

Federation of Citizens' Associations of Ottawa (FCA-FAC)
General Meeting Minutes: December 12, 2018
8 Sweetnam Drive, Stittsville
Approved at the Jan 16 meeting

Attendees: Sheila Perry – president, Overbrook CA; Morley Brownstein, Bel Air CA; Alex Cullen, Belltown NA; John Stevenson, Bike Ottawa; Cliff Wardle, Brookside, Briarbrook, Morgan Grant CA; Robert Brinker, Carlington CA; Miranda Gray, Convent Glen, Orleans Wood CA; Archie Campbell, Dalhousie CA; Denys Cooper, Dows Lake CA; Maria Luisa Marti, Friends of James & Bay; Bob Brocklebank, Glebe CA; Stefan Boginski, Greater Avalon CA; Rachelle Lecours, Greater Avalon CA; Paul Johanis, Greenspace Alliance; Lorne Cutler, Hampton-Iona CA; Sue McCarthy, Hunt Club CA; Neil Thomson, Kanata-Beaverbrook CA; Haley Bennett, Kanata-Hazeldean CA; Susan Jones, Kanata-Hazeldean CA; Kul Kapoor, Katimavik-Hazeldean CA; Carolyn Clackdolye, McKellar Park CA; Grace Strachen, McKellar Park CA; Dorothy Tweedie, McKellar Park CA; Larry Wade, Ottawa Water Study Action Group, Travis Croken, Riverside Park CA; Graeme Roderick Tanglewood-Hillsdale CA; Phil Sweetnam, Stittsville Village CA, and Pauline Aucoin, Wellington West; Don Stewart, Westboro Beach CA.

Guests: Councilor Glen Gower; Stittsville [6], Katie Burkholder Harris, Project Manager in Community Systems Planning, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness; Trevor Hache, Healthy Transportation Coalition; and Kristin Pulles

1.0 Welcome: 7:20 pm. Sheila Perry welcomed members and guests to Sweetnam Drive. The theme of this meeting was *Being Listened to During the City's Budgetary Process*.

2.0 Approval of Agenda: Moved by consensus

CARRIED

3.0 Community Association organizing this gathering:

Stittsville is a community on the western sector of the City. The village was named after the 1850 postmaster Jackson Stitt. In 2018, Stittsville's population is over 35,000 residents.

The Stittsville Village Association is a group of volunteers that includes residents and business owners who are committed to actively preserving and promoting the quality of life in and the community character of Stittsville. The Association addresses such issues as community resources (i.e. a local high school), transportation, traffic safety, environment, as well as land & property development. It organizes events. It has a volunteer recognition program (i.e. Volunteer of the year).

The Association has a monthly e-newsletter, a website: stittsvilleva.com; facebook page: facebook.com/VillageAssociation/; a twitter account: twitter.com/stittsvilleva, and an e-mail address: stittsvillevillage@gmail.com

4.0 Linking Leaders presentation

Canadian Observatory on Homelessness works with researchers, service providers, policy makers, students and people who have experienced homelessness. Its project *Making Zero Count* supports the effort of several communities across Canada to articulate pathways to prevent and end homelessness. For instance, in Ottawa, leaders in the field have recently crafted a fresh vision of how Ottawa could move forward. It did so by drawing on success stories from here and elsewhere. The result is a renewed focus on prevention and systems integration. As example of a local success story was Lanark County, where there was an increased investment in prevention,

Federation of Citizens' Associations of Ottawa (FCA-FAC)
General Meeting Minutes: December 12, 2018
8 Sweetnam Drive, Stittsville
Approved at the Jan 16 meeting

diversion and system responsiveness. There was a focus on youth. It saw a reduction by 60% in the number of homeless persons. As had been said during our General Meeting last November (New Edinburgh) and last May (Heron Park), sufficient affordable housing would do much to ameliorate the presenting problem.

5.0 Demystifying the City of Ottawa's Finances

As the City and its committees seeks input into its budgetary proposals, Community Associations and others may want to increase their effectiveness in having their neighbourhood needs addressed. Tonight's presentation and on-line *sides* which will be placed on our website sought to do just that.

There are two budgets, a capital one and an operating one. To participate in the process, your Association can complete a six Question on-line survey; attend one of the six consultation meetings with ward councilors in January and/or attend one or more of the fourteen committees/boards hearings held in February. Council will consider the recommended budget on March 6.

6.0 Networking Break

7.0 OPEN MIC (local issues)

- Healthy Transportation Coalition believes that in citizens, businesses, service groups working together, our Capital can include

- Better pedestrian, cycling and public transportation infrastructure.
- Improved linkages between existing transportation infrastructure
- Accessible transportation network for vulnerable citizens
- Complete Streets which lead to and from public transit stations, local businesses, schools, social support services and green spaces.

The Coalition undertakes education, such as the Transit Riders Workshop Jan 29, and projects such as advocacy for bus passes for persons of low income and endorsing the following petition.

