



General Meeting of 17 May 2017
Kanata Baptist Church, 485 Hazeldean Road, Ottawa
MINUTES

Participants: Sheila Perry [Chair, Overbrook CA], Chris Barker [Rockcliffe Park Residents Association], Robert Brinker [Carlington CA], Bob Brocklebank [Glebe CA], Archie Campbell [Dalhousie CA], Bonnie Charron [Riverside Park CA], David Clark [City View CA], Denys Cooper [Dows Lake Residents Association], Alex Cullen [Belltown Neighbours Association], Lorne Cutler [Hampton Iona Community Group], Roland Dorsay [Champlain Park CA], Erwin Dreesen [Greenspace Alliance], Thierry Harris [Lowertown CA], Paul Goodkey [Old Ottawa East CA], Miranda Gray [Convent Glen/Orleans Wood CA], Dave Grosvenor [Woodroffe North CA], Kul Kapoor [Katimavik Hazeldean CA], Rod MacLean [Katimavik Hazeldean CA], Maria Luisa Marti [Centretown Citizens CA], Sylvia Milne [Glebe Annex CA], Cora Murphy [Woodroffe North CA], Cindy Parkanyi [New Edinburgh Community Alliance], Bob Parkins [Old Ottawa East CA], Chad Rollins [Action Sandy Hill], Gillian Salmond [Wellington Village CA], Bonnie Schroeder [Council on Aging of Ottawa], Anne Stairs [Riverview Park CA], John Stevenson [Citizens for Safe Cycling], Don Stewart [Westboro Beach CA], Phil Sweetnam [Stittsville Village Association], Neil Thomson [Kanata Beaverbrook CA]

Guests: Allan Hubley [Councillor, Ward 23-Kanata South], Shad Qadri [Councillor, Ward 6-Stittsville], Marianne Wilkinson [Councillor, Ward 4-Kanata North], Stephen Willis [General Manager, Planning Infrastructure & Economic Development, City of Ottawa] Charmaine Forgie [Manager, Business Support Services, City of Ottawa]

1. Call to Order & Welcome by A/President Sheila Perry (7:15 pm)
2. Adoption of Agenda: m/s Chad Rollins/Don Stewart – CARRIED
3. (a) Introduction to Katimavik by Rod MacLean:

Katimavik is a Bill Teron-designed residential community in Kanata, built in 1971 and growing from the original Hazeldean Village (established in 1818). We make multiple use of facilities – the original general store also doubled as a funeral parlour. Hazeldean Road is the commercial centre. We wonder what will happen to nearby Canadian Tire Place once the Senators Hockey Club moves downtown to Lebreton Flats.

(b) Allan Hubley, Councillor Kanata South (Ward 23):

Some 50,000 people make up the ward of Kanata South, including communities in Katimavik, Hazeldean, Bridlewood. Trail West will be the 1st “smart” community in Ottawa. The majority of people that live in Kanata South work in Kanata North (including the business park there). The availability of public transit is an issue here.

(c) Marianne Wilkinson, Councillor Kanata North (Ward 4):

Kanata North is part of the former City of Kanata that was created in 1978 (Marianne was once Mayor of Kanata). Queensway continues as a barrier between Kanata North & South. Greenbelt is eastern frontier, Terry Fox Drive/Carp River the western frontier. The communities of Kanata Lakes, Morgan’s Grant, Beaverbrook and Beaver Pond are in the ward. There are 12,000 jobs in the Kanata North Business Park. Transportation issues (particularly going north/south) are challenging, as well as drainage issues.

(d) Shad Qadri, Councillor Stittsville (Ward 6):

Stittsville Ward fastest growing ward over the next 10 years. Challenge is to meld old and new, provide facilities (eg recreation). Shad noted that Canadian Tire Place is located in his ward (*Stittsville Senators?*). Challenges include upgrading infrastructure to accommodate growth, public transit. Future expansion of LRT to Kanata/Stittsville in 2031(?).

4. Presentation by Stephen Willis, General Manager, City of Ottawa Planning, Infrastructure & Economic Development Department:

Mr. Willis provided an overview of his new responsibilities (has been on the job for 9 weeks – previous experience at other municipalities, private sector, NCC; is a professional planner).

Major activities in his department include policy development, communication & consultation, planning implementation tools, monitoring. Main department divisions are Planning Services, Infrastructure Services, Right-of-way, Heritage & Urban Design, Economic Development & Long Range Planning, Business Support.

Major areas of concentration regarding development: central area, and the 4 growth areas (Kanata/Stittsville, Barrhaven, Riverside South, Orleans).

More information can be found at Ottawa.ca/planning, on YouTube, and through his department’s e-newsletters.

Question & answer session (NB: A number of questions (marked by *) were developed by the FCA Executive and submitted to Stephen Willis prior to the meeting):

Question: *Does Ottawa deliberately keep its zoning by-law out of sync with reality in order to maximize revenues from spot rezoning applications or is there some other reason for the high number of spot rezoning applications?

Willis: City does not make money from re-zoning. Every property owner has the right to apply for a re-zoning; success depends on the rules at the time (a problem when rules change but old applications are still under review (based on those rules at the time)).

Question: *In view of the extensive effort expended in producing Community Design Plans and Secondary Plans, would it make sense to disallow all applications for spot rezoning within areas subject to such plans for a period, say five years, from plan adoption?

Willis: City can't freeze re-zonings. However, new planning rules are coming from the Provincial Government.

Question: *As we have gone through a series of Official Plan updates we have seen population projections decline while requirements for urban land increase. How do we reconcile such experience with the assurance that we are meeting our intensification targets and the perception that new development is more and more dense?

Willis: New development areas are getting denser; problem now is infrastructure sprawl.

