



Minutes of the ASH Board of Directors

Monday, September 26., 2016

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Present from the Board: Chad Rollins, Bob Forbes, Susan Young, Larry Newman, John Verbaas, Ralph Blaine, Kelly McRae, Pat Archer, Judith Rinfret, Sally Southey, Jeremy Silbert

Emeline Sparks from Councillor Mathieu Fleury's office was present

1 Introductions were made

2 Review and Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved on a motion from Judith/Kelly

3 Approval of The minutes of August 29, 2016

The minutes were approved on a motion from Jeremy/Sue

4 Councillor's Report

The report from the Councillor as submitted by Emeline Sparks is attached. In addition to this written report Emeline made the following comments:

- Future sites for the greening project along Somerset are being explored.
- The new Mann Ave. residence will have 24 hour surveillance.
- Council approved proceeding with an environmental study of the new truck tunnel proposal
- *Emeline will look into Site Plan agreements to plant trees on east side of 45 and 87 Mann*
- *Marc Beaudoin is the new bylaw officer assigned to Sandy Hill - property standards*
- *Emeline will report back on the possibility of large four unit buildings using alternate garbage pickup using the large bins*
- *Emeline will also investigate reports that fines assessed for noise violations have been cut in half when violators go to pay.*

5 Reports and Updates

a Block Representatives Report

Jan noted the Strathcona park cleaning event this Saturday. She also expressed misgivings about the effectiveness of the Block Rep system as it is currently set up.

- *It was agreed to await the report of the membership committee before reviewing the operation of the block rep set up.*



b Executive Report

Chad reported that at its meeting of September 12th the executive decided:

- To try out rotating the chair at Board Meetings
- the agenda for the Retreat
- to allocate \$205 for the Ayoub party
- to allocate up to \$300 for the Retreat
- to allocate up to \$500 for the ASH share of the Heritage Forum expenses
- that a call for feedback on the Gazebo proposal would be in the forthcoming bulletin

He also mentioned that the Safe Injection Site survey will go out in the next bulletin.

c Treasurer's Report

Pat reported the following balances as of August 31st:

Checking	\$16,179.44
Homestead	\$26,473.55
Save Sandy Hill	\$ 9,163.55

d Committee Reports

i By Law enforcement

See attached emails from Sally. Sally reported on mixed results with the policy of zero tolerance on noise complaints in the first weeks of the school year and the need for a fine for first offences. Emeline confirmed that Marc Beaudoin has been assigned to work on enforcement of Property Standards bylaws in Sandy Hill. Derek Petch will continue with previous cases.

ii Communications and Membership

Jeremy reported on the discussion held at the Retreat which led to the motion below:

Motion 5.1(9/16) that a committee composed of Chad, Bob, Jeremy and Pat be struck to make recommendations at the November 28, 2016 meeting of the Board on:

- Managing the membership list
- Assuring on-line methods of joining ASH and paying membership dues
- increasing membership

(Jeremy/ Ralph) Carried



As for the first two of the three tasks above it was agreed that the committee would investigate three options: doing the work in-house, buying a package or going to tender for a custom designed package.

Jeremy also reported that the ping pong table is ready for shipping and should arrive within a few weeks. He also noted that our current insurance policy will be sufficient to cover use of the table.

Bob noted that the Bulletin to members will be going out soon.

iii **Engagement with the University**

Bob reported lots of enthusiastic participation at the most recent Walkabout but noted that in roughly 50% of the problem addresses no one was home to receive the delegation. Emeline reported that she had gone back to some of these missed addresses and was able to catch people in at 4 or 5 of them.

Bob expressed the importance of getting a report from our councillor on the Rooming House issue at the next Town and Gown meeting.

