

Action Sandy Hill
Annual General Meeting
Assemblée générale annuelle - 2016

Thursday, May 19, 2016
6 - 9 p.m.
Sandy Hill Community Centre

Jeudi le 19 mai 2016
18h00 à 21h00
Centre communautaire Côte de Sable

1. Meeting Commences / Ouverture de la réunion - Céline Bak

2. Review and approval of minutes from AGM 2015. Moved by Michael Barnes, seconded by Nicole Girard

3. President's Report / Rapport du président - Chad Rollins

Thanks to St. Joe's Supper Table, for their catering and good work in the community. Thanks also to the Sandy Hill Community Centre for their help throughout the year. Thanks to community groups who displayed their activities at tables before the AGM.

It's been an active yet challenging year for ASH, including on planning issues, the revitalization of Rideau street. Those responsible for the Trinity development engaged the community in a constructive and respectful way.

ASH has been active since 1969 and it's important to keep the momentum so we can make Sandy Hill an even better place to live. Those interested in helping plan events would be especially welcome, or those who would like to help increase our membership. There is also a need for volunteers to help with efforts to help preserve Sandy Hill's built heritage.

The president's report contains further details.

4. Proposed Bylaw Amendment (Marc Tremblay)

March discussed the governance committee's work over the year (see Annex A for report and amendments). The rationale behind the change is to provide the Board with flexibility in case the number of its members drops within a given year.

Moved by Chris Bradshaw, seconded by Jane Waterston. Passed unanimously.

5. Introduction of the Elections Officer / Introduction du directeur des élections - Lynn Marchildon

Introduction of Election Officer, Lynn Marchildon, who explained the elections process, including the 2-year term of Board members. Introductions of Board members who are remaining on the Board. 10 vacancies exist, and there are 5 nominations: Pat Archer; Jeremy Silburt; Ralf Blaine; Kelly McRae; Larry Newman.

There were no nominations from the floor.

Presidency: One candidate, Chad Rollins. No nominations from the floor. Lynn adjourned the process, in anticipation of presenting the new Board and President later in the AGM.

6. Speeches from our elected representatives / Discours de nos élus

Mauril Belanger's representing: Christine Charette (from the Constituency office). Mr. Belanger has introduced a Bill to make the national anthem to make it gender neutral, which is currently in second reading. M. Belanger is out of the hospital and intends on being back on the Hill soon.

Madeleine Meilleur: M. Meilleur touched on:

- The rebuilding of the Arts Court, a \$6.5 million dollar contribution, which the Arts Court won.
- Ontario's Cycling Strategy. A 20-year vision The province is investing \$25 million to improve cycling infrastructure. There's also been a change in the rules concerning the safety of cyclists in the province.
- New on the feasibility study related to truck traffic will be released by the City soon.
- LRT: the province will be a partner with the City for phase II of the project.
- Homelessness: pleased that the federal government is a partner in exploring funding for social housing. Youth, First Nations, the chronically homeless, and those in transition will be the priority moving forward. There was a recent \$12.2 million project approved to improve the social housing stock.
- Climate change legislation: An action plan will be released soon based on recent consultations. Part of this includes a plan to provide natural gas to rural communities. M. Meilleur plans on continuing to focus on climate change and there will be collaboration with other sub-national entities (Canadian provinces and U.S. states).

Mathieu Fleury:

- Mathieu is on the social housing committee, which is the City's largest landlord, serving 32,000 residents.
- Remarked on ASH's positive participation in the community.
- Discussed recent staff changes, including the addition of Emeline Sparks.

