

# VISION CHELSEA CENTRE-VILLAGE

First collaboration with the members of the centre-village committee

Tuesday, August 18 2009, 7:30 am to 10:30 am

## Minutes of the meeting

### Present:

- |                   |                                     |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ➤ George Claydon  | ➤ Meriel Bradford                   |
| ➤ Stephen Woodley | ➤ Todd Evans                        |
| ➤ Luc Poulin      | ➤ Stéphane Doré                     |
| ➤ Caryl Green     | ➤ Charles Cardinal                  |
| ➤ Carol Martin    | ➤ Paul Turpin – Simbal              |
|                   | ➤ Patrick G. Déoux – AECOM Tecslult |

### 1 **Envisioning the future Chelsea centre-village by the members of the committee**

- « The development of the centre-village should be to the image of... »

#### Picture of President Obama

- Go beyond expectations and possibilities
- Inclusivity
- Justice and leadership
- Change
- Energy

#### Picture of a high density European village

- Offer an central area where people are close with no over-empowering style
- We need to pay attention to how people can relate to each other
- Propose higher density and have green spaces
- Liveable area - we are trying to build a space where people can live

#### The pyramids of Egypt

- Offer its citizens a sense of place – it has to speak to citizens
- We need to build on what a village should be
- Distinctiveness
- What people value
- What they feel this place is important for

#### Picture of a Mountain Bike

- Propose to citizens a sense of adventure, sports for everyone, accessible green spaces, open spaces
- Sense of adventure

#### Picture of an old man with a woman kissing him on each cheek

- My vision of the process is that it should facilitate moving beyond the « grumpy » context that has often tainted other similar consultation processes in the past
- Facilitate dialogue and move towards collective agreement

Picture of a person on a bicycle

- Interconnecting trails...but also people
- Sustainable community
- Constructive way of doing business in co-operation with the municipality
- This exercise should be able to help ... (our citizens to connect)

Picture of a couple cross-country skiing

- Offer wonderful scenery for both residents and tourists alike
- Enjoy natural surroundings
- Infrastructure of what business can offer
- This process should help this community to get together

**2 Your vision of a satisfying consultation allows to emanate a clear vision of the Chelsea centre-village – Please complete the following phrase : /“This process would meet my expectations if it...”**

**Team 1**

- ... engaged a dialog
- Endorsement and participation by Chelsea residents – (50%)
- Promotes listening and allows compromise
- Changes the way we make decision in the future
- Community ownership of vision
- Participation in both French and English
- Legitimize weighting of comments during entire process (vision to master plan/zoning bylaw)

**Team 2**

- Everyone has a chance to participate (even if they don't)
- Collectively and creatively act to move out of entrenched positions
- Interactive, engaging and respectful
- We have a common, accepted vision that guides us for 15 years

**Team 3**

- Involve all sectors + different population and age groups
- Create common grounds
- Keep focus on centre-village
- Vision of what will be in the empty spaces
- Helps to find common grounds
- Is bilingual

**3 Who must be consulted and which tools are most appropriate in order to obtain a maximum of participation during the consultation process?**

- Questions: 1 – Can we identify groups of people that must participate actively during the process of consultation and would likely build a vision for the centre-village development? / 2- Is there a group that needs a more particular approach? If so, which ones and why should we be more particular in our approach?

**Team 1**

- Web site master list plus :
- Chelsea Municipaction list – (groups should inform membership / push the

**Team 2**

- Local residents of Centre-Village triangle
- 3 churches
- Schools (mini charettes)

process through group leaders/ make master list and assign)

- CLSC
- NCC – Gatineau Park

**Outspoken critics :**

1. Preservation Chelsea – (Geoff Bleich)
2. Chelsea Taxpayers Coalition – (Kensel Tracy)
3. List of persons requesting participation on the committee
4. Developers – (Marilyn Major / Sean MacAdam / Greenberg – Minto / David Meridith / Chelsea Creek)
5. Community Association – (i.e. Kingsmere)
6. HWC Steam Train – (Friends of the train)

ACRE – (Environment Chelsea / Friends of Gatineau Park)

MTQ

Soccer, rugby, tec.

GVHS

Community (road) associations

Train – (Harry Gow, John Trent)

Fire departement / security

Cascades Club / GRYC

Artists in their environment

Youth – blogs, Facebook

Seniors

Friends of Gatineau River

Friends / Tourists who visit Chelsea

**Outspoken critics :**

Chamber of Commerce – (Kensel Tracey)

Preservation Chelsea – (Geoff Bleich)

Chelsea Foundation

NCC

Developpers / Property owners

Ski/vélo Chelsea – Trails (Chris Mick)

**People we need to get on board :**

- Doug Griffin
- Geoff Bleich
- Bob Milko
- Huguette Poulin
- Kurt Burgstaller
- Rémi Simard
- Jen Port – (Les Fougères)
- Martin Paquette
- Raymond Brunette
- Robert Chaffers
- Larry Dufour
- Vince Hendriks

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**Past experiences from members of the committee in a consultation process**

- Techniques/tools that have given goods results :
  - Proper venue and setting – (no basement meeting)
  - Experienced moderator that sets the rules
  - Charettes have been used successfully in the past
  - Anticipate early in the process the « trouble spots »
  - Make sure there are enough feedback loops
  - Make sure we address what will occupy the « empty spaces »

- Roles and decision points are clear
- Set clear parameters – (what’s negotiable and what’s not)
- Act proactively as a committee
- Use of the little dot game at the end of a session
- We have to give a chance for everyone to express opposite visions
- Give space to extremes
- Council should stake their role immediately (decision makers)
- The objective of the committee must be clear from the very beginning
- Techniques/tools we should keep away from :
  - No « dead planning »
  - Not being passive on participation
  - Not be on the defensive
  - We have to get people to express their opinion without taking the stage

**5 Valid techniques of consultations**

« As a member of this committee in the consultation process which has the purpose of edifying a vision that is to the image of the Chelsea centre-village, I propose that the following techniques should be retained : »

That each member of the committee commits to interviewing at least 10 people, asking them the same three questions and informally gather the comments of the individual	Yes
That each member commits to go directly to sources such as « Café des saisons » or the store in order to engage in a conversation regarding the center-village by asking them one or two small questions and informally gather the comments of the individual. (Teams of 2 members-one to ask the questions and the other to write down the info)	Yes
Send a post card to all the residents of Chelsea, inviting them to answer a question with a brief answer at the back of the postcard. Remind them to consult the website for further information.	No
Organise « Kitchen Table Meetings » at key citizen homes	Yes, but how do we get people to open their homes?
Produce a pamphlet of information that will be sent to all residents of Chelsea that will include details on the consultation process, ways to participate, different aspects of the centre-village that will be discussed during the development process, a fact sheet that will be used as a canvas during the consultation process.	Yes
Keep a blog on the Website.	Yes

Write a regular column in the local paper about the development of the centre-village so that the citizens may keep track of the step by step process.

Yes, but consider the cost for a bilingual column, and in which paper could we do so?

**6 Other ideas and techniques of consultation**

Organise mini-charrettes with students

Demand that certain management committee members be invited at certain citizen's forums of the Municipality of Chelsea in order to engage in a constructive dialog on the Chelsea centre-village consultation process.

**AECOM**

