



Minutes of the ASH Board of Directors

April 24, 2017

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

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

1 Introductions were made

2 Review and Approval of Agenda

The agenda was accepted as amended on a motion from Sally/Ralph

3 Approval of The minutes of March 27, 2019

These minutes will be circulated by Bob and be approved at the May meeting.

4. Councillor's Report (postponed until arrival of Councilor Fleury)

5. Reports and Updates

a Block Representatives Report

Jan's report postponed until the arrival of the Councilor.

b Executive Report

These items will be covered under other point on the agenda

c Treasurer's Report

Pat reported the following:	Checking Account	\$17,199
	Save Sandy Hill	\$ 3,972
	Homestead	\$26,473

Motion 5.1 (4/17) - that an expenditure of \$287.67 be approved for recognition of the Rink Volunteers. (Ralph/Pat) – Carried

Some other tools were purchased from the surplus left over from the City grant for rink maintenance. **Bob suggested that ASH ask at the AGM for volunteers for next year's rink duty**

d Committee Reports

i By Law enforcement



Sally thanked Larry carrying on with the work of the committee in her absence. Larry presented a chart showing the number of bylaw complaints and breaking them down by category and noting the current status of each category. He noted that the total number of complaints not resolved increased by 32 since his report last month.

It was also pointed out that the City has not followed through with its promise to vigorously pursue and repeatedly fine a small group (22) of persistent by-law violators identified by ASH. Mathieu suggested that ASH provide him with a progress report on the resolution of these violations. He will then call a meeting of Bylaw Enforcement staff and ASH to discuss solutions to this problem.

Some concern was expressed about the current city review of bylaws concerning noise.

Larry and Sally presented a document (see attached) designed to be distributed by the ASH by-law committee to property owners in violation of city by-laws. This notice is meant to be a warning prior to formal notification by the city. There was a considerable debate over the advisability of ASH taking this initiative.

Motion 5.2 (4/17) – that the Board authorize the by-law committee to proceed with the notice as circulated. (Pat/Jeremy)

Amendment to the motion: that the notice should be amended to make it clear that it was being distributed by “Action Sandy Hill” (Ralph/Bob) – Carried with one abstention

Vote on the Motion as Amended - Carried – 5 in favour two opposed and one abstention

ii. Communications and Memberhip

Bob reported that this committee has not met since the last Board Meeting. There are plans to send another reminder, prior to the AGM, to ASH members whose memberships have expired. He also noted that the April newsletter has just gone out.

Motion 5.3 (4/17) – that up to \$250 be approved for the purchase of a roll-up banner for ASH. (Jeremy/Bob)- Carried

iii. Engagement with University of Ottawa

Bob reminded the Board of the Town and Gown Conference being held at City Hall May 8-10. Bob will make a presentation focusing on Sandy Hill on May 9. Chad asked if anyone could attend this meeting and Bob reported that it was open to anyone but they would have to pay registration costs of \$60 per day. Chad asked Bob if he felt it might be a good idea if ASH were to authorize the money so that other ASH representatives might be sent to one or both sessions and Bob agreed that this would be a good idea. Chad expressed an interest in attending. There was no definite decision on this but Chad did mention that the executive could make the decision to authorize the expenditure needed to cover such costs.



iv. **Heritage** - items related to this topic will be covered under “Planning”

v. **Transportation**

John noted that the city is planning to do sewer work on Greenfield Road. It is not clear at this time what impact this will have on traffic circulation in the neighbourhood.

The city has begun work on the Combined Sewage Storage Tunnel (CSST). The CSST project had previously planned to excavate a shaft on NCC land between the canal and Nicholas St, just south of Laurier, however, we have recently been advised that this is no longer possible. Instead, they are proposing to excavate a shaft on Cumberland between Stewart and Wilbrod which will close off Cumberland to car traffic for one year. John will be attending a meeting with the planners to hear more about this and to find out the City's strategy for communicating this information and timing of this work to the public.