- Adawe Crossing between Sandy Hill and Vanier: completed. A public art opening on June 11 at 10 a.m. at the bridge.
- Cycling connection between Adawe and the University of Ottawa: there will be a project this summer to improve the situation.
- Uptown Rideau Community Development Plan: the last consultation took place at De La Salle High School. Thanks to Chad for his participation on the committee.
- Street greening project will start on Stewart street this summer, between King Edward and Friel.
- Zone on Nicholas between Rideau and Besserer, called Ogilvie Square, is also being development.
- Light Rail: there has been an impact on our community, including the Lees onramp, and now the transitway closure at Campus Station. This is a critical time to widen the underpass, our only chance before the train infrastructure is built. Work continues to improve the intersection at Nicholas and Laurier, which is a complicated case.
- Town and Gown: Provincial conference will be hosted next year in Ottawa. Landlord education sessions have taken place to educate the 12 worst offending properties in the neighbourhood. New initiative started called “Community Clean Up” similar to the spring Capital Clean Up.
- 311 bylaw calls: M. Fleury is not satisfied with the Ottawa Police Service’s proposed changes, and thinks the tools of the Criminal Code should be applied when necessary.
- Truck tunnel feasibility study: It might be released in July or August. M. Fleury is looking for committee engagement as the process moves forward.
- Prime Minister’s Row: a great community initiative looking to transform the beautiful building on Laurier (former church).

7. Questions from the floor for elected representatives / Questions de la salle pour nos élus

Question from Sally Southey to Meilleur: There is a provincial initiative under way to limit electoral contributions provincially. What will the province do for municipalities?

Answer from Meilleur: The Minister for Municipalities is looking into it, and you will hear back soon.

Answer from Fleury: I only took donations from local businesses.

Sally clarified: I am talking about big developers that control the planning committee at City Hall.

Fleury: I didn’t take money from Richcraft or Claridge.

Francois Bregha: Regarding the recently painted limits of 50 km/h: this won’t prohibit people from speeding

Fleury: working to slow it to 40 km/h. Also looking at other traffic calming measures. There was a mistake and it will be fixed.

Leanne Moussa: Thanks to Fleury for support on Prime Minister's Row. Other municipalities allow restoration to heritage buildings to be offset by property tax discounts. Would you be willing to champion this change?

Fleury: Agreed and will work together.

Community member: Raised the issue of bunkhouses, which continue to be build despite recent bylaw changes. What can we do to stop it?

Fleury: Infill 1 and Infill 2 have helped, the next two steps (review of R4 zoning and Secondary Plan review) will be critical. This is a term of council priority, so work is expected on this between now and 2018.

Community member: Garbage. ASH has a list of over 120 properties that don't respect garbage by-laws, but fines have been levied against only 6. Despite ASH's efforts, something more needs to be done. There needs to be capacity to handle the garbage produced from new bunking houses. What else can be done?

Fleury: It's hard to change solid waste guidelines, but we're reviewing them. The current by-law compliance period is 14-21 days, which is too much. We're looking to see what we can change legislatively to shorten this time.

Community member: Streets are for all people. I live on Besserer. Benches were removed due to condo development, but the site plan had certain conditions related to these benches, which should be reinstated. They are for underprivileged.

Fleury: major incidents have happened at the building. We want to return them but need to find the right time.

Community member: Dealing with bunkhouses. Some homeowners have been told how to make bunkhouses by city officials. Provided an example of a bunkhouse development seeking to increase the number of bedrooms in one building from 17 to 24. How is this happening and will you commit to finding out?

Fleury: Two elements: the R4 review and rooming house rules should restrict that. We can't legislate the number of bedrooms, but we can look at R4, rooming house, and guidelines. There is good news, in terms of the drop in demand for these kinds of permits.

Michael Barnes: The Ottawa-Carleton District School Board endorsed Viscount Alexander as a capital funding priority. We're seeking \$2.1 million and are wondering whether ASH and elected officials would support this.

Meilleur: I support that initiative and helped keep that school open in the past.

Rollins: I don't see why ASH wouldn't support it. We were asked to sign a letter of support for funds to improve the playground, which we did.

Second question: Would ASH and elected officials consider keeping parkland/open space protected at 400 Stewart?

Rollins: It's identified as a future open space in the secondary plan. But the City needs to agree to buy it, and the owner needs to agree to sell it.

Fleury: I'm supportive but we need to find the money and convince the developer to sell.

Community member: Garbage: The City should check the receptacles to make sure they're sturdy. Aren't there laws to make sure they contain the garbage? Student urinate publicly near my property. I'd like to see someone from the City check new buildings to ensure they comply with the building code.

