



Annual General Meeting – 2014
Assemblée générale annuelle – 2014

Thursday, May 15, 2014 Jeudi le 15 mai 2014
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM 18h00 à 21h00
Sandy Hill Community Centre Centre communautaire Côte-de-Sable

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Welcoming Remarks by the Moderator (Susan Young) and the President's Report (Christopher Collmorgen)

- The moderator called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. with housekeeping remarks and thanked the Block Representatives who had helped set up the room.
- Christopher thanked his two Vice-Presidents, Chad Rollins and Bob Forbes, for a fantastic job stepping into the role of co-Presidents when he became the proud father of twins. Christopher confirmed that he would not seek re-election and he shared his thoughts on his vision of Sandy Hill and his vision for ASH. He stressed the importance for ASH to build relationships with key stakeholders as so many issues facing ASH are complex and cannot be fixed by ASH alone. He thanked Councillor Fleury for his support and he mentioned the progress made with the Administration of the University of Ottawa through the Town and Gown meetings. Christopher highlighted some of the achievements he was most proud of: an amendment to the noise bylaw that makes it easier to levy a fine against a noisy party; an overhaul of the ASH bylaws and the development of a conflict of interest policy; the modernization of the ASH website; and finally the efforts by ASH and members of the community that led first to the interim control bylaw to prevent further conversions and second to the elimination of special rules for conversions via the introduction of new infill guidelines (followed by applause from the audience). Then Christopher invited members of the community to join ASH and contribute to the well-being of the community. He thanked all the Members of the Board, dedicated community volunteers and his partner Juliet for their precious support.

Review of Agenda (Susan Young)

- The moderator asked the audience for any amendments to the agenda. No amendments were requested.

Approval of the 2013 AGM Minutes

- Minutes were approved unanimously (motion by Benoît Delisle and seconded by Richard Mason)

Vote to Adopt Bylaw Changes for the New Conflict of Interest Policy (Yves LeBouthillier)

- Yves provided the background and the reasons why such a bylaw was developed by ASH, pointing to the last AGM where a motion was brought forward tasking the Board to implement a conflict of interest policy. Yves described how this new policy would affect Board Members, he explained the consultation process that took place in crafting the

policy, and he informed the audience of where the most recent version of the policy and guidelines are posted on the ASH website. Finally he indicated that this new policy had to be approved at the AGM in order to amend the ASH bylaws.

- Yves proposed a motion approving the new conflict of interest policy changing the wording of ASH Bylaw Article 4.19 as follows:

It shall be the duty of every Director or Officer who, in any way, whether directly or indirectly, has a personal legal or monetary interest in a question before the Board to fully declare the extent of such interest. No Director or Officer may take part in the Board discussion, cast a vote, or attempt to influence such vote, on any question in which he has an interest. Any Director or Officer found to not have complied with this section, or to have violated the Association's policies with respect to conflict of interest, shall cease to be a Director or Officer.

- The motion was seconded by Kyle Simunovic, all voted in favour with no abstentions, and the motion was approved.

Call for Nominations from the Floor by the Elections Officer (David Dymont)

- David indicated that the candidates for the 2014 ASH Board of Directors were (in alphabetic order): Camille Ainslie, Patricia Archer, Denis Forget, Brian Murphy, Jeremy Silburt, Marc Tremblay. A short biography for each candidate was circulated before the AGM and paper copies were posted in the hall. In total ASH received six nominations for eight open positions as well as one name, Chad Rollins, for the position of President.
- As per the elections rules in the ASH Bylaw, David asked the Assembly, in both French and English, whether anyone else wanted to bring forward any additional nomination. Nobody did. He then asked twice if anyone was opposed to any of the six nominations. Nobody was. He then declared that the six candidates were voted in by acclamation.
- David followed the same election process for the position of President. Chad Rollins was voted in as President by acclamation.
- David indicated that the new positions will become effective after the AGM has been adjourned.

Speeches from our Elected Representatives

(All three spoke in English and French but the notes are in English)

1. Hon. Mauril Bélanger, Member of the Federal Parliament

- The Honourable Mauril Bélanger thanked ASH for this invitation. He mentioned meeting the President of the University of Ottawa, Mr. Allan Rock, and encouraging him to replace old on-campus residences with bigger ones to mitigate the pressure on the Sandy Hill community. On the Federal scene, he criticised the proposed Election Act, describing a general consensus regarding needed amendments, which have been ignored by the Government. He concluded by indicating that he is always open for discussion and easy to reach.

