

## TOWN AND GOWN COMMITTEE

*March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013 – 5 p.m.*

*550 Cumberland Street, Room 083 (Senate Room)*

### MEETING MINUTES

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**Present (members):** Councillor Mathieu Fleury (Chair, City of Ottawa), Cst. Ryan Pierce (Ottawa Police), Christopher Collmorgen (Action Sandy Hill), Marc Joyal (University of Ottawa), Salam Hawa (Resident-at-large Representative), John Dickie (Landlord-at-large Representative), Ethan Plato (Student Federation of the University of Ottawa)

**Guests:** Michelle Ferland (University of Ottawa), Lucie-Mercier-Gauthier (University of Ottawa), Michel Guilbeault (University of Ottawa), and one resident of the neighbourhood.

**Regrets:** Catherine McKenney (City of Ottawa, Deputy City Manager's Office)

#### 1. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Councillor Fleury welcomes the members of the committee and thanks them for coming out to this second meeting of the Town and Gown Committee.

The Councillor provides a brief update on snow removal operations for the information of the committee members.

#### 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The committee agrees upon the agenda.

#### 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The committee approves the minutes of the November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012 meeting.

#### 4. REPORT FROM THE HOUSING WORKING GROUP

Councillor Fleury thanks John Dickie from the Eastern Ontario Landlords Organization (EOLO) for taking over the chairmanship of this working group and invites him to provide an update on the group's efforts.

Mr. Dickie presents the mandate that was elaborated and approved over the first two meetings of the working group. Marc Joyal states that he would be more comfortable with the university's campus being excluded from the first sentence of the mandate. Two further amendments are made to the mandate concerning the addition of the word "quantity" to the first and second sentences.

Mr. Dickie further reports on the proposed work plan of the working group, as outlined in the report. Mr. Joyal asks for clarification on item #5 of the work plan and John says that the discussion on the university's on-campus housing stock is meant to cover long-term planning. Mr. Joyal says that the university will indeed engage the community in these long-term planning discussions at the appropriate time. Christopher Collmorgen highlights this issue as being of great importance. Councillor Fleury also adds that engaging in discussions with the community early on and allowing collaboration in shaping future plans is the most effective way to see buy-in from all stakeholders. He further explains that Action Sandy Hill is progressive and reasonable in its approach to consultation. The first sentence in point #5 of the work plan is removed.

The committee approves the mandate and the work plan as amended.

#### 5. REPORT FROM THE STRATEGIC INITIATIVES WORKING GROUP

The Councillor indicates that as he is currently chairing the full committee, it would be more appropriate for a different stakeholder to take over this working group; the next meeting on March 27<sup>th</sup> will be the last that his office will be organizing. He then invites Nathaniel Mullin to give an update on the working group.

Mr. Mullin describes the proposed mandate and work plan as outlined in the report. The committee approves the recommended mandate and work plan.

Councillor Fleury invites Ottawa Police to provide an update on their preparations for St. Patrick's Day. Cst. Ryan Pierce indicates that they will be taking a more proactive approach this year, going out earlier in the day and doing some education before things get out of control. By-law and Regulatory Services will have additional resources on duty from 8am-3am on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup> of March. In addition, the SFUO (in consultation with ASH and OPS) will put out messaging via Twitter concerning respectful and reasonable behavior. ASH will be sending out similar messaging to their membership via email.

Councillor Fleury asks Mr. Mullin to provide a brief update on the upcoming move-out. Additional resources have been allocated by Solid Waste Services and By-law and Regulatory Services to deal with additional curbside garbage and a potential increase in property standards violations. Further discussion will occur on this matter at the next working group meeting, and a one-pager of key facts will be distributed to Town and Gown Committee members. Mr. Collmorgen adds that education and appropriate messaging are key to a successful move-out.

## 6. REVIEW OF LETTER TO JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Councillor Fleury advises the committee that the letter was not circulated in advance, although it has been drafted. After seeking legal advice on the content of the letter, he has been advised that his participation in sending this type of correspondence would be seen as highly inappropriate. Mr. Dickie will take over this file and explore the options which may be available.

## 7. COMMUNICATIONS

Councillor Fleury asks Mr. Collmorgen to provide some context to this item. He highlights a well-known challenge that media outlets are often looking for conflict over positive messages. Mr. Collmorgen suggests that it may be useful to have some broad themes and key messages that could be used by committee members. Councillor Fleury says that he certainly would not want to pin any stakeholder to a specific position, but he does see this as being a good guideline. The Councillor will also follow-up with the City's Corporate Communications Department to add Town and Gown documents to the City's website. The Councillor will also prepare a draft of some key messages to be circulated in advance of our next Town and Gown Committee

## 8. OTHER

- **Next meeting:** Councillor Fleury advises the group that the date of the next meeting (August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 5pm) will need to be modified due to a change in availability. The group decides that a meeting in late June would be preferable. A new date will be circulated with the minutes.

## 9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting is adjourned at 6:15pm.