

CENTRETOWN CITIZENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting – Minutes

Tuesday, 21 April, 2015

7 – 9 P.M., Ottawa City Hall, Honeywell Room

Attendance

Board: Maria Luisa Marti, Patricia Marsden-Dole, Mitchell Kutney, Adam Harris, Graham Pressey, Thomas McVeigh, Paul Mennier, Tim Abray, Michael Daudlin, Judy Forrest, Rob Dekker, Charles Akben-Marchand

Others: Alice Nakanishi, Georgia Lay, Joan Spice, Darrin Cohen, Mark Jowett, J.P. Davis, Doris Zastre, Jared Denison, Don Grant, Bonnie Mabee

Regrets: T. Whillans

1. Call to Order, Welcome and Board member Regrets.

1.1 Regrets

T. Whillans

2. Adoption of the Agenda

2.1 Motion 1: That the Board approve this draft agenda.

Moved: J. Forrest

Seconded: T. Abray

Carried

3. Announcements

3.1 Presentation from the Ottawa Parole Office

Mark Jowett, the community representative for a Parole Office consultation group, explained upcoming changes to the current parole office on 249 Slater Avenue. The office will be moving, and City Council has adopted a motion to ask that the office be located in the Central Business District. The Parole Office intends to conform to the request. PWGSC is responsible for locating the offices, and are carrying out the process. M. Jowett is consulting with the community about the proposed changes, and asked the CCCA for feedback on the proposed move.

3.2 Call for announcements.

No further announcements.

4. Somerset Ward Councillor's Report

4.1 D. Cohen gave a verbal report. The city has delayed the local commercial study until June. The Farmer's Market at the Museum of Nature will open May 2. The Save Little Italy organization is planting tulips on Preston Street to raise money for an OMB appeal and is looking for volunteers. A discussion on sidewalk widths followed.

5. Presentation from Ottawa Centre Ecodistrict

5.1 Don Grant of OCED presented a report. OCED would like to see Ottawa raise environmental standards for the whole area of Centretown, to reduce the ecological

footprint of the area, to increase social vibrancy, and to attract new economic activity. OCED is currently consulting with local organizations and businesses, and developing actionable plans to carry out.

6. Executive Reports

6.1 President (T. McVeigh)

T. McVeigh attended several meetings on behalf of the CCCA.

Motion 2: To affirm the email vote on the following motion:

WHEREAS the Centretown Community Design Plan adopted by City Council in May, 2013 calls for more spacious, not more constricted, sidewalks on Elgin Street “to improve pedestrian circulation and eliminate chokepoints”,

WHEREAS a clear majority (112 opposed, 91 in favour) who responded to the City’s request for feedback on sidewalk patios encroaching on Elgin Street sidewalks during the 2013-2014 pilot project opposed the patios because there was insufficient space for pedestrians and those using assistive devices to circulate safely and freely in the 1.8 m between the patio enclosures and street,

WHEREAS the City and owner of the restaurant at 216 Elgin Street have agreed on a reconfiguration of its sidewalk patio to free up 2.0 m of clear space between the patio enclosure and street,

WHEREAS City staff have recommended to Transportation Committee in a report dated April 9, 2015 that restaurants south of MacLaren Street which participated in the Elgin Street sidewalk patio pilot project “continue to be permitted on the basis of a minimum 1.8-metre unencumbered sidewalk width”,

The Board of the Centretown Citizens Community Associations

RESOLVES THAT

The CCCA oppose sidewalk patio encroachments on Elgin Street which leave less than 2.0 m of clear space for pedestrian traffic;

The CCCA convey its opposition to the proposal contained in the April 9, 2015 staff report to members of the Transportation Committee before it meets on Monday, April 20, 2015.

Moved: P. Mennier

Seconded: R. Dekker

Carried

A brief discussion on possible options followed, and the lack of consultation from the city.

6.2 Corporate Secretary (G. Pressey)

No report.

6.2.1 Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes.

Motion 3: That the Board approve the minutes of its March 2014 meeting.

Moved: T. Abray

Seconded: P. Marsden-Dole

Carried

6.3 Membership Secretary (M.L. Marti)

M.L. Marti challenged board members to bring two new members to the CCCA by next month. She reported on the membership meeting, held last night. The Committee invited D. Valentin of Mainstreet Technologies, and N. Cruz. They will be providing a report of the meeting with recommendations. They discussed strategies for building membership, membership rates, and the CCCA's position in the community. Unions, condo boards, and rental boards were discussed as potential membership sources. As well, M.L. Marti submitted the following report:

Membership Secretary Report

April 21, 2015

Total members: 91

Continue to work with Executive and Communications to create better membership engagement guidelines.

Comms & Membership combined meeting on the 20th of April with David Valentin of Mainstreet Technologies and Nancy Cruz.

. Report will be presented orally.

Challenge:

Membership would like to challenge each Board Member to "mobilize" two new members by our next Board meeting. Hugs kisses to all that participate, for all of you that cannot participate, well I might still give hugs but they will be shorter.

Other:

- Continued outreach with other Community Associations. (FCA Infill 2 WG, W&W with FoJ &B)
- Participating in the Citizens Academy Civic Boot Camp, found many young Centretowners not aware of the existence of our Community Association.
- The Gotta Go group has requested we send their survey on to our membership. As always membership rocks!

6.4 Treasurer (P. Mennier)

P. Mennier reported no substantial change in the financial position of the CCCA. Two approved expenses will be upcoming in the next month.

6.5 Executive Committee (R. Dekker)

R. Dekker thanked T. Abray for attending the meeting on behalf of the Planning Committee.

R. Dekker also submitted the following report:

Executive Committee Report

April 21, 2015

The Executive Committee invited Tim Abray, Chair of the Planning Committee to attend this months meeting.