2. Madeleine Meilleur, former Member of the Provincial Parliament for Rideau-Vanier, at the time of the AGM, candidate for the Liberal Party in the same riding

- Madame Meilleur thanked Christopher for his achievements as ASH President. Here are some of the main issues she mentioned to the Assembly:

- 1-She is in favour of removing 100% of trucks from King Edward, working to develop a plan following the feasibility study for a tunnel.
- 2-The Ottawa River Action Plan is a joint provincial-City of Ottawa initiative, providing \$64 million to clean up the Ottawa River.
- 3-She met with the UofO President to discuss solutions to student residences other than building big residences in Sandy Hill.
- 4-She favours closing the last coal-fired electricity plant in Ontario.
- 5-She participated in launching a strategic plan on cycling, for the streets to be safer for cyclists.

3. Mathieu Fleury, Municipal Councillor

- Councillor Fleury welcomed the audience and touched on a number of issues such as the LRT and the security surrounding the sinkhole on Laurier Ave., cycling routes, the construction on Rideau Street, the overpass for Lees Avenue, the pedestrian bridge over the Rideau River, the progress made regarding infill/conversions, the 30% reduction of calls related to noise, and the issue of trucks on King Edward Avenue.

Questions from the Floor for Elected Representatives

Q: For Mathieu: what is your vision for Rideau Street and what should be the height limit for buildings on that street?

A: Our wish is to see an active street with businesses on the ground floor and residential units from the second floor to the sixth.

Q: For Mathieu: There is a conversion on my street, can anything be done?

A: We are aware of this application and we did a follow-up, let's have this conversation off line.

Report from Sandy Hill Community Health Centre (David Gibson)

- Mr. Gibson greeted the audience and he reflected on what he considers to be a key issue for Sandy Hill in particular and most communities in general; sustainable development. He asked the question what makes a city or a community sustainable. Mr. Gibson indicated that we need access to great schools, safe streets, healthy food and good transportations however, above these, residents need to have programs that inspire them, that they are proud of. As a city grows, and its neighbourhoods are transformed, residents and citizens must take greater ownership. This is where a community association can contribute to the success of a community. Individuals must collaborate, diversity must bring strength, the public sector must work with the private sector. In the end, the whole is greater than the sum of its parts, this is how we can sustain a successful Sandy Hill.

Treasurer's Report (Kyle Simunovic)

- Kyle thanked members of the audience for attending the meeting. He indicated that his report will be posted on the ASH website.

Action Sandy Hill Financial Report
May 1, 2013 to April 30, 2014

Income

City of Ottawa – Payment for Rink Maintenance	\$3,642.00
One & Only Craft Show	\$2,070.00
Membership Fees	\$2,393.00
Sponsorship	\$1,350.00
Donations – “Save Sandy Hill”	<u>\$15,172.00</u>
Total Income	\$24,627.00

Expenses

SHCC Rink Maintenance	\$4,897.07
Fall Community BBQ	\$1,563.73
Sandy Hill Visioning Exercise	\$47.07
Website & Digital Communications	\$39.55
One & Only Craft Show	\$1034.00
Awards & Recognition	\$358.50
Town & Gown Committee Expenses	\$0.00
Bell – ASH Phone Line	\$252.90
Printing & Publicity	\$302.00
Volunteer Canada Membership/Insurance	\$524.44
Professional Fees	\$2,373.00
Bank Fees	\$70.26
SHCC Halloween Party	\$100.00
Winter Carnival Expense	\$1,237.89
General Meeting Expenses	<u>\$0000.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$12,700.41

Cash on Hand

ASH Chequings Account – \$10,147.24
ASH Savings Account – \$6,819.74
ASH “Save Sandy Hill” Fundraising Account - \$13,772.00

