

Action Sandy Hill
Meeting of the Board of Directors
September 28, 2015
Sandy Hill Community Centre

Board members present: Chad Rollins, Susan Young, Sally Southey, Ben Belisle, Jeremy Silburt, John Verbass, Denis Forget, Marc Tremblay, and Judy Rinfret

Regrets: Ian Anderson, Willow Scobie, Pat Archer, Bob Forbes and Brian Murphy

Others attending: Councillor Fleury and assistant Nathaniel Mullin, Larry Newman(reporter), Alex Robinson (reporter), Christine Aubrey

In the absence of Ian, who was thanked for his excellent note taking, Judy agreed to act as secretary. President Chad chaired the meeting.

2. The agenda was slightly augmented by a few small items and was unanimously approved on a motion by Ben seconded by Susan.

3. The minutes of the August 31 meeting were approved with a small amendment for item 2 b) to indicate that Sally questioned the Uptown Rideau Community Design Plan, not 560 Rideau. Minutes approved as moved by Denis and seconded by Ben.

The in camera minutes of September 16 require more changes so approval will be postponed and in no case will those minutes be posted on the public web site.

4. Councillor's Report

2016 Budget discussions for wards 12 and 13 will take place at the St. Laurent complex on October 7th between 6 and 8 p.m.

Pedestrian Bridge - Bar B Q event October 21 (5 - 7 p.m.) in Strathcona Park. Adult play structures may be installed next spring. The concrete ping pong table is being ordered and location must be decided by October 1. Office will liaise with Jeremy.

Arts Court - blasting on the site is being monitored as is that of light rail tunnel. All residences within a certain radius have been filmed to track possible damages.

UofO walkabout - 100 students helped deliver info packages to 250 doors.

Zero noise tolerance - 2 week end blitzes (one night 12 tickets were issued @\$400.) next blitz is Panda weekend - October 3 and 4.

all noise complaints result in fines or reports

Community Design Plan - comments will be received until October 8 and will be reviewed one by one. Councillor, ASH, and staff will meet one week before to promote one or two changes.

Trees on city property cut down at Chapel and Rideau by developer who has no approval for plans on that site - Councillor's office "is continuing to research" how and why.

Rooming House issues - Councillors of the three wards most affected are trying to "fast track" this study but taxi issues are dominant now. After some discussion it was more or less agreed that the issue might better be described as "rental property" for registry and

regular inspections etc - a new by law is needed, or the current by-law needs to be expanded. Sally reported from the by law enforcement committee that enforcement cannot be carried out when planning department has not set out proper provisions for garbage storage etc. Jeremy said the number and location of garbage containers should correspond to the number of occupants and not just the number of units in a building. Councillor said "site plan lite" applies to any residence over 3 units.

Jeremy said other cities define "student housing" and create by laws for that use - same should apply in Ottawa.

R4 and our Secondary Plan are both on the planning department's agenda in 2016.

Chapel and Beausoleil opening as requested by Trinity developments "is not an option".

On behalf of ASH, John is attending a meeting this week.

Coach house or granny flat conversions are being considered to encourage more density. City planner is Emily Davies.

Susan asked about numbered and flagged trees behind Homestead apartment development on Range Road; Councillor's office will investigate.

5. a) Complete Streets - cf letter prepared by John (sent by email earlier) which emphasizes need to get rid of downtown truck route, safety for pedestrians at intersections, better cycling and pedestrian safety on Somerset East (especially once bridge is functional) and better traffic control on cut through streets - Range, Mann and Chapel. Moved by John seconded by Susan that ASH sign the letter - agreed unanimously.

b) Cleaning Capital - François Bregha had reported that with the help of 20 students from the Friel Residence our area was well served.

c) Federal Election Debate will be held at Sandy Hill Community Centre on October 8 at 7:00 p.m. Previous info had listed Le Patro as locale - Chad will ensure this is changed on our website and advise the Citizen.

d) Ward Council - September 30. Let Chad know of ward wide issues which now include need to improve Montreal/Rideau corridor, a public square in Vanier, improvements to the Byward Market, support for Prime Minister's Row and more trees and greening.

John urged support for 40 kmh limit in downtown communities, starting with ours.

Susan noted need for bike underpass on east end of Cummings Bridge and others mentioned need to better integrate bike routes with roadways.

6. Susan reported that the block reps met last week; 7 attended. Information was shared on trees, the walkabout, the EOLO noise website, the garage sale and park clean up. Another meeting will be held soon - so far there has not been much interest among the 33 representatives.