Question: *When will the OMB favour green development projects that apply a triple bottom line standard (ecologically viable, socially responsible and economically profitable) and use this method in evaluating the viability of the projects presented to it?

Willis: OMB reforms just announced by the Provincial Government; there are challenges dealing with "green" development.

Question: *Several communities in Ottawa have implemented community design plans and secondary plans. When it comes time to apply the plans it seems that invariably they are interpreted by staff to allow for heights and densities never envisioned by the community and which the community didn't realize or they are ignored for the sake of greater density. Are you prepared to recommend sufficient budget be provided to amend these plans so that they are clear and predictable and not subject to wide interpretation. If not, what is the value of these plans and why should communities continue to support them when they don't produce the expected results? If the current practices continue, when implementing new plans, do you recommend that community groups hire independent legal and planning counsel to ensure that staff is producing a plan that isn't open to creative interpretation.

Willis: Older Community Design Plans are not current; approach by City should be to say less, mean more.

Question: *Has the City initiated a follow up on impact on neighborhoods based on precedents set by the Committee of Adjustment decisions?

Willis: Will need clearer rules re. intensification (Infill 1 & 2 policies) and need to monitor Committee of Adjustment more. Must recognize effect of LRT/BRT routes on communities (eg transit-oriented development).

Question re. public policy & engagement (how to involve youth & new Canadians).

Willis: This is a big challenge; need to use social media & facilitation as well as other tools.

Question re. Official Plan Amendment 150 OMB appeal & effect of OMB reform.

Willis: Need to see the legislation (yet to be tabled) and the regulations; may run into the

2018 provincial election. Public should participate in the public hearings on the new legislation (as the development community will certainly be).

Question re. changes to City Official Plan.

Willis: Need to make Council's intent clearer.

Question re. monitoring planning decisions (eg coach house policy).

Willis: Will need to look into this.

Question re. impact of new rent control measures.

Willis: There is pent-up demand for rental housing; don't have immediate answer.

On behalf of the FCA, Sheila Perry thanked Stephen Willis for his presentation.

5. A networking break was taken (*thank you Katimavik C.A. for cookies & coffee!*).
6. Local Community Issues (Open Mike):
 - (a) Alex Cullen reported that communities along the Pinecrest Creek corridor in Ottawa's west end (Woodpark, Queensway Terrace North, Bel Air) are concerned about the impact of the proposed LRT-2 route through this corridor and how it will affect greenspace there.
 - (b) Chad Rollins (on behalf of the Community Associations For Environmental Sustainability) urged members to press the City to develop its promised renewable energy strategy.
 - (c) Sylvia Milne (Glebe Annex Association) is looking for experience/advice in dealing with a possible OMB appeal re. a Taggart development for 20 stories (in an area zoned for 9) in their neighbourhood.
 - (d) Alex Cullen (Belltown Neighbours Association) updated about the recent Ottawa River flood event in Belltown and the need to get the NCC & City to repair an outlet under the NCC bike path to prevent future flooding.
7. Minutes of the April 19, 2017 FCA General Meeting – m/s Chad Rollins/Rod MacLean
CARRIED

Minutes of April 26, 2017 FCA Executive Meeting – received.
8. Treasurer's Report – Lorne Cutler (FCA Treasurer) reported that the FCA had 38 paid-up members. He reminded the meeting that, in order to vote at the June 15 FCA Annual General Meeting, an association must have paid its membership fee (\$30).
9. Committee Reports:

Communications – Thierry Harris reminded members to respond to the Annual FCA Survey

(on the FCA web site).

Governance – Bob Brocklebank reported on the May 10 meeting with City PIED manager Charmaine Forgie; need to get status on the City’s Public Engagement Strategy.

Membership – Bob Brocklebank reported there were 38 organizations in the FCA.

Planning/Rezoning – Sheila Perry reported on the Provincial Government’s recent OMB reform initiative. Chad Rollins reported on an ASH-sponsored public meeting April 27 on proposed R4 policy (Stephen Willis in attendance). The City will re-tool its proposed policy here – target date for policy to reach City Council remains by end of year. Despite this, it was agreed to recall the FCA R4 Working Group to prepare a response to discussion paper #2. Maria Luisa Marti reported on Section 37 policy development – the May 9 City Planning Committee report did not cover FCA concerns re. the calculation of benefits. Evidently pre-consultation on a planning proposal is to include Section 37 negotiations – hard to do within a non-disclosure framework (how to report back to the community?). Chad Rollins noted that the results of the pilot project on planning pre-consultation is coming to City Planning Committee soon, including consideration of expanding the planning pre-consultation to all areas of the City.

Transportation – Alex Cullen reported that the next meeting of the FCA Transportation Committee will be on Wednesday May 31 @ 7 pm @ the Dalhousie Community Centre (755 Somerset West), to discuss the results of the April FCA Transportation Master Plan Workshop and survey.

10. New Business:

(a) Bonnie Schroeder (Council on Aging) reported on the COA’s Age-Friendly Ottawa initiative. The census shows that 15% of Ottawa’s population are seniors – rising to 20% by 2031. Half of Ottawa’s 108 neighbourhoods will have seniors in excess of 15% of the population. COA is looking for community groups to participate in its Age-Friendly Ottawa initiative.

(b) Thierry Harris promoted Crime Prevention Ottawa’s Tip Sheet on how to deal with neighbourhood crime (details on Crime Prevention Ottawa’s web site).

11. Adjournment @ 9:24 p.m.

12. Next Meeting – **FCA Annual General Meeting** – Thursday June 15, 2017 @ 7 pm @ Ottawa City Hall. Guest Speaker: Marc Denhez: lawyer, mediator & adjudicator who served 12 years on the Ontario Municipal Board.

(These minutes taken by Alex Cullen)