Committee Reports

1. By-law and Community Environment Committee (Sally Southey)

- 311 Calls
Sally reminded the Assembly that all complaints should be logged by either calling 311 or by posting them on-line at Service Ottawa. Regarding the official explanation about why some Sandy Hill residents have a “caller alert flag” on their phone numbers, the City indicated that their calls are handled differently, but we are waiting for a more detailed

response. ASH asked the Councillor to incorporate a monthly report on 311 calls and any analysis and planned response to trends in the monthly update to the ASH Board. Fewer noise complaints were logged with 311 this past year. Bylaw changes mean there is a zero tolerance for noise in Sandy Hill so attending officers are expected to give a fine not a notification unless there are good reasons otherwise. Please let ASH know if tickets are not handed out when officers respond to a noise complaint. ASH is continuing to seek clarification as to why landlords are not alerted when their tenants continually break noise bylaws. One solution suggested to the City and the Councillor was that a letter be sent to landlords of repeat offenders reminding them of their responsibilities as landowners. We have not had a response to that suggestion.

- La Maison restaurant/bar at the corner of Somerset St. E. and King Edward Ave. On the perennial noise, etc. issues surrounding la Maison, the councillor's office feels they have addressed the issues by insisting that the bar have a bouncer, that the gate remain closed, that the windows are shut at 11pm, and the patio closed at 11:30pm. The Councillor has offered to convene a meeting with residents who feel more work needs to be done to address their concerns.
- Volunteers
We would like to thank the 40 volunteers who helped clean up the park a few weeks ago and François Bregha for his coordination of the event. Claire Macdonald and Jane McNamara have spearheaded a campaign to get smokers to stop throwing their butts on the ground. We would like to thank all those who have been active in by-law enforcement, especially Claire MacDonald who remains extremely active despite stepping down from the ASH Board.

2. Communications, Membership and Outreach Committee (Alice Kwong)

- Alice was not able to attend the meeting. Eric Audet and Jane Gurr briefly spoke of the main activities undertaken by the committee and its sub-committees. They indicated the following:

The number of ASH members has almost doubled in the past year with many new and returning members signing up at the 2013 AGM. The opportunity for more new members to sign up was provided at each ASH sponsored event and via the Block Representatives. To streamline membership renewals, an end-of-calendar-year expiry date was implemented and electronic confirmation of membership was provided, eliminating the need for paper membership cards.

The Fundraising Sub-Committee drafted and submitted their terms of reference, which were approved at the October 29, 2013 Board Meeting. The main objective for the year was to ensure there was active fundraising for and membership recruitment at ASH's four big annual events: the September community BBQ, the One + Only Craft Fair, the Winter Carnival and the AGM. In regards to a broader fundraising strategy for ASH, the approach is to focus on specific community strategies and financial needs in response to development pressures in Sandy Hill. To this end ASH supported a volunteer committee to organize a community dance fundraiser, "Stepping Out for Sandy Hill", held in May. Special thanks to Lynn Marchildon for spearheading the project, and the team who joined in, Jane Gurr, Susan Young, Willow Scobie, Sabrina Mathews and Jennifer Cavanaugh.

To increase ASH's outreach to the community, a system of Block Representatives was initiated. Block Representatives act as liaisons between ASH and residents, whether the residents are ASH members or not, and provide updates and information about community issues. There are currently 30 individuals who have agreed to represent their blocks and to help relay information to/from their neighbours. There is still a need to find more volunteers, especially in the area north of Laurier, in Strathcona Heights and Robinson Village. Special thanks to Vivienne Bartlett for her leadership in spearheading and managing the block rep initiative.

3. Governance Committee (Yves LeBouthillier)

- Yves reiterated the excellent work done by his colleagues on the conflict of interest policy and he mentioned some challenges for the coming year such as the revision of part of the ASH Bylaw, including a review of the election procedures.