It was agreed that ASH should request a meeting with the new University President. Some preparation needs to be done before this meeting to ensure we have clear talking points. The issues of a Constabulary status for Campus Police and an Off-Campus Code of Conduct were underlined.

iv **Governance**

Chad noted that the ASH bylaws have been brought up to date and the current version is now displayed on our website. We also have a complete set of Board minutes on the website with the exception of May 2015. *Chad will contact Brian Murphy about the May 2015 minutes.*

v **Heritage**

Larry reported that Heritage Forum will take place on October 15th, and will feature a tour starting at 11:45AM. He noted the need for volunteers to help set up for the meeting.

vi **Transportation**

John's written update on the truck tunnel issue is attached. John noted that ASH has still not received feedback on our suggestions for the Somerset Bike Lane. *Emeline will look into why the parking spots across from the Community Centre were not eliminated.*



vii. Planning

Judith's written report is attached.

Judith also noted that she and Kelly will write a report to the Board containing suggestions for the OMB reform consultations.

Motion 5.2 (9/16) that further discussion of the OMB appeal of 560 Rideau be tabled until all other business has been completed. (Chad/Sue) - Carried

Judith reported that we had missed the deadline for objecting to the rear yard setback for the building proposed at 122 Daly.

6 Old Business

a Somerset Liability Agreement

Chad reported that this agreement was successfully negotiated with the city and is now signed.

b Conflict of Interest Forms

Chad will transfer these forms to the Secretary.

7 New Business

a Garage Sale

Cathy Major reported that the sale went well this year and her committee expects to organize it again next year.

b Proposals from The Retreat

Motion 7.1 (9/16) that the following text be adopted as the Action Sandy Hill Mission Statement:

Action Sandy Hill's mission is to promote and preserve Sandy Hill as an historic, diverse and green community within a vibrant neighbourhood welcoming people of all ages, cultures and incomes.

(Ralph/Sally) Carried

Chad expressed his opinion that ASH also needed a vision statement and wished to express his opposition to the adoption of a mission statement without an accompanying vision statement.



It was agreed to table adoption of a motion expressing the ASH strategy on unlicensed rooming houses until the October meeting of the Board.

8 Date of Next Meeting

The regularly scheduled date of the October Board meeting falls on Halloween

Motion 8.1 (9/16) that the next meeting of the Board be held on November 2, 2016.
(Ralph/Kelly) Carried

5 d (vii) Planning (Continued)

Motion 5.3 (9/16) that the Board move in camera. (Sally/Ralph) - Carried

Motion 5.4 (9/16) that the Board move out of camera. (Bob/Kelly) - Carried

Motion 5.5 (9/16) that ASH fund the OMB appeal on 560 Rideau with the balance of the Save Sandy Hill Fund (\$9163) and ASH will match future contributions from the community up to a maximum of \$6000. (Bob/Pat)

Carried with one vote against

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 PM



COUNCILLOR'S REPLY TO ASH QUESTIONS

Here are our questions for this month:

1) Follow up to large number of noise complaints for about 20 addresses in the neighbourhood this month - how many fines have been levied, what other actions are being taken, what is being done about the zero tolerance rules not being followed?

Bylaw is currently reviewing all service requests to create the most up-to-date list of high complaint addresses for our staff to utilize. September 1 to 25 has seen 31 charges being issued and a number more pending witness statements. Property owners are also being notified of all requests for service at their premises. Zero tolerance has and continues to be directive staff are following in all substantiated complaints.

2) Proactive controls for the Panda game, October 1.

We will have additional patrols for both afternoon and evening.

3) Update on rat control.

Under Property Standards individual property owners can be ordered to eliminate vermin when found during a property standards inspection. Bylaw Services and Ottawa Public Health do not undertake any proactive abatement.

4) We would like to hear if you can support us in an ask for a Property Standards blitz in Sandy Hill. There are too many problem properties with respect to garbage storage.

A new Property Standards Officer has been dedicated to Sandy Hill. Our office is able to work with ASH to address properties of concern.

5) Update on Ward Council discussions re big garbage bins for 4 unit buildings in Sandy Hill. Property owners would pay for service, would lessen messiness around 10+ bins at the back of many bunkhouses.



