

TOWN AND GOWN COMMITTEE

November 4th, 2013 – 5 p.m.

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

MEETING MINUTES

Present (members): Councillor Mathieu Fleury (Chair, City of Ottawa), Troy Leeson (By-law and Regulatory Services), Robert Forbes (Action Sandy Hill), Lucie Mercier-Gauthier (University of Ottawa), John Dickie (Landlord-at-large Representative), Chris Hynes (Student Federation of the University of Ottawa), Salam Hawa (Resident-at-large Representative).

Regrets: Cst. Ryan Pierce (Ottawa Police Services).

Guests: Michelle Ferland (University of Ottawa), Michel Guilbeault (University of Ottawa), Steve Bernique (Campus Security, University of Ottawa), Michelle Nash (Ottawa East News – EMC), Derek Spalding (Ottawa Citizen), and 14 residents.

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, with the addition of an item from Action Sandy Hill.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The committee approves the minutes of the August 28th, 2013 meeting, with amendment to attendees list.

4. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

- Rideau Street Renewal: Construction along Rideau Street continues. This year construction will end at Charlotte Street., and they will finish the final two blocks the following year. Traffic issues have arised at Charlotte and Rideau, and Police are there daily ensuring safety for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers.

- East-West Bikeway: Preparations for the East-West Bikeway implementation are ongoing in the area with the construction of dedicated cycling facilities on Stewart and Wilbrod Streets.
- Somerset-Donald Pedestrian Bridge: Funds have been secured in the 2014 Municipal budget for the construction of this bridge. Construction will begin in 2014 and be completed in 2016.
- Infill Studies 1 and 2/Conversions of Single-family Homes: The report on the city's recommendations will be coming forward in March 2014, after much consultation.

5. LRT Update

Shoring at the East Portal of the tunnel, at Laurier and Waller, is nearly complete. Before the end of the month, tunneling operations will begin. The West Portal, at Lebreton Flats, has begun tunneling and is progressing well.

6. ACTION SANDY HILL PETITION

Robert Forbes of Action Sandy Hill (ASH) presents the petition from community residents opposing the construction of off-campus student housing to the University of Ottawa. The petition counts over 1,000 signatures, and Bob says this also highlights the need for more on-campus student housing. Many residents spoke to the impacts expanded student housing would have in the community.

In light of the heightened interest in the matter of off-campus housing, Councillor Fleury requests that the University's Housing Services provide a presentation on their work at the next meeting.

7. HOUSING WORKING GROUP – VERBAL UPDATE

Mr. Dickie updates the members of the committee on the last HWG meeting. The group met at the University of Ottawa, in the Off-Campus Housing Office. Mr. Guilbeault and Ms. Ferland were able to provide an overview of what this office does, and how it assists students to find adequate housing in Ottawa's various neighbourhoods after they leave residence.

Mr. Dickie mentions that it would be useful to have a discussion on the mandate of the Working Group. It is suggested that the committee discuss this and come back to the committee with ideas. Mr. Forbes asks if the group could think about discussing best practices at other institutions for housing.

8. INVOLVEMENT OF EOLO

Councillor Fleury asks Mr. Dickie to speak to this item. Mr. Dickie indicates that he/EOLO was selected to be the Landlord-at-large representative only because other applicants had not come forward. Under the current Terms of Reference, the landlord

representative is supposed to be a rental property owner in Sandy Hill. He is requesting that EOLO become a permanent member. Councillor Fleury agrees, and consensus is achieved on this point. Subsequently, modifications will be made to the Terms of Reference to reflect this.

9. WELCOME WEEK VERBAL UPDATE

Councillor Fleury speaks to the successful Zero Tolerance Weekends which took place with OPS. By-law Services have noticed a year-over-year decrease in call volumes for noise for this time of year.

Councillor Fleury also speaks to the Quality Control measures which he has put in place to ensure that proper follow-up is being done on noise complaints.

10. PANDA GAME / GREEK OLYMPICS

Councillor Fleury is following-up with the Greek Council of the University of Ottawa concerning the Greek Olympics (which took place in Strathcona Park). The committee further indicates that the Panda Game in early October was rather uneventful in the community, with limited noise impacts.

11. OTHER

Proposed meeting dates for 2014 will be sent out to Committee members for their input.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting is adjourned at 6:30pm.