The membership survey has been postponed until after a Joint Communications/Membership Committee meeting on April 20th.

The Executive Committee would like to see the CCCA have a great voice in Heritage in our area; the EC will support Heritage Chair Paul Mennier in the recruitment of committee members.

Tim discussed the recent Planning Committee Planning Session that took place on April 13th and advised that the report on the meeting will be available in three weeks.

Tim reported that three focus items for the committee are:

1. Manage divergent expectations
2. Communication of Information
3. File Management Triage

The next Executive Committee meeting is Thursday May 15th 6pm at Share Freehouse, 327 Somerset Street West. Trees and Greenspace Committee Chair Tom Whillans will be invited to the April Executive meeting.

6.6 Heritage Committee (P. Mennier)

P. Mennier reported on the first Heritage Committee meeting.

6.7 Planning Committee (T. Abray)

T. Abray reported that there is appetite for a division of responsibilities in the committee. A facilitator attended the meeting and will issue a report. In particular, the committee will focus on integrating new members and preparing a system for documenting, managing, and assigning work. The Infill 2 process is approaching its end, and will send a finalized package to Council next month.

Motion 4: That the CCCA write a letter concerning 187 Metcalfe St., objecting to the manner in which parking arrangements/allowances have been handled on the site, throughout the life of the project.

Motion tabled.

Motion 5: That the CCCA write a letter objecting to the parking relief being sought at 348 Bronson St. on the grounds that it contributes to a systemic problem of insufficient parking in Centretown.

Motion tabled.

Motion 6: That the CCCA write a letter about the general issue of providing parking relief to developments within Centretown. The letter would suggest that cutting corners on parking allocations continually undermines the longer term liveability of Centretown.

Motion tabled.

Motion 7: That CCCA prepare and submit a letter (pending board approval) detailing the specific concerns the CCCA has with the proposed bylaw amendments.

Motion tabled.

6.8 Seniors Committee (P. Marsden-Dole)

P. Marsden-Dole reported the committee is active and met last month.

6.9 Transportation Committee (M.-A. Sheppard)

G. Lay reported on behalf of M.-A. Sheppard changes to his report. The O'Connor Street project will not be finished until at least 2017. Part of the reason for the delay will be developing the World Exchange Plaza off-ramp, which has a dedicated off-ramp.

Motion 8: Be it resolved that the CCCA Board endorse the following letter and send copies to Colin Simpson of the City of Ottawa and to Councillor McKenney.

April XX, 2015

Colin Simpson, MCIP, RPP

Senior Project Manager, Transportation Planning
City of Ottawa
110 Laurier Avenue West, 4th Floor
Ottawa ON K1P 1J1

cc: Councillor Catherine McKenney

Re: Environmental Assessment for the Airport Parkway Widening

Dear Mr. Simpson,

The Centretown Citizens Community Association (CCCA) is writing you to express our support for the resolutions included below that were adopted earlier this year by our sister association, the Glebe Community Association (GCA).

Like the GCA and a number of other community associations, we have concerns about the plans to widen the Airport Parkway, in particular with regards to the impact the project will have on increased congestion and on cyclist and pedestrian safety on Bronson Avenue in the Glebe and Centretown.

Furthermore, the CCCA understands that this project is to be implemented before the expansion of public transit service (O-Train) on a parallel corridor. The CCCA agrees with the GCA that the City should seriously consider the scenario of first expanding the public transit line and then evaluate whether the Airport Parkway requires expansion.

Thank you.

Thomas McVeigh
President
Centretown Citizens Community Association

Moved: P. Mennier
Seconded: T. Bray
Carried

6.10 Trees and Greenspace Committee (T. Whillans)

B. Mabee reported on behalf of T. Whillans.

Motion 9: That the Board approve spending up to \$200.00 from the Trees and Greenspace Fund to acquire licencing rights and other miscellaneous costs associated with the Growing Cities film screening.

Moved: P. Marsden-Dole
Seconded: A. Harris
Carried

6.11 Communications and Promotion Committee (M. Kutney)

M. Kutney gave two updates. He found a calendar plug-in that will solve some current issues, and that work with the developer is going well. He suggests developing some communications tools and to think about communicating the most important actions that the CCCA does. Discussion follows.

7. Other Reports and Business

7.11 Motion to Form Special Committee for Parking Study.

Motion 10: That the Board approve the following terms of reference for the “Special Committee on the Centretown Parking Study 2015-16” (the Committee).

The Committee shall be composed of:

- One member appointed by each of the Planning, Seniors and Transportation Standing Committees;
 - Interested CCCA members, solicited from the CCCA membership list.
- The Committee will report to the Board.

The responsibilities of the Committee are to:

- Coordinate the involvement of the CCCA in the Centretown Parking Study, including communication with City Staff;
- Provide updates to the three standing committees on the progress of the Study and seek advice from the committees as appropriate;
- Ensure maximum participation of interested CCCA members and Centretown residents provide periodic reports to the Board on the progress of the Study;
- Make recommendations to the Board on the significant issues under review as part of the Study and the final position of the CCCA.

The Special Committee on the Centretown Parking Study 2015-2016 shall terminate upon completion of the Study which is expected to be sometime in 2016.

Moved: J. Forrest
Seconded: P. Mennier
Carried

8. Question Period

P. Marsden-Dole reports that the Centretown Buzz needs more people to distribute papers. She also suggests that the CCCA support Councillor McKenney on the public housing issue.

9. Forward Agenda Items

10. Adjournment at 9:26PM

Motion 11: Motion to adjourn.

Moved: P. Mennier

Seconded: T. Abray

Carried

Next Board Meeting:

Tuesday, May 19, 2015, 7pm to 9pm.

Councillor's Lounge, City Hall