7. There has not been a meeting of the executive committee

8. Pat had submitted the financial report earlier via email

9. Committee Reports

a) Bylaw enforcement - Sally hosted a productive meeting with members of her committee and city by law officers: Scott Campbell, Derek Petch, Jake Gravelle and André

LaPlante. Claire MacDonald has compiled and sent a list of back log files (some from 2013) for action at last.

The planning branch needs to be more aware of what the enforcement problems are as a result of what that department approves.

b) Communications and Membership - Denis said there was nothing to report but the "electronic on line" is not going well. Jeremy had nothing to report re communications.

c) U of Ottawa engagement - Bob has sent an email report

d) Governance - nothing new

e) Heritage - UofO properties will be considered as part of the cultural heritage district which is supported by ASH and Councillors Nussbaum and Fleury and draft report from city's heritage department. Ben and Judy will meet to discuss other heritage applications.

Fix Me Up website about derelict and vacant properties:

<https://sites.google.com/site/fixmeupward12/alternatives>

f) Planning and Transportation - Judy has sent Planning Report via email. John mentioned that the development proposal for the Metro site on downtown Rideau has changed and now appears to be three 26 storey towers to house a hotel and large rental apartments.

Judy will liaise with Lowertown Community planning director.

Questions from others attending;

Christine asked about ASH direction for community events. Chad explained that there is no dedicated events director on the Board but ASH does support community events. The next one is November 15 - One and Only Craft Fair and lunch. Volunteers will be needed in the kitchen.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

ASH Planning Committee Report September 2015

1. 560 Rideau Street - application to rezone and amend OP by Richcraft including a 14 storey tower despite valiant lobbying efforts by Francois, Veronica, Sally, Peter, Brian and Judy and support from Councillors Nussbaum, Lieper and Fleury, and excellent counter info by Sally, Francois, Jon Legg, Brian, Thierry Harris and Judy at the meeting, the city's planning committee accepted the staff recommendation to approve the application.

Since then there have been many meetings among immediate neighbours and Chad, Francois, Sally, J, Brian and Thierry Harris (Lowertown).

petition circulated and signed by well over 600 - submitted to councillor. Special thanks to Claire MacDonald, Lena Creedy and Bob Forbes

Though defeat was ASH preference, Councillor committed to motion to defer which was not successful. (And sadly the hard won petition was not used by councillor to support our cause.)

ASH has now officially appealed both the amendment and the OP and the rezoning.

2. 51 Sweetland - Committee of Adjustment application to change front facade of a heritage building and to regularize three units on too narrow lot. A very intense exchange between immediate neighbours and owner. Owner promised to make certain set back and landscaping concessions to accommodate some of those concerns. Committee accepted compromise but next door neighbour may have filed an appeal.

3. 222 Stewart - Larry and Chad attended OMB hearing and were listened to with respect but a fourth unit was permitted mainly because the city has changed parking requirements so none are now required in this case (two were already provided and could therefore be seen as amenity space) and because the owner threatened to turn the ground floor unit into an 8 bedroom unit. This is the way intentions can be distorted and something to consider for future applications of this nature.

4. 326 Wilbord - signs that owner building fourth storey without a permit. City has issued orders and is monitoring but wants immediate notice if work resumes. Call 311.

5. application to rebuild a heritage property on Daly west of King Edward was turned down - both ASH planning committee and heritage committee discussed and were opposed. ASH submitted a letter to the Heritage Review Committee which was very effective. Councillor also opposed.

6. Trinity proposal for former Jewish Community site. John has written strong opposition to the proposed vehicular opening at Beausoleil and Chapel. Judy and Chad attended the OMB prehearing and ASH will be a party to the appeal as will the Lowertown Community Association - that appeal has been given priority scheduling and will be heard during the last two weeks of March 2016. The city will hear the development application in November 2015, whether or not the Uptown Rideau Street Community Design Plan has been finalized. Meanwhile John has attended a meeting with city planning staff and developer and others to assess opening the intersection.

7. Uptown Rideau Community Design Plan - after final working group meeting, one and only public meeting was held last week. The meeting was well attended. City staff were frequently on the defensive as frustration and more were voiced by many who wonder if the proposed URCDP will be any more effective than the one we have now. ASH has expressed strong opposition to any provision for "density transfer" in character area A and has asked that provisions for density transfer in all the areas be consistent and strictly adhered to.