The Property Standards by-law only requires that garbage be contained it does not permit Bylaw Services to mandate private commercial service. Scott Campbell has discussed with Andre Laplante to determine if Solid Waste has larger containers it can mandate and they are unable to provide larger than current and cannot mandate private commercial service for many of these properties.

6) Could you voice your support for ASH advocating with uOttawa that it ask the province to be granted some bylaw powers to its campus police, so they can also be patrolling the neighbourhood.

Our office would be happy to support this initiative.



REPORT FROM SALLY SOUTHEY ON BY LAW ENFORCEMENT

Email Sept 9

On Friday September 9th members of the By-Law Committee met with Scott Campbell, one of the City's By-Law management team.

Earlier this summer we learned that our Ward no longer had dedicated By-Law enforcement officers. Scott explained that due to the high volume of complaints city-wide and decreased resources they have embarked on a pilot project to try and deal with complaints more effectively.

For Property Standards issues, the City has been divided into 3 sections. SH is one of 6 wards being looked after by 6 officers, however only 3 or 4 are currently on duty, due to sickness etc.

All other By-laws are being handled by 4 teams working shifts.

The list compiled by Claire and submitted to Derek Petch will continue to be dealt with by him, when he returns from sick-leave. All new complaints must go through 311.

We have asked Scott to provide us with the number and total amount of fines levied in Sandy Hill during the last few months. **Susan please include this as a question for Fleury for the Sept meeting.**



We learned that Fleury has been working with Jake Gravell, another City By-Law manager to amend the waste and debris or maintenance by-law to allow for immediate compliance rather than giving property owners 7 days to comply. **Susan please include the following for Fleury...We understand that you have been working with City Officials to amend the property maintenance by-law. This is a welcome initiative. How quickly can this be amended? Please elaborate on your efforts with by-law?**

There was much discussion about how bunk house garbage could and should be dealt with. For Fluery **What can the City to demand that properties with excessive amounts of garbage pay for additional pick-up? we understand that the new site-plan requirement will deal with future buildings, what are you doing to enforce existing bunk house garbage storage and recycle bins comply with by-law?**

We were told that both police and by-law would be out patrolling this weekend until 4 am and that they will act proactively to shut down parties and enforce noise by-laws. There will be zero tolerance and fines will be levied. We encouraged Scott to insist that if several units in a building are creating noise that each unit be slapped with a fine. For Fleury: **We are pleased that police and by-law acted proactively the weekend of Sept 9, 10 and 11, how many fines were levied during this blitz?**



The review of property standards and noise by-laws has been on Council's agenda for some time but has been bumped.

When will the noise and property standards by-laws be reviewed by Council?

A number of problem addresses were mentioned during the meeting and Scott undertook to have them dealt with. This includes the front yard garbage storage across from Francojeunes.

Jan followed up after the meeting to ask Fleury about the garbage storage at Ottawa Housing. **When will the garbage storage doors be fixed and always closed at the Community Living facility at the corner of Nelson and Somerset?**

Please share this summary with your neighbours who have been complaining.

If others who attended the meeting have any other comments, please add.



LETTER DRAFTED BY JOHN ON TUNNEL STUDY

2 September 2016

City of Ottawa Transportation Committee
c/o Rosemary Theriault (Committee coordinator)

Re: Truck Tunnel Feasibility Study

To Whom It May Concern: Overview:

Action Sandy Hill (ASH) is writing to provide our comments on the recently released Truck Tunnel Feasibility Study. We are encouraged that the Study has concluded that a tunnel to divert 1700 trucks and up to 25,000 cars per day from downtown streets is technically feasible. We believe that, with this new data, decision makers at the municipal, provincial, and federal levels now have the background information necessary to move forward swiftly towards the implementation of a solution to the downtown Ottawa Interprovincial Truck problem.

Context:

We believe it is important to take the opportunity afforded by this item rising before Committee and Council to underscore once again the magnitude of this interprovincial truck problem and the need to take leadership towards a solution.

