



Rencontre du Conseil d'administration d'Action Côte-de-Sable
Le 30 avril, 2012
www.ash-acs.ca
Courriel: info@ash-acs.ca

Present/Présents: Sam Almsaddi, Sophie Beecher, François Bregha, Christopher Collmorgen, Eric Crighton, Julie Crôteau, Marcia George, Jane Gurr, Liz Kessler, Claire MacDonald, Kyle Simunovic, John Verbaas.

Regrets/Absents: Mona Frendo.

1. Welcome and introductions

Christopher Collmorgen welcomed everyone and invited Board members and members of the public to introduce themselves.

2. Review and approval of the agenda

François moved (Jane seconded) that the agenda be approved.

3. Approval of minutes

Marcia moved (Christopher seconded) approval of the March minutes.

4. Councillor's report

In Mathieu Fleury's absence, Nathaniel Mullin reported as follows.

The public meeting concerning the proposed amendment to the noise by-law was well-attended. Mr. Fleury will propose further amendments to reflect community concerns. He will also meet shortly with representatives of the Students' Union to discuss nuisance issues in the neighbourhood.

The temporary park at the corner of Rideau and Charlotte is moving forward with demolition of the existing houses expected in June.

Council has adopted the infill guidelines. Mr. Fleury has proposed that, for a trial period of 3 years, any conversion of a dwelling with 3 or more units in Sandy Hill require a site

plan approval. This measure is to go to Planning Committee on May 8 and would be enforced through the issuance of building permits. Board members noted their appreciation for this initiative.

A general discussion ensued reflecting the concern of various Board members over unlicensed building conversions proceeding in Sandy Hill. This was often leading to the creation of sub-standard apartments that do not meet certain Building Code requirements or City guidelines. Board members noted that the City did not appear to have the tools needed to control unscrupulous builders and that tenants lacked the knowledge and incentives to report abuses.

5. Questions from the floor

Board members raised the following questions and concerns.

Q: Has the City followed up with the landlords of the 18 properties where by-law violations had been reported on St Patrick's Day?

A: The Councillor will get back to us.

OC Transpo is apparently no longer offering monthly student passes starting immediately even though its new fare structure is not starting until July 1. Nathaniel will investigate.

Q. Will the Councillor's office provide ASH the same financial support as last year?

A. An answer will be forthcoming shortly.

Committee reports

6. Planning, development and transportation

466 Nelson

Jane noted that the OMB had denied the landlord's appeal from the Committee of Adjustment's decision to convert his duplex from 4 to 6 units. In recognition of the expenses incurred by the neighbours in hiring a planner to participate at the OMB (estimated at some \$3,500), Christopher moved (Sam seconded) that ASH contribute \$350 to the neighbours to defray part of these expenses. Motion carried.

85 Range Rd.

The developer intends to start construction this Fall and would like to use the baseball diamond in Strathcona park as temporary parking for current Sandringham residents and contractors. While the parking would be temporary, some City staff fear that the park could take up to 2 years to recover because of soil compaction. Alternatives (e.g., parking on the street, use of neighbouring lots) raise their own issues. The architect for the developer may attend the next ASH Board meeting to discuss the issue.

Infill guidelines

The current guidelines do not address bulk and setback issues and will need therefore to be supplemented. ASH made a submission to the City but the City did not accept our recommendations.

House at corner of Nelson and Wilbrod

The owner wants to sever the lot to build a small house at the back and has asked ASH for a letter of support (neighbours do not object to the construction). Jane and Sam will circulate the drawings to the Board.

7. By-laws and environment

Clean-up

The community clean-up will take place on May 5. ASH and the 150th Scouts will lead the park clean-up. ASH sent letters to businesses on Laurier, Osgoode and Somerset inviting them to clean around their properties and participate in the collection of electronic wastes that is also taking place that day. Children at Viscount Alexander and Francojeunesse have already done some litter pick-up in the neighbourhood. Several Viscount children have written letters to businesses encouraging them to participate in this effort.

Board members noted that the amount of garbage generated by students moving out was being managed better by the City this year and that the strategy of deploying a roving garbage truck and by-law officer for the week before moving day seemed to be working.

Tree planting

ASH looked at whether trees could be planted on Mann Ave. between Chapel and Blackburn but there are no funds and no body to take care of the trees once planted. We disagree with the alarmist tone of a recent press release by the Greenspace Alliance condemning the City for not protecting more ash trees from the emerald bore beetle.

Noise by-law amendment

This amendment, making leaseholders responsible for the noise on their properties goes to Committee on May 17. ASH will make a presentation in support of the amendment. ASH also noted that the City was applying the noise by-law more aggressively.

Derelict properties

ASH has established a sub-committee on this question that is examining how property standards can be enforced and tax issues associated with derelict properties.

8. Special events

AGM

François briefed the Board on the preparations for the AGM. It was agreed that he would solicit Board input for the volunteer of the year award and that he would invite political parties who wanted to set up a table at the AGM to do so (Kyle to provide contact information).

IODE book and garden tour

This tour will take place on June 8 and 9 and proceeds will support a shelter for abused women.

It appears that there will be no Jane tour in Sandy Hill this year.

9. Community relations

Town and Gown

In a reply to one of our letters, Mr. Rock has finally committed the University to the Town and Gown Committee. There will be a meeting on May 7 to discuss the terms of reference, after which Christopher will circulate them to the Board for review. The goal is still to have the T&G Committee up and running this summer. In a related vein, Christopher and Sam will attend the T&G forum in Kingston in May. 1, 12

Centre 454

The Neighbours of St Alban's issued a press release criticizing M. Fleury for being unaware that the Centre had received funding to help with the renovations of the basement of St Alban's. Nathaniel explained that the funds came from a federal homelessness program and that Council had delegated authority to disburse them to staff.

10. Membership and outreach

Kyle reported that the membership database was now up to date and functional. Kyle will circulate a proposal to refresh the website for Board approval. He hopes that a demonstration version will be available for the AGM.

11. Adjournment

Christopher noted ASH's many wins and accomplishments over the past year (e.g., burying of overhead wires on Rideau, amendment to noise bylaw, temporary park at Rideau and Charlotte, pathway along University stadium, establishment of Town and Gown committee) and thanked all members for their hard work.

The meeting ended at 9 pm.