



**Board Committee Meeting
Réunion du Conseil**

Monday, April 28, 2014 Lundi le 28 avril 2014
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM 18h00 à 21h00
Sandy Hill Community Centre Centre communautaire Côte-de-Sable

Minutes / Procès verbal

Present/Présents:

Eric Audet, Sophie Beecher, Christopher Collmorgen, Robert Forbes, Jane Gurr, Alice Kwong, Yves LeBouthillier, Chad Rollins, Kyle Simunovic, John Verbaas, Suneeta Millington

Regrets/Absents:

Christopher Hynes, Sally Southey

#	Item / Sujet	Action
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In camera:

The Board held a one-hour in camera session to discuss fundraising donations, the upcoming Viner application at the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB), and the University of Ottawa's Request for Information.

Motion: That ASH strike a committee to oversee its intervention at the forthcoming OMB hearing on the Viner project, and that we ask François Bregha to head it, and come back with terms of reference within 10 days by email.

01 Welcome/Bienvenue

At 7:05 pm the meeting was called to order. Bob welcomed Board Members and the residents in attendance. Board Members and residents introduced themselves in a tour de table. Bob noted that this was Christopher's last board meeting as President. Our next meeting would be the AGM.

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| 02 | Review and Approval of Agenda/Lecture et adoption de l'ordre du jour | Decision |
| | The agenda was approved. The proposition was moved by Kyle and seconded by Jane to approve the agenda with no amendment (carried). | |
| 03 | Review and Approval of Minutes (March)
Lecture et adoption du compte-rendu de la réunion (mars) | Decision |
| | Christopher moved and Suneeta seconded that the minutes of the March meeting be approved (carried). | |
| 04 | Councillor's Report/Rapport du Conseiller (Mathieu Fleury) | Information |
| | Mathieu indicated that there were two meetings he attended last week that he wanted to come back to: | |
| | <p>1) The feasibility study for the tunnel - There are differences of opinion on the timeframe as to when the study will be completed. The intent / scope of the feasibility study is a concern and Mathieu wants to make sure that ASH can have some input on this issue. There are questions such as: is it more than just trucks, should we consider tolls?</p> <p>2) The other meeting was with Judy, Sally and Claire, members of the By-law and Environment Committee. The objective was to examine where we are at, what are the challenges we face, what strategies have been put in place, and what files are in need of work. The current system is reactive but we want to change it to be proactive. As a start, this summer the City will have staff working on solid waste collection and not just responding to calls but in a proactive fashion.</p> | |
| | Mathieu also indicated that the "move out strategy" (for students) was going well so far. He toured the neighbourhood and felt that the situation was better than in previous years. He invited everyone to report solid waste that is left on the side of the road, the City will pick it up and charge a fee to the owner. Mathieu mentioned that street sweeping is in full gear, late spring has delayed line painting but it is coming shortly. | |
| 05 | Questions from the Floor/questions du public | Information |
| | Q: Has the City hired a planner for the potential appeal by Viner at the OMB? | |
| | A: Not that he knows of yet. It is still in discussion at the City. However, he can confirm that Viner has made an appeal to the OMB. | |

Q: Any news on pedestrian bridge over the Rideau River?

A: Some trees have been cut in preparation for the bridge and others because of the Emerald Ash Borer infestation. The construction will start this with pillars placed in the water but the platform likely to be built next summer. It will be a pedestrian and a cycling bridge.

Q: We have made some progress regarding the moving out and solid waste issues, the neighborhood looks better but there are some properties that never seem to clean up. Can we work with the City on these absentee landlord properties?

A: Yes, he will see what we can do. Maybe he will do a walkabout with them and flag key addresses.

Q: When already responding to a situation on a site, could By-law officers take a few additional minutes to look at receptacles missing for trash and recycling and could the City force owners to get them?

A: Part of the challenge is that officers are on shift work and assigned city-wide.

Q: The Lees avenue overpass is in bad shape, will they improve the road condition?

A: We have sent crews but they don't seem to be able to have the asphalt stick. The bridge comes down this summer for 10 weeks, to be replaced with a new one.