John is also meeting with a group of residents on Range Road to study effective methods of traffic calming on this street that could be implemented in conjunction with a planned sewer reconstruction in 2019.

vi. **Planning** (see written report attached)

Judith reported that 231 Cobourg (owned by the Ugandan High Commission which is proposing to tear it down for a new building) has significant heritage connections. It was also the abode of Prime Minister Lester Pearson when he received the Nobel Prize. It seems that the building has been unoccupied for several years and has not been maintained.

Motion 5.4 (4/17) – That ASH vehemently oppose the proposal to demolish the house at 231 Cobourg and send out letters to this effect to the Mayor, Federal Ministers, NCC, etc. (Judith/Ralph) – Carried Unanimously

Judith said she would consult the neighbours of 594 Rideau and 368 Chapel to see what their opinions are about making a presentation at the OMB appeal hearings initiated by the developers at these two sites.

At this point Councilor Fleury arrived and the meeting went to item 4

4. Councilor's Report

A discussion was held to clarify the purpose and agenda of the R4 review Special General Meeting to be held on April 27th. The Agenda for the meeting was reviewed.



Mahieu reported that he is hoping to get his new by-law initiative on solid waste for Sandy Hill before the Council Committee on May 18th. If that does not work he will aim for the June meeting. He discussed some ideas about issuing tags for garbage bags

The Board expressed its disappointment that the City had not followed through on its promise to vigorously pursue a select number of repeat bylaw offenders. Mathieu suggested another meeting to work on this matter and that it might be followed by a walkabout. He suggested we could meet on this matter next week.

He reported on the current review of the noise bylaws. There is a meeting on May 1st to get feedback on this issue.

Jan Findlay reported that she had received complaints about speed signs painted on the streets which had worn away, dogs in Strathcona Park , and damage to trees in Strathcona Park.

Mathieu said that the speed signs painted on the street would be re-done. He noted that dogs were allowed on the path by the river (on leash only) but not in the Park itself . He said he would see about organizing a blitz to enforce this rule.

He asked for more information on the tree damage.

This was the end of the Councilor's Report

vi. **Planning Continued**

"Chad reported that following the Special Meeting of Members and Residents held on April 27th to discuss development in Sandy Hill, specifically the City's ongoing R4 Review, he will prepare a motion to put to the members at ASH's AGM in May."

6. Old Business

a. ASH AGM

The agenda for this meeting was circulated. Chad noted that that ASH was still looking for nominees for the new Board who will be elected at the May AGM.

b. Canada 150

Chad reviewed some of the proposals for this celebration and noted that we have not yet heard back from our query to the resident who volunteered to organize a picnic. There was a discussion about mounting a presentation on the ASH website using the historical research being conducted by Francois Brega. Bob will report back on the possible approaches to this proposal.



c. Conflict of Interest Forms

Ralph suggested that this item be left for the new Board to consider at its May meeting.

The Board expressed its appreciation for the work done by retiring Board Members Judith Rinfret and Sally Southey.

The next meeting of the Board will be on May 29, 2017

Meeting Adjourned at 9:07 PM



Councillor's Answers to Questions

Please see our responses below.

There are two major questions to ask of the councillor.

1. There are at least 24 wheeled garbage bins (almost all are city bins) in Sandy Hill. None are enclosed and many are in front yards. This is the situation even though there is the following bylaw language in Property Standards By-law No. 2013-416:

Where commercial containers or in-situ containers are visible from a public street or lane, or the subject site abuts residential properties, the area where the containers are stored shall be enclosed on all sides by a wall or solid fence not less than 1.8 m (6 ft.), such wall or fence containing an adequate door or gate to allow for the removal of garbage or refuse.

An especially egregious example is 302 Chapel where a wheeled blue bin is located in the front yard in spite of being reported many times - as early as January of 2016. It was in our list of violations with high priority that we sent to Bylaw Enforcement in January of this year.

