

Action Sandy Hill Board Meeting  
November 1, 2011  
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Rencontre du Conseil d'administration d'Action Côte-de-Sable  
Le 1<sup>er</sup> novembre 2011  
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Present/Présents: Sam Almsaddi, Dave Bagler, François Bregha, Sophie Beecher, Christopher Collmorgen, Julie Crôteau, Jane Gurr, Liz Kessler, Claire MacDonald, John Verbaas.

Regrets/Absents: Eric Crighton, Marcia George, Alice Kwong.

### **1. Welcome and introductions**

Christopher Collmorgen chaired the meeting and invited members of the community and the Board to introduce themselves.

### **2. Review and approval of the agenda**

The agenda was approved.

### **3. Approval of minutes**

Dave moved (Julie seconded) approval of the minutes of the September meeting.

### **4. Councillor's report**

Mathieu Fleury's being absent, there was no Councillor's report.

### **5. Concerns from the floor**

There were no questions from the floor.

### **6. General issues**

#### *Board recruitment*

Christopher explained that there were three open positions on the Board. He outlined the roles that Board members can play, answered questions and invited members from the audience to contact any member of the Board and let them know of their interest to join the Board.

#### *Input to City budget*

Four items were discussed.

1. It was agreed that Christopher will write a letter to Mathieu Fleury:
  - Asking him to support the allocation of necessary funds to build a pedestrian bridge across the Rideau River at the foot of Somerset St.
  - Indicating ASH's strong support for the UPass program and asking the City to work with the student federations of both universities to find a mutually-acceptable fare structure.
2. Christopher will also sign a letter to the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre (based on material to be supplied by the SHCHC) supporting the establishment of a Strathcona Heights Community House to provide social and recreational services to local residents.
3. Christopher will follow up with M. Fleury's office to ask the Councillor to support actively the burial of hydro wires on Rideau St east of King Edward. John Verbaas has drafted a letter outlining the issue.

On a related matter, Dave will post a notice on the ASH listserv inviting a Sandy Hill resident with an art background to sit on a City panel to select the art to be displayed on Rideau St. after its reconstruction.

#### *Trip to the University of Western University, London, Ont.*

Christopher and Sam travelled to Western last week, at the invitation of the Ottawa Police to learn how the University and City authorities manage student issues off-campus. Christopher has prepared a separate report on this visit, which he will adapt for publication in IMAGE.

The main findings of the trip were:

- Western offers more on-campus housing than UOttawa.
- The Western University Police has more powers than the UOttawa Security Service (including the power to impose fines and apply City bylaws).
- The University has created a well-funded Off-campus Housing Office, which serves as a single window for students, landlords and residents to find housing and resolve issues. This Office is partly funded by the City.
- The City licenses small landlords in London (this action is under appeal) and conducts inspections.
- The University distributes information to students (and residents) about their rights and obligations as off-campus residents.
- The University proactively manages the re-use of used furniture and appropriate disposal of garbage when students move out.
- The University actively participates in the Town and Gown Association.

It was agreed that the Board will need to discuss these matters further to determine whether they could be applied in Sandy Hill. Over the next several days, Christopher will meet separately with University and Student Federation representatives and the Councillor to brief them about the trip.

### **Committee reports**

#### **7. Community standards**

The latest IMAGE gives an update of the Committee's work. ASH continues to lobby for Council approval of the noise bylaw that would make the leaseholder or the owner of a property

responsible for permitting the disturbance.

### **8. Planning and development**

The Committee has developed a tool to track the status of various development proposals in Sandy Hill. It will host a workshop on November 21, to be led by Sam, on how zoning has changed since amalgamation.

The Committee will develop criteria to recognize exemplary in-fills. Jane will draft a letter to the owner of the house of 212 Cobourg congratulating him for the quality of his in-fill.

### **9. Special events**

No report

### **10. Community relations**

Centre 454's move has been delayed to May 2012 to allow structural work to be done at St Alban's. Because of the difficulties in establishing a baseline of conditions in the area and tracking indicators of social change, it is likely that a BIA-type committee will be set up instead for the immediate area that would include all stakeholders (e.g., condo associations, social agencies, ASH, the Councillor, etc.). The Councillor's office is drafting terms of reference for this committee. Its first meeting is tentatively set for January.

### **11. Outreach**

Dave will set up a training session for the Board to teach members how to upload documents directly to the website on November 21. Dave will make the new ASH website live on December 1. The website will include a members' only page and will also support electronic voting by Board members (to be used between Board meetings).

### **12. Next meeting**

There will be a working group meeting on November 21 to discuss zoning issues and receive training for the new website. Jane will send a notice with time and place.

### **13. Adjournment**

Liz moved (Jane seconded) that the meeting be adjourned.