06 Treasurer's Report (Kyle)

Information

Kyle indicated that he was finalizing the financial report in preparation for the AGM. As of 31 March 2014, the ASH accounts had:

-Chequing account: \$14,930.28 (deposit of \$6,750 for Save Sandy Hill on 25 March 2014)

-Savings account: \$6,819.46

Kyle indicated that he will sit down with the new treasurer after the AGM to complete the handover.

07 Community Relations/Rapports avec la collectivité

Information

-Block Representative Update (Cathy Major)

Posters have been distributed to Block Reps for the fundraising dance, the spring clean-up, and the AGM. Block Reps are also going door to door soliciting funds. Bob underlined the appreciation for the Block Reps by all Board Members and members of the community.

-Sandy Hill Map (Larry Newman)

Larry presented the result of many hours of research and efforts by Eiko and himself, a map of Sandy Hill showing licensed rooming houses, student-occupied houses and current conversions. Larry indicated that

census data are not helpful in building the map because most students have left the neighborhood by the time the census is done (around April or May) and even if they were here, they usually give their parent's address. A lot of information came from volunteers. The map is not 100% accurate, there are areas for which no data was found (little data north of Laurier). People move in and out, it's a very fluid situation. Apartment buildings are not included in the project. Larry asked the Board what would be the best use for this map, he suggested that a committee be set up and look into it.

Bob will follow up with Larry after the meeting. Maybe it will be presented at the next Town and Gown, in the first week of June.

Comments on the map by those present:

- This exercise was initiated because there are no data from the City. This is an attempt to show the situation. In the absence of any other data there is real value even if not completely accurate.
- I was concerned with rooming houses and their safety. We have so many unlicensed rooming houses, and some look like they can be a fire hazard.
- It is not only the number of rooming houses that is a preoccupation but how many students are living in SH. This is why I suggest that the map include apartments.
- If possible, the map should have the same definitions as those found in the by-laws.
- This is a lot of work. The visual impact is strong. Despite the limitations in terms of accuracy, it still can create a narrative.
- We have to be cautious on how we use it. Diversity and student well-being should remain part of our message. We are not against a particular demographic group but we wish to preserve the diversity.

-Updates on the Paint the Streets Initiative, the Chapel Street Splash Pad Park Cleaning and the Park Revitalization (Suneeta)

Chapel Street Splash Pad: the state of the infrastructure and the cleanliness are of concern, Suneeta raised both issues with the City with the assistance of Mathieu's office. There is a lot of dog waste, which is particularly problematic for small children. The fence and garbage receptacles need to be improved. The City will put a bigger sign indicating that dogs are not allowed. This issue is also indicative of the lack of places for dogs to go, there is no dog run. It's a need that exists in the neighborhood.

The visioning exercise is finished: Suneeta spoke with Renee Croteau from Park Planning who indicated that any funding for changes in the park would need to come privately. There is no money from the City until 2018 at the earliest. Based on the feedback we received we estimate that any undertaking would cost around \$50 000 to \$70 000. Therefore there is no project on the agenda for the next year, first there

is a need to find funds, perhaps from a philanthropist or a corporate group. Suneeta will come back to the Board at the end of the summer with the updated proposals.

It was noted that the BIA may have some money for the community, Suneeta may wish to follow-up. Also to keep in mind, any development with section 37 may provide money.

Paint the street: The project proposal was short listed. The City has asked for a revised proposal which was provided last night. Suneeta thanked Mathieu's office again for their assistance. There will be four schools in Lower Town sending approximately 80 children who will do the painting. There was a question as to whether the event should be merged with the ASH BBQ as both are to be held around the same time. Unfortunately, the project doesn't lend itself well with a community BBQ event.

08 Committee Reports / Rapports des comités

Information

08.a Communications, Membership and Outreach (Sub-committee: Fundraising)/Communication, membres et engagement de la communauté (Sous-comité : Levée de fonds)

-Fundraising / May 10th 'Stepping Out', request for advance money to cover up-front expenses and cash floats (Jane)

Jane provided an update on the May 10th fundraising dance. Tickets sales are going well and the committee is convinced that it will be a successful event.