The Study has confirmed that during the peak periods of the day truck traffic reaches 200 trucks per hour. That rate translates to one truck passing through the critical Waller, Rideau, King Edward corridor every 18 seconds with the majority of these being tractor trailers. The daily rate, confirmed as 2600 trucks, translates into a total truck volume of 750,000 trucks per year. This problem is only going to worsen as the National Capital Region continues to grow.

These trucks make tight turns through several downtown intersections with pedestrian volumes of 5,000 to 10,000 pedestrians per day. This is a problem that has to be solved and in our opinion is the biggest unresolved urban planning issue in the National Capital Region. It is arguably the most serious instance of a downtown truck problem in Canada (apart from Windsor where the provincial and federal governments are spending a combined 5B\$ to solve that problem). This situation has been ongoing in Ottawa for 50 years and several previous initiatives to solve this problem (Vanier Parkway extension, Kettle Island bridge) have failed to garner sufficient public support.

Action:



With the release of this Tunnel Feasibility Study the time to act is now and our community is looking for the kind of leadership at the municipal level that can drive towards achieving the necessary consensus with upper levels of government as well as the all important social consensus needed to turn a proposed solution into a reality.

Concerns/Requests:

With our support then, for moving forward to further discussion of next steps between the Mayor and senior levels of government as proposed in the Staff Report, we would like to table several concerns which we would like to ensure are addressed:

1. Tunnel impacts under Sandy Hill. We would like to inform you that the preferred alignment for a tunnel has raised some concerns from the many Sandy Hill residents who live above the proposed route. We request then that any next steps planned by the City pay special attention to consulting with Sandy Hill residents and providing the necessary reassurance that a tunnel would not adversely impact buildings and people living above the proposed route. This is particularly important given the abundance of heritage buildings in the area and the presence of sensitive marine clay.
2. Further refinement of truck volumes: We have reason to believe that the Study has under- represented the volumes of trucks that would be diverted from downtown streets and would request that more detailed analysis be undertaken to ensure the accuracy of this number as this is an important criterion in any future benefit-cost analyses. We give 3 reasons for bringing up this point:
 - a) The Study fails to consider how many trucks could be diverted from other bridges (principally the Chaudieres) if a tunnel existed. This is a strange omission considering that such analysis was provided for car traffic.
 - b) Similarly, no estimate was made on how many additional trucks would use the tunnel as a result of future growth. This also is a strange omission considering that such a growth scenario was modelled for growth in car traffic to 2031.



- . c) Finally, the Study concludes that 1/3 of all interprovincial trucks in the downtown are local and would not use the tunnel. There is currently too high a level of confusion over this number and further clarification is required.

- 3. Based on the above, we have good reason to believe that reporting a number of 1700 as the limit of the number of daily trucks that would use the tunnel is not accurate enough for the purposes of the Mayor discussing next steps with other government partners as recommended in the Staff Report.

- 4. No dates for next steps: We are concerned that the report recommendations do not include any commitments for when the Mayor should report back to Council and to our communities on the status of discussions with senior levels of government. Repeated failures to follow through on previous initiatives have been deeply discouraging to our downtown communities. We are concerned about the risks that will continue unabated and consider further delays to be unacceptable.

We are looking to this Committee to make a clear commitment towards a proposed solution and to invest the time and effort that will be required to bring on board all the parties necessary to bring it to fruition.

Best Regards,

Chad Rollins
President, Action Sandy Hill

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Chad Rollins', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.



EMAIL FROM JOHN ON TUNNEL STUDY - SEPT 7

Just to provide some additional detail...the 'next steps as identified in the staff report' is as follows:

REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

That Transportation Committee recommend Council:

1. Receive the Downtown Ottawa (Truck) Tunnel Feasibility Study; and
2. Delegate the authority to the Mayor to contact the Federal and Provincial Governments, on behalf of City Council, to discuss next steps relating to the planning and implementation of a Downtown Ottawa Tunnel, as described in this report.

