

Alex requested that he be reimbursed for the cost of projector at \$177.98 incurred for the Transportation Workshop. The motion to reimburse Alex was moved by Bruce and approved by the Committee.

Rod noted that the three Kanata area Councillors Hubley, Qadri, and Wilkinson will be coming to the May 17 FCA meeting at the Hall in the Kanata Baptist Church, 465 Hazeldean Road. Our guest speaker will be Stephen Willis, who will discuss the changes being made in the Planning Department,

Graeme indicated that Marc Denhez - a recently retired Ontario Municipal Board member who has been very critical of the OMB - will be the guest speaker at the FCA AGM in City Hall on June 15th. Alex will introduce Marc and Erwin will be asked thank him. FCA will donate Seventy-five Dollars to the Food Bank as an indication of the FCA gratitude.

Open Mike Roundtable

Maria-Luisa reminded the Committee of the circular from Crime Prevention Ottawa on Safety and Security. Thierry indicated that he would work with each CA to promote

Neighbourhood Watch in their communities.

Alex reported that he was one of only four people who attended the Hydro Ottawa Forum which put attention on tree trimming and homes in addition to give away coupons for reduced home items. He indicated that it should be an opportunity to have a number of staff groups such as OC Transpo, Community housing, Public Health as well as Hydro Ottawa speak to FCA and community groups.

Bob stated that he would add Environmental advances and the Committee of Adjustment to Alex's list of 10 minute staff talk and question suggestions.

Graeme renewable energy policy needs to be set out by the City.

Thierry drew attention to the inconsistent Library hours across the City and a current survey.

Maria-Luisa reminded the Executive about Volunteer Week.

Kul pointed to the interest of GOHBA in cooperation

Don referred to the FUN AGM on Saturday, May 29th

Rod asked Maria-Luisa to clarify her request to CA's to help Friends of James & Bay in making Elgin Street into a Complete Street. The goal is to bury electrical cables and widen sidewalks and add bicycle lanes to Elgin Street.

Chad explained that Sandy Hill had four Neighbourhood initiatives in his Ward and sadly noted that the program providing the funds for 20 years been wound-up.

Adjournment 8:55 pm