-Membership drive following the fall petition (Jane)

This membership drive came as a follow-up to the fall petition that was signed by over 1000 residents. It was decided that we would contact those who were not ASH members and canvass them once. The work is done, 175 letters have been sent.

08.b Planning, Development and Transportation/Urbanisme et transport (Sous-comités : Zonage et aménagements intercalaires résidentiels; Revue des demandes d'aménagements; Patrimoine)

Information

-Planning Committee Update (Chad)

1. Planning Committee Overall:

- a) Uptown Rideau Community Design Plan (URCDP):
 - i. Melanie Knight, the planner responsible, attended our last planning committee meeting
 - ii. Melanie will have a table at the AGM to talk to residents about this review and will also attend our May board meeting to give us an update on progress
 - iii. Deadline for completing the questionnaire has been extended, if you haven't done so yet please go to Ottawa.ca/uptownrideau and complete the questionnaire

2. Planning and Development (DARC)

- a) 85 Range Rd – new building construction proceeding
- b) 45 Mann – was approved by Planning Committee on 22 April 2014
 - i. Our Councillor requested that the proposal be reviewed by the Urban Design Review Panel, that will be this Thursday, 1 May at 10:00 AM at City Hall
 - ii. Discussions are ongoing between the developer and the City about including provisions related to 24/7 onsite supervision, patio and rooftop terrace hours, trees, etc.
- c) 202 Henderson – site plan control application is pending
 - i. ASH submitted a letter arguing that a re-zoning application is needed
 - ii. The City has indicated they will review and advise this week
- d) 323 Somerset – new minor variance application submitted
 - i. Since the only change from previous application is the use of the proposed building, ASH will submit essentially the same letter of opposition as last time.
- e) 275 Laurier / Viner Proposal:

Decision

Motion:

That ASH strikes a committee to oversee its intervention at the forthcoming OMB hearing on the Viner proposal, and that we ask François Bregha to chair the committee, and come back with terms of reference as soon as possible by email. Chad proposed and Kyle seconded, all voters in favour (carried).

3. Infill/Zoning/Conversions (Planning studies):

- a) Infill Phase2 – the Federation of Community Associations will have a committee working on this matter, Chad Rollins will represent ASH

It was noted that the Control By-law and Zoning Study moratorium has been lifted after the approval by City of the new Infill 1 – round of applause.

- b) Omnibus Zoning Review – 40 plus possible zoning changes in the works to implement the new Official Plan

4. Transportation :

- a) Meeting with Mayor on Truck Tunnel Study was on 21 April 2014

-Special Housing Committee (SHC) Report (Bob)

The Special Housing Committee did not meet as we are waiting for the University to make the announcement regarding the RFI. However, we have been told that an announcement is imminent.

Henderson residence; we heard from Michel Guilbeau that they made cosmetic changes; we expected more than cosmetic changes. The University sees it as being on campus, we do not. The City needs to define clearly the boundaries of what constitutes campus. The City's position is that Henderson where the University is constitutes institutional zoning. Three houses on Henderson were bought by the University. There is a risk of more institutional buildings being constructed.

Mathieu Fleury indicated that the University has expropriation rights.

08.c By-laws and Environment/Arrêtés municipaux et environnement

Information

Spring Clean-up 2014 (Alice)

The clean-up of Strathcona Park and neighbourhood streets are to be done on Saturday, May 3rd. Volunteers for cleaning the park are to meet in the parking lot off of Somerset Street East for 1:00 p.m. Bring work gloves. Trash and yard waste bags will be provided. High school students can use the activity to earn volunteer hours. The cleaning of the Chapel Street Splash Pad is being conducted by the City due to the amount of work needed. The clean-up for Sandy Hill Park will be conducted by the Girl Scouts during one of their weekly Monday gatherings. Meeting attendees are asked to spread the news of this event. Please take some posters and help advertise the event. They are located on the corner table.

-Removal of Ice Breaker Boom from the Rideau River (Alice)

Question to the City: Is the ice boom (linked metal poles that lie in the Rideau River, south of the rapids) still being used at this location? If not, then will the City be able to remove them? Perhaps this can be done at the same time as the construction of the new footbridge, when heavy equipment will already be in use. The removal of the boom will improve the look of the shoreline for the boom lies there all summer long looking like industrial scrap.