4. Planning, Development and Transportation Committee (Chad Rollins)

- Chad indicated that the Planning, Development and Transportation Committee includes the following six sub-committees: Development & Application Review sub-Committee (DARC), Infill & Zoning, Heritage, Transportation, Vacant and Derelict Properties, and Special Housing. In the last year, these committees were made up of 12 volunteers, who participated in more than 100 meetings, which represents several hundred hours of work. Their dedication was remarkable and the scope of their achievements outstanding.
- Richcraft finally installed a temporary park at Rideau and Charlotte. Installation of this park was a condition for demolition of the existing buildings at this site. The park should remain in place until redevelopment of the site commences.
- The Planning Committee reviewed and made submissions on two dozen development applications in Sandy Hill, including Official Plan Amendments, Zoning By-law Amendments, Site Plan Control Applications and Minor Variance Applications. In some cases our submissions led to improvements to the development and with some developments it led merely to delay. But in the instance of the proposed privately-owned (Viner) purpose-built student residence at Laurier Avenue and Friel Street our submissions helped convince Council to reject it outright. Special thanks is owed to Diane Beckett, Brian Murphy, Karina Kraenzle and others who lobbied Councillors on this front.
- The Planning Committee has also been lobbying the City to implement the recommendations of the Sandy Hill Heritage Study that was completed in 2010 and subsequently shelved. Thanks to our efforts there is now a Heritage Planner from the City actively working on implementing some of the Study's recommendations. We also submitted requests for the heritage evaluation and designation of more than a dozen properties. The City is still working on these evaluations.
- We also brought together ten community associations from across the City to collectively call on Council to develop a citywide Student Housing Strategy. We will continue to work with our colleagues from other community associations to convince the City that more can and should be done to ensure that the more than 100,000 post-secondary students in Ottawa have high-quality, affordable, safe housing options that are well integrated into existing communities. We owe a special thanks to Dean Pallen for all his work in coordinating this effort.

- As busy as the past year has been for the Planning Committee, next year will likely be even busier. Please consider volunteering to help lobby for good urban planning in Sandy Hill and beyond.

5. Special Housing Committee / Town and Gown (Bob Forbes)

- **Town & Gown**
Bob indicated that he felt there was much cynicism in the community regarding the University and that by joining the Town and Gown Committee it was possible to make a difference. The Committee meets four times a year and its mandate addresses issues such as noise, garbage, student move in and move out. The Committee has had a real impact, a lot of information is exchanged and concrete issues are tackled, things don't happen by accident. For example, the September walkabout has been very successful, the reason is that students go door to door and they talk to other students about living respectfully in Sandy Hill. The Town and Gown Committee is continually looking at best practices of other university neighbourhoods for improvements.
- **Special Housing Committee**
In response to the University decision to build a 165-bed residence on Henderson Avenue, ASH struck a Special Housing Committee that with the help of Block Representatives and volunteers throughout Sandy Hill organized a petition that drew more than 1100 signatures calling for the university to build on campus, not in the community. The RFI closed at the end of January and we will know in the next weeks and months what the University is proposing for additional off-campus housing. ASH will respond accordingly.

In February, ASH organized a small group to lead its "Save Sandy Hill" fundraising campaign which has a target of raising \$20K - \$50K to support the hire of an urban planner and perhaps a lawyer to help prepare our case to preserve Sandy Hill, a diverse, heritage neighbourhood, from inappropriate development. The first of these will be the Viner proposal at Laurier & Friel. The campaign, supported by many Sandy Hill residents, has already raised more than \$15,000 via email requests and door-to-door donations to Block Representatives. A variety of future fundraising events were planned to help us reach our goal, including the "Stepping Out for Sandy Hill" dance.

Questions from the Floor to the Board

Q: First, the University of Ottawa has introduced cigarette butt boxes, is the City planning something similar? Second, what is the policy regarding the replacement of dying trees? Many are dead on King Edward, Range Road, Sweetland, and beyond the tennis courts but they are not being replaced.

A: Mathieu Fleury: the policy is that one cut tree is replaced by one new tree except when it is not feasible, like in situations where there is no space available. I will follow up on dead trees in the streets you have mentioned and will inform the Board at the next Board Meeting.

Presentation of ASH Volunteer of the Year Award (Christopher Collmorgen)

- Christopher was delighted to present this award. He mentioned how difficult the choice was this year and announced the list of runners up with a short description of their

contributions to the community. The list was: Claire MacDonald, Dean Howard, Diane Beckett, Jennifer Cavanaugh, and Susan Young. He announced the 2014 winner was François Bregha, in recognition of his considerable work for the community in a number of areas. The Assembly gave François a sustained standing ovation.

Adjournment of the AGM

- Susan Young brought forward a motion to adjourn the AGM at 20:55p.m., seconded by Eric Audet.