8. Report from Sandy Hill Community Health Centre

Rapport du Centre de santé communautaire Côte de Sable - David Gibson

- Have brought 110 Syrian refugees into the SHCHC, with many variety health challenges. It's part of our program to welcome them.
- We have received funding for Viscount Alexander and children in the Strathcona Heights area.
- We are exploring opportunities to help train people in the coffee retail sector to give them skills.
- Community gardening initiative in Strathcona Heights: Looking at the development of a community gathering place.
- Appreciate the collaboration with the City, Province, and Federal government. The bicycle repair shop we created has worked well.

9. Treasurer's Report / Rapport du trésorier – Pat Archer

See report (Annex B).

10. Committee Reports / Rapport des comités

Block reps (Jan Harder and Nicole Girard): We consider ourselves the "email tree" of Sandy Hill. Representatives encourage each other to watch out for new issues, problems, etc. on their streets. Reps consolidate information, send it to Jan and Nicole, who report to the Board. Jan and Nicole also help disseminate information from the City, Police, etc. It's a small time commitment but a vital part of our community. We'd like to work with Strathcona Heights and get new reps from other areas of Sandy Hill.

Bylaw (Sally Southey): We've been told by M. Fleury's office that we need to go through Access to Information and we'll no longer be receiving information from his office. Claire MacDonald has worked to develop a comprehensive list of problematic properties. New employees at By-law have been helpful but more work to break down barriers is required. (See Sally's report for more details). See Annex C for Sally's written report.

Tree group (Susan Young): helps monitor for invasive species and look for opportunities to plant new trees.

Communications and membership (Denis Forget):

- 51 new members in the last year
- 242 members eligible to vote, but about 75 have participated tonight.
- Recent efforts to find an online payment system, which remains a work in progress.
- Thanked the Board for its collaboration and work to better the community.

Engagement with UoO / Town and Gown (Bob Forbes).

- Positive forum for interacting with the University, City, Police. Making progress. Good representative from landlord associations.
- Congratulations to Chad on his re-election.
- The University is exploring new residences on campus, though none have been built to date. Residences are also being build off-campus.
- Noise: complaints have decreased due to proactiveness by By-law enforcement.
- New "Noise in Sandy Hill" website provides landlords with information about noise complaints against their tenants.
- Bunk houses are an ASH priority this year. Conversion into unlicensed rooming houses is continuing.

Heritage (Ben Belisle):

- ASH has had victories and setbacks. But it's a priority. We need your help: tell us what you see so we can investigate.

Planning (Judy Rinfret) (Annex D):

- Planning not for the faint of heart, but the City offers help to educate citizens on these issues. We need experts, especially young people.
- This community is made up of people who care about the community, which inspires the Board.
- Looking forward to the day when we don't do battle with the City but act as partners.

Transportation (John Verbaas) (Annex E):

- Transportation Related Activities Undertaken on behalf of ASH in 2015
- Opposing the opening of the Chapel-Beausoleil intersection (as side effect of the development application for 151 Chapel St
- Advocacy with politicians at all 3 levels of gov't re. downtown truck route issue (Truck tunnel feasibility study)
- Negotiating Cycling improvements for Somerset St E.
- Parking related activities (reduction in parking requirements for new development along Mainstreets)
- Pilot project for winter maintenance of Sandy Hill portion of East-West Bikeway (Wilbrod/Stewart/Coburg streets)
- Traffic Calming Initiatives (Introduction of flex posts on selected streets)

- Participation in other City-wide transportation issues
- (Airport Parkway Widening, O-Connor St segregated bike lane)

11. Questions from the Floor to the Board / Questions de la salle pour le Conseil. No questions.

12. Other business - Autres sujets. No other business.

13. Presentation of ASH Volunteer of the Year Award - Présentation du prix Bénévole de l'année de l'ACS – Chad Rollins

Chad mentioned some of those who've, including Francois Bregha, Jan Findlay and Nicole Girard, Claire MacDonald, Cathy Major, Jane Mcnamarra, Sumeeta Millington, Cindy Mitchell, and Leanne Moussa for their accomplishments over the year.

Christine Aubry is this year's winner.