-Mathieu Fleury indicated that he would look into this question and get back to the Board.

Trees at the Fire Station (Alice)

Question: Will new trees be planted to replace the ash trees that were removed from the fire station property last year?

-Yes the policy is one tree planted for one tree cut.

Update from the By-Law Committee (Sally)

Sally was unable to attend the meeting, she extended her apologies for this unforeseen absence. Below is an update from the By-Law Committee that she asked be relayed to the group.

On Thursday April 24th, members of the by-law committee met with representatives of Service Ottawa, City Police, By-law and regulatory services, Mathieu Fleury and Nathaniel Mullins to discuss how to improve by-law enforcement in Sandy Hill. City Officials believe that they have responded to the high volume of complaints from Sandy Hill and are vigilant about their efforts to enforce noise and garbage issues. They do not feel they can be more proactive although are hoping to hire students this summer to work in both SH and Centertown on a proactive basis. They will be meeting with union representatives this week to seek approval for this activity.

All complaints should be filed through the on-line service or by calling 311. Emails to 311@ottawa.ca will not be addressed in a timely fashion.

In a follow-up email it was suggested that owners of problem properties be informed by letter about their obligations. Unfortunately there is not a demerit like system and each complaint has to be handled individually.

When asked about numbers been flagged not to be responded to by 311 or by-law services, staff said that the only time numbers or addresses were flagged were when there were safety issues or too many unfounded complaints were filed from the same phone number. Staff said they would get back to us about issues around La Maison and the fact that residents do not feel their calls are adequately being responded to.

Many thanks to François Bregha for taking the lead on Cleaning the Capital next weekend and to Claire MacDonald and Jane Mcnamara for launching the Butt Stops Here campaign which board members are encouraged to share with colleagues throughout the city.

Claire MacDonald added the following regarding 311: it is important for neighbors to continue to let ASH know about their complaints whether they are reporting by phone or by using the on-line Service Ottawa. Service Ottawa has limitations when reporting at this time and development of it is still continuing. By including ASH in the loop we ensure a broader picture of the issues affecting the neighborhood. That overall picture helps us address issues at their base for longer term solutions. ASH's involvement is key.

08.d Governance/Gouvernance (Yves)

Information

Public Responses to the Proposed Governance Policy (Yves)

At the last meeting, the Board approved the conflict of interest policy, its guidelines and the proposed amendments to the By-law. They were subsequently posted for comments. The Board received a few comments, one resident provided excellent feedback. Many of his suggestions are technical in nature but some raised very good questions regarding confidentiality.

Where do we go from here? A motion will be brought at the AGM to approve the new guidelines/policy/By-law amendments. A few minor changes will be made shortly and everything will be put on the website ahead of the AGM.

Proxy Vote (Yves)

The suggestion is to have a proxy vote form on the website ahead of the AGM. Eric and Yves will prepare the form.

The following motion was moved by Chad and seconded by Yves: to stop selling family membership as an interim solution until the Board can look more closely into membership fees. All in favour (carried).

08.e Town & Gown/Ville et Toge

No update this month.

09 Special Events/Évènements spéciaux

-AGM Sub-Committee (Eric)

Eric indicated that the 2013 AGM Minutes had been posted. Final touches are being made to the Annual Report. It is difficult to assess whether a vote by ballots will be required but so far only one person has indicated his interest in joining the Board. Eric indicated that the Volunteer of the Year should be chosen very soon in order to have enough time to get the plaque.

The following motion was moved by Eric and seconded by Yves: that the Board approve incurring expenses of up to \$500 to defray the costs of an ad in Image, printing, the Volunteer of the Year plaque and hospitality related to the AGM. All in favour (carried).

10 Future Meetings / Prochaines reunions

Information

- The AGM is on May 15th.
- The next Monthly Board Meeting will be on May 26th (with a presentation by Melanie Knight on the Review of the Uptown Rideau Community Design Plan).

11 Adjournment / Fin de la session

Kyle moved and Chad seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:23.
