

Action Sandy Hill Community Association
Annual General Meeting
May 17, 2012

Welcoming Remarks (Christopher Collmorgen)

- The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. The President of ASH, Christopher Collmorgen, opened the meeting with welcoming remarks.
- The agenda was approved (motion by Anthony Friend).
- The minutes from May 2011 were approved (motion by Dave Bagler).

Highlights from the Councillor's Office (Nathanial Mullin)

- Reminder to all of the upcoming changes to bi-weekly garbage collection, effective November 2012.
- Update on the changes to the City's Noise By-law.

Sandy Hill Volunteer of the Year Award (Christopher Collmorgen)

- Christine Erlick was recognized as the ASH volunteer of the year award for her work in the Community and with Viscount Alexander Elementary School.

Recognition and Thanks (Christopher Collmorgen)

- Special thanks and recognition were given by ASH to George Blake, former Manager of the Sandy Hill Community Centre. George retired in May 2012.

Annual Sandy Hill Community Awards Program (Marcia George)

- A brief summary of the awards program was provided by Marcia George. The following awards were made:

1. Overall best off-campus student rental property
 - No award given
2. Best kept off-campus student rental property garden
 - Christine Maika and Melissa Gavin, U of O
3. Community involvement award
 - Charlotte Pashley, U of O
 - Nic Weymouth (special mention)

Other Business (Christopher Collmorgen)

- Special thanks were given by ASH to the Estate of Marian Heringer. Marian gave a substantial donation to ASH in recognition of the work that the Community Association does for the Community. ASH is grateful for the recognition and donation.

- Special thanks were given to Odyssey Theater for their donation of theater tickets for the Annual Sandy Hill Community Awards Program as well as the door prize for the AGM.

ASH By-law Review (Sophie Beecher)

- The revised ASH by-laws were presented by Sophie. Highlights include:
 - the addition of non-resident Sandy Hill business owners (maximum of three) as Directors on the Board;
 - the addition of a non-voting representative from the University of Ottawa;
 - the President of ASH will be elected by ASH members. Other Board; Directors will elected by the Board;
 - the use of gender neutral pronouns, etc.
- The importance of archiving ASH information and documents was raised by the floor
- It was also clarified that there is nothing in the by-laws that would prevent condo owners from becoming a member of ASH or of the Board.

The motion was moved by Jawad Qureshi (seconded by Anthony Friend) to adopt the revised by-laws. Votes: 38 in favour and zero against to adopt the revised by-laws.

ASH Planning and Development Committee (Jane Gurr)

- Recognition was given by Jane to all Committee members for their hard work
- The Terms of Reference for the Committee will be posted on the ASH website
- A summary of the OMB decision regarding 466 Nelson and associated planning problems was provided
- An update on the City of Ottawa infill study was provided by Sophie Beecher
- Council has implemented a three year pilot project in Sandy Hill to apply a modified site plan application process for the conversion of residential buildings into more than three rental units
- ASH continues to be active in the Rideau Street renewal process, including: working closely with the Councilor's office, encouraging pedestrian friendly elements to be considered/adopted by the City, and general aesthetics. The issue of the left hand turn lane at Nelson continues to be an item of discussion.
- In fall 2012 construction for the new apartment building is expected to begin on Range Road. ASH continues to work with the City on the issue of temporary parking. Alternatives beyond the baseball diamond at Strathcona Park are being explored.
- Next steps for the Committee include: resurrecting the Heritage Study and revamping the vision for Sandy Hill planning document.

By-laws and Environment Committee (Claire MacDonald)

- Twenty-eight people participated in Sandy Hill's "Cleaning the Capital" Spring event
- A reminder was given to all members to call 311 to report noise, garbage and/or graffiti issues
- A fact sheet is being developed by the Committee with basic community information for residents (e.g., garbage calendar, etc). It will be distributed during the Fall Walk About
- Volunteers are welcome to participate in the Fall 2012 park clean-up
- ASH is exploring options for planting trees along Mann Ave (Chapel to Blackburn)
- Discussions regarding the fall out of St Patrick's Day (March 2012) continue between ASH, Ottawa By-law services, Ottawa Police Services, the University of Ottawa and the Councillor's office.
- Next steps for the Committee, include: working with businesses along Laurier Avenue to enhance the aesthetic look and feel of the street (i.e., planting, etc.).

Sub-Group of the By-laws and Environment Committee (Claire MacDonald)

- A sub-group has been created to look at the issue of derelict properties in Sandy Hill
- ASH has worked with the City of Ottawa and Richcraft to have a temporary park created at the corner of Charlotte and Rideau. The park will stay until Richcraft builds on the property, as planned, in the next six to eight years.

Fact Finding Trip to London, Ontario (Christopher Collmorgen)

- Christopher briefed members on the successful fact finding trip that he took with ASH Director Sam Almsaddi, and Ottawa Police Services to London, Ontario in early 2012 to learn how the City regulates issues associated with off-campus student housing. They were impressed by the London model.

Town and Gown Committee (Christopher Collmorgen)

- The Town and Gown Committee will be limited to Sandy Hill only, until it is better established. Membership includes: the City of Ottawa, ASH, the Landlords Association, Ottawa Police Services, City of Ottawa By-law Services, and the University of Ottawa.
- The official launch is anticipated for September 2012. It is anticipated that a sub-committee will be launched by July 2012, in time for the July 1st long weekend.
- ASH Members are encouraged to get involved. Results may take time.

Ash Trees in Sandy Hill (Eric Creighton)

- The Emerald Ash Borer (aka Ash Beetle) is having an impact on the tree canopy in Sandy Hill, with ash making up over 20% of trees in the community.
- Approximately 2500 (out of 75000) trees in Ottawa are being actively treated. The cost to treat a tree is \$160 to \$250 every two years.

- A student team, led by Eric, undertook going door to door to inform eligible Sandy Hill residents of the City of Ottawa tree program. They worked to encourage property owners to apply to the City and plant trees in their front yards.

Finance (Marcia George)

- The Treasurer, Marcia George, gave a summary of accounts including a brief summary of major revenue items and expenses.

ASH Website (Kyle Simunovic)

- ASH is working to revamp its website and bring it up to date. The new website is expected by end-summer 2012.

Election of ASH President

- David Dymant administered the election for ASH President. Christopher Collmorgen was elected for the position. There were no other nominations from the floor and no votes against
- Kyle Simunovic, Mona Frendo, Sam Almsaddi, Jane Gurr, Jawad Qureshi, and Elaine Koren were elected as new/returning Directors of the Board. There were no votes against and no other nominations from the floor.

A Word from the local MP and MPP

- At the request of a member, Mauril Bélanger and Madeleine Meilleur were each asked to speak. They briefly addressed the key issues that they are currently working on.

Other Issues from the Floor

- A request was made for ASH to work with the Councillor's Office to re-examine cash-in-lieu of parking to be directed towards park enhancement in Sandy Hill rather than towards general coffers.
- A request was made for ASH to put more pressure on the University of Ottawa to create a Community Liaison position at the University.
- A request was made for ASH to consider being more vocal on issues related to reconstruction plans (vs. redesign) of Rideau Street with regards to what the City is permitting to be developed along the Street.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.