It is an extremely vaguely worded statement.

If you really don't want a tunnel, this could alarm you because you don't want to make any steps towards implementation.

If you are a cynic then you will be concerned that the net result of this will be nothing because the mayor will have a meeting, a decision will be made to do nothing, and who knows when the subject will ever be re-visited again. That has been the story on this topic of the downtown truck problem now for decades.

I believe all we can do at this point is agree that this report brings forward an important topic with new additional information and that more debate is going to be needed in order to decide what is the right thing to do in Ottawa. That is what we are supporting. On the topic of highlighting that there was a dissenting opinion on the board...is that a precedent that we want to set? That every time ASH writes a position letter or makes a presentation that there will be a need to publically note the FOR & AGAINST vote count at our board meetings? That seems most unusual to me.

I myself struggle with the question of whether 2B\$ of public money should be spent on a project like this. One way I have come to think through this issue is to take note of the following statement that the Gov't of Ontario is making in many of their press releases re. infrastructure spending.... I quote: "The ministry said the government has spent over \$25 billion to design, repair and expand provincial highways and bridges across the province since 2003". That is approaching 2B\$ every year on roads and highways. Then I realize there is nothing wrong with making the case for a project like this one. Ie...to get it 'put on the list' and competing against other road projects to see how it stacks up from a cost-benefit point of view against the others. I see it as doing our 'due diligence'.



ASH - Planning report - September 2016

560 Rideau Street - the OMB hearing is set for November 21 to 25. We are now trying to secure the services of a lawyer and a planner. Sally is organizing fund raising to augment the money in the Save Sandy Hill pot. We have no budget at the moment but we estimate about \$15,000. The injustice of a volunteer community association's obligation to spend this amount at a hearing will be brought up at the OMB reform discussions.

All Saints on Laurier - the development proposal for All Saints will be discussed by any Board members who attend a meeting at All Saints - Sunday October 2 at 2:00 p.m. Chad will chair the meeting.

Ontario Municipal Board - we are encouraged to consider what changes could be made to make the OMB more accountable, palatable and transparent. While most of us realize the necessity of an appeal body, overtime the OMB has become more and more formalized and almost impossibly expensive for community associations. Broad areas under consideration include:

Jurisdiction and powers: this could include what matters can be appealed and who may appeal them, the use of local appeal bodies and how much deference should be given to municipal decisions.

- **Meaningful citizen participation and local perspective:** this could include who has access to hearings, how to ensure the ability of the public to participate, how to ensure that the process is affordable, unrepresented parties and the role of the citizen liaison office.
- **Clear/predictable decision making:** this could include how to ensure fairness, adjudicator education and training and standardized decision format(s)
- **Hearing procedures and practices:** this could include the formality of hearings, how expert evidence is heard and what evidence should be allowed at hearings.



- **Alternative dispute resolution:** this could include the use of mediation or other alternatives to traditional hearings or adversarial procedures as part of the appeal system.

- **Timely processes and decision making:** this could include the timelines for scheduling hearings and the issuing of decisions.

ASH will organize a response and we will be invited to various consultations in October.

404 Daly - the planner assigned to this file is no longer employed at the city so the site plan application has been delayed. A meeting between the councillor's office, TCUnited, the city planner, ASH and neighbours will be organized.

386 Chapel - the minor variance application to allow 4 units at this recently reconstructed residence has been withdrawn. J has been assured by the building inspector that there are only three units in the building, that it is safe for occupancy and that he is continuing to inspect and will definitely ensure that there are no more than three units. This does not address the very serious issues for neighbours - noise from rear yard stairs and balconies, noise from air conditioners and exhaust fumes from dryers.

Egyptian Embassy - ASH is meeting the architect on September 27 to review a proposal to create one building on the two properties at the corner of Range and Laurier.

R4 review - Judy and Kelly are meeting Tim Moreman, city planner, this week to begin discussions.