

Federation of Citizens' Associations of Ottawa
Annual General Meeting of 07 June 2016, Colonel By Room, City Hall
Draft Minutes

Attendance:

John Chenier (Lowertown CA); Peter Eady (Civic Hospital NA); Roland Dorsay (Champlain Park CA); Lynne Bankier (Champlain Park CA); Walid Abou Hamde (Glen Cairn CA); David Clark (City View CA); Jay Baltz (Hintonburg CA); Charles A Marchand (Centretown Citizens CA); Sarah Rizk; Maurice Hladik; Maureen Forsythe; Miranda Gray (Convent Glen-Orleans Wood CA); Chad Rollins (Action Sandy Hill); Caroline Crowe (Trend Arlington CA); Al Crosby; Kati Ginnich; Phil Sweetnam (Stittsville VA); Lorne Cutler (Hampton Iona CG); Michelle Ramsay Borg (Lowertown CA); Christian Pupp (Old Ottawa East CA); Sheila Perry (Overbrook CA); Don & Alana Schultz (Overbrook CA); Suzanne Parent (Fairhaven CA); Alex Cullen (Belltown NA); Archie Campbell (Dalhousie CA); Heather Pearl (Champlain Park CA); Bill Tomms (General Burns CA); John Woodhouse; Bruce Lindsay (Greenspace Alliance of Canada's Capital); Graham Saul (Ecology Ottawa); Liz Bernstein (Lowertown CA); Mike Bulthuis (Alliance to End Homelessness); Eddie Gillis (Old Ottawa East CA); Charity Bartlett (Carlington CA); Jan Clark (City View CA); Robert Brinker (Carlington CA); Don Stewart (Westboro Beach CA); Graeme Roderick (Tanglewood-Hillsdale CA); Rod MacLean (Katimavik Hazeldean CA); Kul Kapoor (Katimavik Hazeldean CA); Bob Brocklebank (Glebe CA); Gary Sealey (Kanata Beaverbrook CA); Erwin Dreesen (Greenspace Alliance of Canada's Capital); Louise Clement (Dovercourt RA); David McDowell; Tony & Jane Brammer (Rothwell Heights Property Owner's Association); John Stevenson (Citizens for Safe Cycling); Scott Hodge (Riverside South CA); Bryan Orendorff (Rockcliffe Park RA); Gillian Salmon (Wellington Village CA); Scott Blurton (Glebe Annex CA); Noor Ahmed (New Edinburgh CA); Phil Bartlett (Carlington CA)

Featured Presenter: Steve Kanellakos, City Manager **Guests:** Councillor Catherine McKenney

1. Welcome- Gary Sealey welcomed all participants and guests and invited all participants to introduce themselves. Councillor Catherine McKenney spoke briefly about her role as a city councillor and efforts by City Council to improve the city.

2. Conversation with City Manager, Steve Kanellakos - Steve Kanellakos spoke briefly about some of the changes happening in Ottawa and the focus on big infrastructure versus social infrastructure. Noting that the City spends approximately \$700 million per year on services, he emphasized the importance of community relationships and understanding who the City is serving. Steve noted the natural role of the FCA in helping the City to remain connected to the community and the need for citizen input to guide and support policies and services.

Question & Answer:

Q1. Caroline Crowe (Trend Arlington) mentioned the need for better consultation with residents.

A1. Steve acknowledged that there is much to be done to improve citizen engagement. He talked about the layering of different consultation technique and how the role of the City in meaningful consultations may depend on the situation.

Q2. Lorne Cutler raised the issue of a lack of opportunity to effect changes to the City's budget once it is tabled.

A2. Steve noted that the City was in transition last year with 3 senior executives departing.

Q3. Sheila Perry raised the issue of how the FCA could better engage in the area of building social connections among residents. A3. Steve spoke about the idea of "no community left behind" which was

very strong in the past and he stressed that everyone at the City must be engaged in this effort. Residents need the names and numbers of the right contacts at the City to be effective.

Q4. Joanne Clark (City View CA) confirmed that changes are needed to improve consultations between the City and residents.

Q5. Don Stewart (Westboro Beach) spoke about the negative effect of City departments operating as silos and the need to gain efficiencies among departments.