- Petition to City Council endorsing Affordable Housing Near Rapid Transit was placed in circulation

It was acknowledged that FCA needs to use the occasion of the budget to remind Council that although affordable housing policy cuts across several portfolios, it has budget implications. From our perspective, and as mentioned above, lack of affordable housing is a predisposing and perpetuating factor in the dynamic of homelessness. Ensuring a supply of affordable homes ought to begin now. ACTION: S. Perry

- Retail cannabis sale

The Vanier Community Association has prepared extensive briefing notes on this topic. The questions raised are: (1) whether to opt in or out concerning permitting cannabis retail stores within Ottawa (the report recommends opt-in), (2) if in, what actions need to be done by the City (policing, changes to by-laws and related enforcement for example on consumption, protection of youth and public education within its authority and (3) if in,

Federation of Citizens' Associations of Ottawa (FCA-FAC)
General Meeting Minutes: December 12, 2018
8 Sweetnam Drive, Stittsville
Approved at the Jan 16 meeting

what will be the City's role in the opening and operation of cannabis retail stores. City Staff recommend opting in. Council will decide on December 13.

It was determined that the FCA should express members concerns about the location of stores. Another question is 'how would the tax revenue be used?'

MOTION: On a consensus motion, members' collective concern about location of store(s) be communicated to our Mayor, Councillors, Ontario Premier and local MPPS.

CARRIED

8.0 Minutes of previous meeting (Nov. 21) by G. Roderick, second by R. Lecouurs

CARRIED

9.0 Treasurer's Report:

Our bank balance remains at \$9670. .

10. Portfolio Reports:

10.1 Communications: Our e-communication is being sent to those who subscribe or provide us an e-mail address when attend meetings. If you are not receiving these, advise B. Brocklebank.

10.2 Governance: The City's 2018-2022 committees and their membership were approved at Council's December 5 meeting. Concern was expressed about the selection process, that it does not ensure balance representation from the geographic sectors of the City. Next meeting with City staff is in February.

Citizens are invited to apply on or before December 13 to be a member of Committees, Boards, Commissions and Agencies. The application is on line at the City's website.

10.3 Logistics: The January meeting will be held at the Nepean Sportsplex, the February meeting will be held in Kanata-Hazeldean and March meeting held in Great Avalon communities

10.4 Finance: see # 9 above

10.5 Members. We have 48 members. Renewal letters will go our in the New Year.

10.6 Planning & Zoning: The network, which meets monthly, will be focused on the Official Plan, Site Plan Control as well as spot zoning. The lens FCA uses in framing its conversation with the Planning Department is Neighbourhoods Matter. So Neighbourhood Associations need to be heard from.

City Planners and our Planning Network are talking about holding a briefing session in early January at City Hall. The gathering would dialogue on the proposed changes to Site Plan Control process. This discussion would build on two earlier community consultations. A second topic to be discussed would relate to Land Use Planning. Changes flows from provincial changes to the approval and appeals process. More to come as the details get finalized. A good turn-out (50+) would be desired.

10.7 Social

TABLED

Federation of Citizens' Associations of Ottawa (FCA-FAC)

General Meeting Minutes: December 12, 2018

8 Sweetnam Drive, Stittsville

Approved at the Jan 16 meeting

10.8 Transportation: The last meeting had been on November 6. The next meeting is to be held on January 6 at McNabb Community Centre. Work plan for the year continues to be a work in progress.

The November 6 proceedings formed the basis of the report to this meeting.

(A). MOVED that the Notes from November 6 meeting be tabled. CARRIED

(B) MOTION: Regarding the relationship of the Transit Commission to City Council, moved by A. Cullen and seconded by consensus that FCA recommend

- ✓ the Transit Commission be composed entirely of Ottawa City Councillors,
- ✓ report on all its activities and policies to Ottawa City Council.

MOTION TO SEVER (moved by M. Gray) CARRIED

MOTION that the Transit Commission be composed entirely of Ottawa City Councillors. FAILED

MOTION that the Transit Commission report on all its activities and policies to Ottawa City Council. CARRIED

(C) Whereas the tax cap has led to insufficient funding for road infrastructure, and winter maintenance, and to transit fare increases, budgets should reflect needs and not artificial tax limitation.

BROAD AGREEMENT

11.0 NEW BUSINESS:

11.1 Ottawa Water Study and Action Group (OWSAG): The last time this Group made a presentation to a General Meeting was in the Spring 2013. An update was provided. It was noted that March 22 is World Water Day. It was suggested that FCA might wish to formulate a position on the use of bottle water in City facilities and festivals on its land

Point of Order: It was noted that in June 2013, the Federation adopted a position of this matter in support of OWSAG 's initiatives and sent a related letter to the City. A follow-up letter might be desirable. ACTION: Executive

11.2 Police Services Support for Neighbourhood Watch TABLED TO FUTURE MEETING

11.3 Ottawa Hydro Pruning of Trees without community consultation TABLED TO EXECUTIVE

12.0 Adjournment: Consensus motion CARRIED

Graeme Roderick, secretary

Sheila Perry, president