It remains in the front yard of 302 Chapel in spite of there being adequate room in the rear of this property.

We have suggested that a committee of interested people be struck to deal with the issues involved in relocating and enclosing these bins. We have encountered no enthusiasm from the city to deal with this problem.

What is preventing the city from responding?

There was a previous call that Derek had, Jeff has created a case and will follow up accordingly. Jeff will be sending out a notice tomorrow morning to the Property Owner.

Our office would be happy to coordinate a walk about to review locations with front yard storage issues.

2. The last time that the Property Maintenance By-law was amended, the set fines were not changed at the time as it was felt that the fines as existed were sufficient. Last year a decision was made by By-law & Regulatory Services to request the Ontario Chief Justice to authorize an amendment to the bylaw for higher set fines. In the meantime, no tickets are being issued. Since we have a large backlog of outstanding garbage and front yard parking violations, this absence of ticketing is a large hindrance to enforcement.



Also, please inform us why violators cannot be ticketed with what must be the existing, approved set of fines.

Please let us know when this request of the office of the chief Justice has been made and to whom we can inquire about the particulars of the request.

By-law can issue charges still to the owner for failing to comply with the Notice of Violation.

Our amendment is specific to the section related to the receptacles in the front yard. As soon as By-law hears back on the set fines we will advise.

1. Has the link to the Open data page on the City website (where the listings of building permits are found) been restored?

We were able to access this list. <http://data.ottawa.ca/dataset/construction-demolition-pool-enclosure-permits-monthly>

Please let us know if you continue to have issues accessing this information.

2. What is the status of the 3 proposed Heritage Conservation Districts?

There will be a community meeting in June. Date to be determined.

3. Has the AGCO taken action about the police allowing the selling of alcohol on St. Patrick's Day?

We spoke with the community police officer regarding that status of this issue. Regarding the location identified in the e-mails on March 17th no formal complaint was registered with police regarding the sale of alcohol.

4. Do you have an update on the request to modify the setting of fines by by-law, which is in the Chief Justice's office?

See response above

5. Two questions about how the City will tidy up Sandy Hill parks this year: can we pilot a more ecologically efficient approach, that should save money and time? 1) By keeping the leaves in the parks (instead of bagging and trucking them away) they will feed the soil and the plants if they are either spread under the existing trees and/or mulched into the grass by running the mower over them (if the mower is being used anyway). 2) Could the City also test a "no leaf blower" approach - to reduce noise pollution, GHG emissions and air contaminants - by giving the same contractors who would run the leaf blower each a rake?

We will speak with Park Maintenance regarding their operations.

We look forward to seeing you this evening.



Thank you,

Emeline Sparks

Councillor's Assistant | Adjoint au conseiller
Office of Councillor | Bureau du conseiller Mathieu Fleury
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On Apr 21, 2017, at 7:19 AM, Susan Young <susanonash@gmail.com> wrote:

Bonjour,

Below our questions for April:

1. Has the link to the Open data page on the City website (where the listings of building permits are found) been restored?
2. What is the status of the 3 proposed Heritage Conservation Districts?
3. Has the AGCO taken action about the police allowing the selling of alcohol on St. Patrick's Day?
4. Do you have an update on the request to modify the setting of fines by by-law, which is in the Chief Justice's office?
5. Two questions about how the City will tidy up Sandy Hill parks this year: can we pilot a more ecologically efficient approach, that should save money and time? 1) By keeping the leaves in the parks (instead of bagging and trucking them away) they will feed the soil and the plants if they are either spread under the existing trees and/or mulched



into the grass by running the mower over them (if the mower is being used anyway). 2)
Could the City also test a "no leaf blower" approach - to reduce noise pollution, GHG emissions and air contaminants - by giving the same contractors who would run the leaf blower each a rake?

Merci!

Susan

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Susan Young

Director, Action Sandy Hill