

TOWN AND GOWN COMMITTEE

*March 3rd, 2014 – 5 p.m.
Desmarais Building, 55 Laurier Avenue East (Room DSM 3120)*

MEETING MINUTES

Present (members): Councillor Mathieu Fleury (Chair, City of Ottawa), James Bélanger (By-law and Regulatory Services), Robert Forbes (Action Sandy Hill), Lucie Mercier-Gauthier (University of Ottawa), John Dickie (Landlord-at-large Representative), Anne-Marie Roy (Student Federation of the University of Ottawa), Salam Hawa (Resident-at-large Representative), Cst. Ryan Pierce (Ottawa Police Services).

Guests: Michelle Ferland (University of Ottawa), Michel Guilbeault (University of Ottawa), Steve Bernique (Campus Security, University of Ottawa), Ray Garner (City of Ottawa – Solid Waste Services), André Laplante (City of Ottawa – Solid Waste Services), Nathaniel Mullin (Councillor's Office), 2 residents.

1. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Councillor Fleury welcomes the members of the committee and asks members of the committee as well as other attendees to introduce themselves to the group.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The committee approves the agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The committee approves the minutes of the November 4th, 2013 meeting.

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE

Councillor Fleury reminds the group of the Terms of Reference for the committee. He discusses with the members that they should be the only ones to participate in committee discussions. Members of the public are there as observers and will be allowed to provide comments at the end of the meeting, if time allows.

5. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

- Conversions and infill: There will be a report coming to Planning Committee on March 25th and Councillor Fleury will be speaking in favour of this report. Information will be shared with the committee on the new infill policies, as well as on the removal of conversions from the zoning by-law. Ms. Hawa requests information on what is occurring with the definition of Rooming Houses.

Councillor Fleury indicates that an update can be provided at the next meeting, but that we must keep in mind the housing continuum.

- Arts Court and Rideau Centre projects: These are going extremely well and there will be an announcement in the next few weeks concerning Arts Court. The Rideau Centre has its hoarding and the construction is ongoing.

5. LRT Update

Councillor Fleury reassures the committee that no work will be done on the East portal until they have secured the safety of the portal following the sinkhole incident. The other portals continue to progress with tunneling on schedule.

6. HOUSING WORKING GROUP – VERBAL UPDATE

Mr. Dickie provides a brief summary of the January 8th meeting of the Housing Working Group. He speaks to the Rooming House topic, by indicating that By-law Services had attended a previous meeting and that they provided an excellent overview of the policies and challenges around Rooming House enforcement. He also speaks to the priorities of the group, including holding a Session on Underperforming Landlords. The Councillor indicates that his office would be able to lead the file, with the support of the Housing Working Group and other committee members.

7. ST PATRICK'S DAY/MOVE-OUT STRATEGY

On St. Patrick's Day, Ottawa Police Services say that they are narrowing in on the days which they anticipate will be problematic. They are planning their operations to respond directly to the needs and be proactive; they will respond to every call. Residents also raise questions about how to report these incidents. Concerning the Move-out weekend, there will be additional staff and proactive enforcement for Solid Waste. Each year, there are fewer issues because of these efforts. The University of Ottawa's move-out is on April 26th, and should take place mostly on-campus. Mr. Guilbeault also indicates that the Dump and Run service will run that weekend as well. Ms. Mercier-Gauthier says that Housing Services have been and will continue to hold workshops to discuss rights and responsibilities of living off-campus.

8. OTHER

Mr. Guilbeault says that the Henderson residence project is moving forward within zoning. There was some feedback that was incorporated following the February 17th public meeting. Site Plan has been submitted and they will break ground in early summer of this year. Furthermore, he highlights that the RFI closed at the end of January, and that they cannot comment on specifics at this time. They commit to reaching out to the community as soon as possible.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting is adjourned at 6:30pm.