

TOWN AND GOWN COMMITTEE

August 28th, 2013 – 5 p.m.

Desmarais Building, 55 Laurier Avenue East (Room DSM 3120)

MEETING MINUTES

Present (members): Councillor Mathieu Fleury (Chair, City of Ottawa), Cst. Ryan Pierce (Ottawa Police), Troy Leeson (By-law and Regulatory Services), Christopher Collmorgen (Action Sandy Hill), Marc Joyal (University of Ottawa), John Dickie (Landlord-at-large Representative), Chris Hynes (Student Federation of the University of Ottawa).

Regrets: Salam Hawa (Resident-at-large Representative)

Guests: Michelle Ferland (University of Ottawa), Lucie-Mercier-Gauthier (University of Ottawa), Michel Guilbeault (University of Ottawa), Steve Bernique (Campus Security, University of Ottawa), Andrew Arcand (Resident), Elaine Koren (Resident), Betsy Mann (Resident), Bob Forbes (Resident), François Bregha (Resident), Anne-Marie Roy (President, Student Federation of the University of Ottawa), Jan Findlay (Resident), Ralph Blaine (Resident).

1. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Councillor Fleury welcomes the members of the committee and asks members of the committee as well as other attendees to introduce themselves to the group.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The committee approves the agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The committee approves the minutes of the June 27th, 2013 meeting.

4. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

- a. 1st Year Anniversary: Councillor Fleury highlights to everyone that this is the Sandy Hill Town and Gown Committee's first anniversary. He congratulates everyone involved for the great successes of the committee, especially in relation to the education and enforcement initiatives undertaken to date. Councillor Fleury invites members to share their thoughts on the first year of the committee. Mr.

Collmorgen thanks all involved for a very successful first year of Town and Gown, and Mr. Joyal applauds the progress on changing some behaviors and improving communication.

- b. Update on vacant buildings and property standards: The Councillor updates members of the committee on the City's vacant buildings initiative. He informs members that there will be a report coming forward to committee and council on this. It will propose changes to the Property Standards By-law for clear standards applying to vacant residential, commercial and heritage properties. Furthermore, the Councillor is working with staff to find solutions to the issue of indoor furniture being used outdoors, as well as waste receptacles (including blue/black boxes and green bins) being stored at the front of the property.
- c. Interim Control By-law on Residential Conversions: Councillor Fleury advises members of the committee that a final report with recommendations on improved and appropriate zoning in Sandy Hill will be coming forward in the fall. In addition, there will be a public consultation session held at City Hall on September 16th at 7pm; Councillor Fleury encourages concerned residents to attend.
- d. SFUO Events: Councillor Fleury requests the SFUO give a brief overview of the 101 Week events they're planning for September. Mr. Hynes and Ms. Roy describe the events taking place during the week, including a big welcome event in Confederation Park, a Fall Festival in the second week of September, as well as activities to be organized around the football games. The University will also be holding some events of their own, including movies on the Tabaret lawn and the inauguration of their new field on September 7th. Mr. Collmorgen highlights concerns with foot traffic through the neighbourhood. Mr. Leeson assures residents that resources will be deployed accordingly, to respond to the needs in the area.

5. CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE SANDY HILL TOWN AND GOWN COMMITTEE

At the August 27th, 2012 inaugural meeting of the Sandy Hill Town and Gown Committee, the committee decided to review its chairmanship on an annual basis. Councillor Fleury is offering to remain on as chair for an additional year. The members of the committee agree unanimously.

6. LRT Update

Councillor Fleury offers an update on Ottawa's Light Rail Train project. Shoring of the eastern entrance, including some digging and pile driving, has begun. The realignment of the Transitway at Nicholas and Laurier is complete and functioning very efficiently. Some concerns have been raised by the University concerning the timing of the Laurier/Waller pedestrian crossings and about possible noise impacts on the studies of residents of the university residences along the Transitway. Councillor Fleury assures the University of Ottawa that he will bring this feedback to the Light Rail project office.

7. WELCOME WEEK WORKING GROUP

Councillor Fleury indicates that the Walkabout will take place on September 3rd from 3-5:30pm, and will be meeting at the Sandy Hill Community Centre (250 Somerset Street East). Participants will be walking through the community with important information concerning regulations and services. All Town and Gown partners have been involved in the planning.

8. OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

This item was referred to the Housing Working Group for their consideration. Mr. Dickie says that he will convene a working group meeting in the coming weeks.

9. HOUSING UPDATE

Mr. Forbes requested some information and updates on student housing through a letter to the University of Ottawa. Mr. Joyal indicates that they have met with Action Sandy Hill and they will continue to consult with the community stakeholders through this process. Their intent is to send out an RFI in the fall and they have committed to meeting with ASH in late September.

10. OTHER

- The Councillor would like to make sure that both the Strategic Initiatives Working Group and the Housing Working Group meet before the next Town and Gown Committee meeting.
- The next meeting of the Town and Gown Committee will be November 4th at 5pm.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting is adjourned at 6:30pm.