14. Election results or Introduction/Confirmation of Acclaimed Candidates - Les résultats des élections ou l'acclamation des candidats

New and Returning Members of the ASH Board of Directors

The following candidates, whose terms were expiring, were acclaimed as returning members of the Board of Directors, serving until 2018:

- Chad Rollins (*President*)
- Pat Archer (Treasurer)
- Jeremy Silburt (Director)

The following candidates were acclaimed as new members of the Board of Directors, serving until 2018.

- Ralph Blaine
- Kelly McRae
- Larry Newman

The following members were not up for election and continue to serve on the Board until their terms expire in 2017:

- Judith Rinfret
- Susan Young
- Robert Forbes
- Sally Southey
- John Verbaas

The following candidates, whose terms have now expired, have now retired from the Board. We thank them for their enormous contributions over the past two years:

- Ian Anderson
- Benoît Bélisle
- Denis Forget
- Marc Tremblay

Annex A:

**REPORT OF THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
ACTION SANDY HILL AGM
May 19, 2016**

The Governance Committee dealt with two issues this year.

A) Proposed amendment to reduce the number of Directors

The Board asked that the Governance Committee examine review the by-laws with a view to reducing the number of Directors. The existing provisions of the ASH by-law provide as follows (relevant portions of the provision are in bold for ease of reference):

4.1 Role and number of Directors and quorum - The affairs of the Association shall be managed by its Board of Directors, who shall, from time to time, take direction on certain issues from the membership. The number of Directors shall be **a maximum of sixteen and a minimum of twelve** of whom a majority shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If at any time, due to resignations or removals, the number of Directors **falls below 12**, a quorum of Directors must make best efforts to fill the vacancies within the following three months in accordance with Article 4.12. If there is no quorum of Directors, or there has been a failure to fill the vacancies, the Directors shall hold a general meeting for the purpose of holding elections without delay.

The ASH by-law also provides the process for amendments to its provisions:

12.5 Modification of this by-law - This bylaw may be amended or repealed at any time by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at a regular or special meeting of the Board. The amendments or repeal must be submitted to the Members at the next meeting of Members, and the Members may confirm, reject or amend the by-law, amendment or repeal by ordinary resolution.

The Board approved the following motion for an amendment to section 4.1 of the ASH by-law at its April 25th meeting:

Moved: To amend section 4.1 of the ASH by-law, to read as follows (changes underlined):

4.1 Role and number of Directors and quorum - The affairs of the Association shall be managed by its Board of Directors, who shall, from time to time, take direction on certain issues from the membership. The number of Directors shall be a maximum of sixteen and a minimum of ten of whom a majority shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If at any time, due to resignations or removals, the number of Directors falls below 10, a quorum of Directors must make best efforts to fill the vacancies within the following three months in accordance with Article 4.12. If there is no quorum of Directors, or there has been

a failure to fill the vacancies, the Directors shall hold a general meeting for the purpose of holding elections without delay.

Motion carried unanimously.

As required under section 12.5 of the ASH by-law, this amendment must be put to the membership at the May 19th AGM.

Moved:

To confirm the amendment of section 4.1 of the ASH Bylaws, as amended by the Board at its April 25, 2016 meeting, to read as follows (changes underlined):

4.1 Role and number of Directors and quorum - The affairs of the Association shall be managed by its Board of Directors, who shall, from time to time, take direction on certain issues from the membership. The number of Directors shall be a maximum of sixteen and a minimum of ten of whom a majority shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If at any time, due to resignations or removals, the number of Directors falls below 10, a quorum of Directors must make best efforts to fill the vacancies within the following three months in accordance with Article 4.12. If there is no quorum of Directors, or there has been a failure to fill the vacancies, the Directors shall hold a general meeting for the purpose of holding elections without delay.

B) Compendium of amendments to the ASH by-law

It transpired during the course of Board business that amendments made to the ASH by-law from time to time were not easily identified or tracked. The Board asked that the Governance Committee examine the minutes of previous AGMs to arrange a compendium of such amendments. The following amendments have been identified. We recommend that they be saved on the ASH website, to appear together with the original by-law, and to be read together. We further recommend that the compendium be updated by the incoming Governance Committee, to reflect whatever amendments may have been adopted at the AGM.

