



Action Sandy Hill Board Meeting

September 24, 2012

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Rencontre du Conseil d'administration d'Action Côte-de-Sable

Le 24 septembre, 2012

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Courriel: info@ash-acs.ca

Present/Présents: Sam Almsaddi, Sophie Beecher, François Bregha, Christopher Collmorgen, Eric Crighton, Julie Crêteau, Jane Gurr, Liz Kessler, Elaine Koren, Alice Kwong, Claire MacDonald, Jawad Quereshi, John Verbaas.

Regrets/Absents: Kyle Simunovic.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Christopher Collmorgen welcomed Board members and members of the community in attendance. One of the community members present thanked ASH for the walk-about (see below for details).

2. Review and Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved with some additions.

3. Approval of Minutes

Jane moved (Elaine seconded) approval of the August minutes.

4. Comments from the Floor

One resident on Range Rd. complained that the City had erected a very large billboard (now taken down) in front of his house without prior notice promoting the “Adopt a roadway” program. He also questioned why Range Rd. had been selected as it is cleaner than other neighbouring streets. Nathaniel Mullin will find out what the City procedures in these instances are. It was agreed that ASH should keep a list of priority streets for “adoption” under this program for future reference.

On October 1, the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre is inviting the community

to the unveiling of a new mural at the corner of Mann and Chapel in support for a Community House in Strathcona Heights.

5. Planning, Development and Transportation Committee

The Committee will meet Mathieu Fleury this Thursday to follow up on its letter expressing concern about how few trucks would be diverted from downtown streets by a new east-end bridge.

ASH will arrange a meeting with City staff to ask that the follow up to the Sandy Hill Heritage Study completed a few years ago resume and a timeline be set for its implementation.

The Planning Committee is watching closely the conversion of a single-family house at 45 Blackburn where extensive work has already started but no site plan has been applied for yet.

The committee will draft a letter to the NCC supporting efforts to make the Canal more accessible to a variety of users.

6. By-laws and Environment

Claire reported on the walk-about and the excellent collaboration ASH received from the University's Housing Services, the Councilor's office, the Police and By-laws. Some 400 addresses were visited. ASH received good news coverage and the neighbourhood seemed quieter this year. Housing Services is prepared to support another walk-about next year.

At the end of October, the City will move to a garbage pick-up every two weeks (green bins and recycling will still be picked up weekly) and the collection day in Sandy Hill will change to Tuesdays. The City will monitor the impacts of this change (e.g., how multiple unit residences with already inadequate garbage receptacles will cope).

ASH will lead the park clean-up this Saturday, starting at 1pm. One resident expressed concern about the number of geese now colonizing the park.

7. Report from the Councilor

A demolition permit has now been issued for the derelict properties at Charlotte and Rideau. It is still expected that the temporary park to be established on site will be created before winter.

Construction on Rideau is advancing on schedule.

Mr. Fleury will ask the City to set aside money to build a new bridge across the Rideau River at Somerset as part of next year's budget.

Mr. Fleury opposes the construction of a casino in his ward unless it is used to resolve local problems. Some local business associations also oppose the siting

of the casino in the ward. ASH supports Councilor Fleury in his opposition to siting a casino in his ward.

8. Special Events

The Fall BBQ served almost twice as much food as last year (1179 portions) and was a great success. While ASH received several donations in kind as well as cash from SFUO and the SHCHC, and recruited some new members, the BBQ has ended up costing ASH a lot of money. Jane will compile the event's full cost. It was agreed that in the future organizers will need to work to a budget. Alice has prepared a checklist covering all aspects of the event (e.g., fund-raising, food, logistics, entertainment) that we will be able to use in the future as a planning tool.

It was also agreed that ASH should ask for more money from SFUO and serve more hallal and vegetarian food in the future.

The yard sale went ahead but it was agreed that ASH should aim for a better coordination with the group organizing it and ideally aim to hold it on the morning of the BBQ.

Julie will contact Barbara Brockman to see if she would agree to help organize the winter carnival again this year.

9. Community Relations

There are two vacant positions on the Town and Gown Committee (a representative from the community at large and a landlord representative). The Committee will advertise these positions and welcome candidacies until October 17. The next meeting will be November 5 when the Committee will be formally launched.

ASH has received a request for assistance from a Golden Triangle resident concerned about noise issues in her neighbourhood.

10. Membership and Outreach

Christopher noted that Marcia had left the Board but was willing to continue her role as treasurer until a new treasurer was appointed. Christopher thanked Marcia for her contribution.

Alice and Elaine reported on the work they are doing for the website. They will start populating the pages relevant to the By-law committee. While they will circulate a proposal for the Board's approval, they outlined the choices they were proposing regarding access and architecture. It was agreed that ASH should defer a Twitter account until the website was up and running, that generic business cards should be printed for Board members and that the Board should use GoogleDocs to maintain corporate knowledge.

Elaine will draft a welcome letter for new Sandy Hill residents inviting them to become active in the community.

11. Closing

Francois moved (Jane seconded) that Eric Audet be appointed to the Board until the next AGM.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.