A5. Steve spoke about 3 priorities, as follows: first, financial sustainability and the need to spend within the approved budget; second, the need for the organization structure and leadership teams to work together better; and third, the need among City staff for clarity on which of the 64 strategic priorities are the real priorities.

Q6. Nour Ahmed (NECA) asked what Steve had learned in Vaughan that could be useful in Ottawa.

A6. Steve stressed that “Ottawa is great” and he noted that developers in Vaughan had too much influence and that the situation in Ottawa is better.

Q7. Erwin Dreessen (Greenspace Alliance) asked for clarification of the delegation of authority of City staff.

A7. Steve noted that Council must delegate authority to City staff and that delegated authority for by-law enforcement is extensive.

Q8. Clarification of the Oblate lands and the fact that both City and communities are on the defensive on budget issues.

A8. Steve noted that communities have a real disadvantage in budget consultations, especially given the huge amount of information to be digested, and that there are disagreements within communities, too. He stressed the importance of building consensus among stakeholders.

At the conclusion of the Q & A session, Sheila Perry announced a gift to the Ottawa Food Bank to be given on Steve's behalf. She also gave him a copy of the *Ending Homelessness in Ottawa* report.

3. Presentation of 2016 Awards

The 2016 FCA Award was presented to Heather Pearl (Champlain Park).

The FCA Ottawa Builder Award was presented to Don Schultz, former CEO of the Canada Lands Development at the former Rockcliffe Air Base

The FCA Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Liz Bernstein (Lowertown CA).

In addition, a Certificate of Distinguished Service was presented to Archie Campbell (DCA) in recognition of 29 years of outstanding service to the FCA, including the co-founding of the FCA.

4. Business Meeting:

i) Maureen Forsythe was appointed as minute-taker for the AGM 2016.

ii) The draft agenda for the AGM 2016 was moved by Gary Sealey, seconded by Alex Cullen and approved.

iii) Minutes of the 2015 FCA AGM were moved by Bob Brocklebank, seconded by Sheila Perry, approved

iv) President's and Board report- by Gary Sealey.

v) John Chenier spoke briefly about the surveys carried out by FCA. Bob Brocklebank spoke about the FCA business plan and noted that Bill 181 (the Municipal Elections Modernization Act, 2016) received royal assent on 9th June 2016. Gary thanked everyone for their support and contribution. A vote of thanks was extended to Gary Sealey for his leadership of the FCA.

v) Treasurer's report – Lorne Cutler noted 2 milestones, as follows: first, a record 43 members are paid up members and second, the FCA received an anonymous donation of \$3,000 over 3 years to support its work. He also noted that the FCA had secured liability insurance for its directors and that a new intern

was being recruited to support FCA's work. Lorne moved the Treasurer's Report and John Chenier seconded. The report was approved.

vi) Nomination Report - presented by Graeme Roderick. Gary Sealey was proposed as president; Sheila Perry was proposed as vice-president; Lorne Cutler was proposed as treasurer and Kul Kapoor was proposed as Secretary. Gary moved approval of the report and Alex Cullen seconded the motion. Sheila Perry moved acceptance of the proposed nominees for Members at Large, Alex Cullen seconded the motion. Kul Kapoor moved to accept the nominees and the nomination process for the FCA Executive was deemed to be closed. FCA Executive 2016-2017 and the following Members at Large were acclaimed for 2016-2017: Philip Bartlett, Klaus Beltzner, Bob Brocklebank, Alex Cullen, Bruce Lindsay, Maria Luisa Marti, Chad Rollins, Don Stewart, Phil Sweetnam and Agnes Warda. The nominees were accepted by acclaim and the nomination process was closed.

The nomination report was approved (motion moved by Graeme Roderick and seconded by Alex Cullen), with zero abstentions.

vii) It was announced that the new FCA Board would meet on 18 June and 24 August 2016.

viii) The next general meeting of the FCA will take place on 15 September 2016 in Sandy Hill.

5. OPEN MIKE:

1) Erwin Dreesen flagged a couple of upcoming events on Thursday and Friday.

2) Gary Sealey raised the idea of holding community association elections and the ongoing challenge of managing business items at the general FCA meetings.

6. Adjournment: Archie Campbell moved to adjourn the meeting;