- Bylaw 4.2 amended as follows (2013 AGM minutes):

4.2 Qualification – No person shall be qualified as a Director unless he:

- a. Is an individual of at least eighteen years of age;
- b. is a resident of, or is the representative of the Student Federation of the University of Ottawa Executive;
- c. is, at the time of his election and throughout his term of office, a member of the Association; and

d. has not been found incapable under Ontario law or by a court and does not hold the status of bankrupt.”

- Bylaw section 4.3 repealed (AGM 2013 minutes)

- Bylaw section 4.19 amended (2013 AGM minutes):

“4.19 Declaration of interest – It shall be the duty of every Director and every Member of a Committee, who, in any way, whether directly or indirectly, (a) has a legal or monetary interest in a question before the Board or a Committee; or (b) who could be perceived to have the opportunity to use the authority, knowledge, or influence derived from his position for his own benefit, or the benefit of a member of his or her immediate family; or (c) where the interest of a Director or member of Committee may be, or may be perceived as being, incompatible with the interests of the Association, to fully declare the extent of such interest to the Board and/or Committee at the first opportunity. All declarations of conflict of interest shall be recorded in writing by the Association. No Director or member of a Committee may take part in a Board discussion and/or Committee discussion, cast a vote, or attempt to influence such vote or discussion, on any question in which he has an interest. In such matters, Directors and members of Committees are permitted to make their cases in the same fashion as any other petitioner before the Board or a Committee. Any Director or member of a Committee in contravention of this Article 4.19 shall immediately resign from the Board and/or Committee.”

- Bylaw Article 4.19 amended as follows (2014 AGM minutes):

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. (2014 AGM minutes)

- Bylaw article 4.18 amended as follows (2015 AGM minutes):

Decisions of the Board can be taken by electronic means, including by e-mail.

4.18.1 Notwithstanding section 4.18, a majority of the votes cast by the Officers of the Association is sufficient to approve expenses incurred in support of ASH purposes, up to a maximum of five hundred dollars (\$500).

4. 18. 2. Decisions of the Board can be taken by electronic means, including by e-mail.

In order to be accepted, a decision taken by electronic means need to have received the express support of a majority of Board members.

Annex B:

Treasurer's report:

We have a very healthy bank account with \$35,377.

There are three components to this amount.

We have \$15,470 for ASH expenses

\$10,000 from Homestead which we received as part of the settlement for the Range Road apartment building which is to be used for a community benefit

And \$9,288 remaining in the Save Sandy Hill account

We have on order a concrete ping pong table which will be erected behind the building here. We were originally using some of the Homestead money; however, we have recently received information from the SHCHC that they are holding \$6,800 for us to use in the Sandy Hill park, so we will be using some of those funds instead. These were funds left over from the fundraising done when the park was revitalized a few years ago.

So, we will once again be asking the membership for suggestions as to how to use the \$10,000 from Homestead.

ACTION SANDY HILL/COTE-DE-SABLE EN ACTION

Report of the Treasurer for the period January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015

TD Canada Trust (moved from Desjardins Caisse Populaire)

Opening balance - Chequing Account 25,470.05 (note 1) (note 2)

Income

Memberships	857.00	
Ice Rink	1,437.72	(note 3)
One & Only Craft Fair (net)	304.31	
Donations	301.80	
A/R from 2014 (street painting)	1,601.22	
Interest	1.41	
	<u>4,503.46</u>	

Expenses

Winter Carnival (net)	1,190.00
Spring Fair (net)	771.70
Fall Garage Sale advertising	148.60
Human Scale (Bytowne Cinema)	678.00
Memberships	130.00
AGM	715.59
Sandy Hill Halloween Party	150.00
Bank Fees	45.36
Admin fees	55.64
	<u>3,884.89</u>

Closing balance 26,088.62 (618.57 increase year over year)

Save Sandy Hill Account

Opening balance 9,831.34 + 1.24 interest = 9,832.58

Expenses

OMB appeals	544.03
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Closing balance 9,288.55

note 1 savings account (6,823.43) with Desjardins amalgamated into TD chequing funds

note 2 10,000.00 from Homestead (for community improvement) included in chequing account total

note 3 ice rink should net 0; however, City cheques received and deposited out of sinc with expenses

Annex C:

By-Law and Community Environment Committee Report 2016

The problems of garbage and noise, particularly those associated with the newly built student bunkers, continues to be a problem for the entire community.

