



Action Sandy Hill Board Meeting

January 28 2012

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

Le 28 janvier, 2012

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Courriel: info@ash-acs.ca

Present/Présents: Eric Audet, François Bregha, Christopher Collmorgen, Julie Crôteau, Jane Gurr, Elaine Koren, Claire MacDonald, Kyle Simunovic, John Verbaas.

Regrets/Absents: Sam Almsaddi, Sophie Beecher, Eric Crighton, Liz Kessler, Alice Kwong, Jawad Quereshi.

To accommodate the presenters, the meeting started with a presentation on the proposed redevelopment of St Clement's Church.

1. Proposed redevelopment of St Clement's Church

Robert Martin, from Robertson Martin, Architects, presented a conceptual plan for the adaptive re-use of the current church building, which would involve the creation of some 50 bachelor apartments and some commercial space in the basement. These plans are at an early stage and could change significantly. The property would need a zoning change to be redeveloped and the community will be consulted once more definitive plans are drawn.

ASH expressed concern about the little parking that was to be provided, noting the cumulative effect of other building conversions in the neighbourhood on on-street parking.

Jane will circulate a letter to the developer for Board approval, noting ASH's views.

2. Welcome and introductions

Christopher Collmorgen welcomed Board members and members of the community in attendance and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

3. Review and approval of the agenda

François moved (Kyle seconded) that the agenda be approved (carried).

4. Approval of minutes

The minutes for the November meeting were approved.

5. Report from the Councillor

Mathieu Fleury made the following report:

- Snow removal has been an issue in the neighbourhood this winter. The City will take over this service, which it had contracted out, next winter. Residents who have concerns about icy sidewalks are invited to contact Mr. Fleury's office (Nathaniel Mullin).
- Mr. Fleury understands the community's frustration at how slowly the temporary park at Charlotte and Rideau has been proceeding but he noted that the reason for the delays had been City demands for more detailed plans, not the developer's reluctance to move forward.
- Mr. Fleury explained that the University was looking for more parking space because the planned tunnel entrance to the LRT would occupy one of its existing parking lots. The University, however, seems to be looking for more parking spaces than it is losing and has told ASH it had signed an MOU with the City to build a parking lot on Lees ave. Mr. Fleury will follow up.
- Mr. Fleury is meeting the Mayor on Wednesday to discuss how abandoned buildings should be regulated. He will inform ASH of the discussion afterwards.
- Nathaniel has prepared a briefing note on how the City regulates indoor furniture left outside. Mr. Fleury invited ASH to advise him on how current by-laws could be improved.
- Craig Calder, who oversees by-laws enforcement for this part of the city, is moving and will be replaced shortly.
- The properties at 31 Sweetland and 139 Henderson are going through site plan approval. The City is developing a prototype sign to be posted on the properties advising residents of the modifications to be carried out.

6. Questions from the audience

There were no questions from the audience.

Committee reports

6. Planning, Development and Transportation

This committee has been very busy with a number of developers seeking an opportunity to consult ASH.

Retirement Home, Friel St.

A developer will convert the Home into 91 furnished apartments and hopes to complete the conversion before September. The developer has asked for a minor

variance, covering a reduction in parking spots. ASH will organize a community meeting with the developer as soon as possible so that residents can hear what is being proposed.

Transportation issues

The NCC should announce its choice for the location of the proposed interprovincial bridge during the second quarter of the year.

The City is completing design work for the proposed pedestrian bridge over the Rideau River at Somerset St. If money is approved, construction could start in 2014.

LRT construction around Nicholas and Waller may disrupt the plan to establish an east-west bicycle route. Mr. Fleury will find out how ASH can provide input.

7. By-laws and Environment

Through the Town and Gown Committee strategic initiatives sub-committee, ASH will be involved in starting to plan for St Patrick's Day and the students' move out at the end of term.

ASH is asking City Police and By-law services to visit the 20 addresses where there were problems last year in advance of St Patrick's Day.

8. Special events

The winter carnival went well and attracted many people, particularly to the pot-luck dinner. The number of prizes awarded proved particularly popular. Nevertheless, ASH needs to devote more efforts at advertising the event.

François will circulate a note to all Board members asking those whose term expires at the AGM whether they plan to stand for re-election. François is looking for one or two Board members to help organize the AGM.

9. Community relations

The Town and Gown Committee has established two sub-committees on housing and strategic initiatives, both of which have held their first meeting. Nathaniel will circulate minutes shortly. Board members regretted the poor participation by students on these committees so far.

This year, the Ontario Association of Town and Gown Committees is holding its annual meeting on May 12 to 14 in Windsor. Christopher suggested that ASH send two delegates and pay their costs.

10. Membership and outreach

Christopher reported on the membership and financing working group meeting held on January 21 (see note François circulated to the Board on January 22).

Christopher thanked Eric and Elaine for agreeing to form a corporate fund-raising committee and will recruit a third member. One option for fund-raising would be to hold silent auctions of objects donated by embassies at ASH events.

Kyle presented a proposal to strengthen ASH financial controls and an expense reimbursement form. Kyle moved (François seconded) that the following procedures be adopted:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the board does hereby adopt the following financial control procedures:

1. All expenses over \$50 shall receive written approval from the Treasurer in advance of the expenses. The Treasurer shall have taken the request to the executive for their consideration; however, no formal vote is required.
2. All expenses over \$200 require a vote of the Board. This may take place electronically, or in person.
3. All expense claims must be accompanied by a fully completed Expense Reimbursement Form (attached).
4. All claims must include original receipts.
5. Those claims without original receipts shall be automatically deemed “not approved.” The claimant reserves the right to request that the board approve the claim. This motion shall be deemed adopted only by a 2/3 vote of the Board. This vote may take place electronically, or in person.”

CARRIED.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.