I would like to thank Claire Macdonald for compiling a list of more than 132 problematic addresses, which have been the recipients of numerous 311 complaints and repeated requests for resolution.

Several of the worst offenders have been fined \$545...6 of them on Chapel and Stewart Streets. If the owners do not fix the problems By Law officials will get the City Contractors to do the work and then charge the owner for it. They also assure me they will monitor the recidivists and not hesitate to issue another order.

An order was issued for the Mann Plaza yesterday and the new owner has until June 20th to remedy all the by-law infractions including garbage, furniture and graffiti.

The By Law Committee met with city officials last summer and encouraged them to work with the planning department to find a win:win solution for by-law infractions caused by the new infills. The City is allowing landowners to build multiple bedroom units without adjusting garbage and other requirements for the number of intended residents. Despite repeated efforts to encourage collaboration within City Hall, building permits are still being issued when owners have not addressed garbage, recycling, and parking issues.

The suggestion for collaboration was also made at 2 Town and Gown meetings and at another meeting with the head of the Planning Section. Nipping the problem before issuing a building permit would save untold hours of by-law enforcement time and huge frustrations on the part of residents. It is a win;win solution and breaking down the silos between two sections of city hall cannot be that tough,

Please continue to call 311 or ServiceOttawa whenever you see a By-Law infraction. I know it is frustrating to be put on hold but it is worthwhile. If you don't complain the City will see a decrease in numbers and think they are doing a good job and there is no need to give as much attention to Sandy Hill as they do. The Committee has tried to get By-Law officers to be proactive but with limited success.

As of May 1, 2016 Ottawa police have stopped responding to noise complaints unless there is a risk to public safety. ASH has been working with its Councillor to try and change this recent policy and at the very least have a public consultation on the reduction of service, but have not had an update on that.

The Sandy Hill Tree Group formed was formed in 2015. This year it has worked with the City's Forestry Department to identify for replacement over 20 trees in south Sandy Hill, and a few more north of Laurier Ave. We also applied for a grant to depave a number of City-owned rights-of-way on Somerset St., and this has now become a pilot project with the Neighbourhood Connections Office, with the active support of the Councillor. We'll be looking for lots of hands to help us plant three sites this spring - stay tuned for the call for volunteers to the Community Power Plant.

You can always contact us at: sandyhilltreegroup@gmail.com .

It has been a busy year and your volunteers will continue to work with the City to ensure that we have a safe diverse neighbourhood where all residents respect the laws and receive good service.

Annex D

Planning Committee report 2016

Since all planning reports for this year are available on the ASH website, this report will feature the general ups and downs of the community's efforts to uphold the Sandy Hill secondary plan.

Upholding community values and urban planning principles is not for the faint of heart. The onus seems to be on ASH to prove that our concerns are legitimate and that we are not NIMBYS or squeaky wheels.

Although we were assured that the Sandy Hill Secondary Plan would be reviewed this year, that has not happened and it is long overdue. Sandy Hill needs clear policies to guide development that respects the built character of this neighbourhood while encouraging vibrant growth and accommodation for an eclectic mix of residents.

Most time and energy of the Development Application Review Committee (aka DARC) was spent on the Uptown Rideau Street Community Design Plan (URCDP) and two developments on that street - 560 Rideau and 151/153 Chapel.

Although the Trinity complex at 151/153 Chapel is not technically in Sandy Hill, ASH attended many meetings and negotiations with our counterparts in Lowertown. The developer submitted revised plans with somewhat lower towers and a nod to a POP (privately owned public space), which were finally more or less acceptable to both communities; but the opening of the Chapel cul de sac at Beausoleil was not agreeable. Major concerns and evidence about cut through truck and other traffic were somewhat addressed in time for the Ontario Municipal Board hearing in late March. The developer has made many commitments to controlling and monitoring traffic which the community will also be monitoring. Sadly we realize that if the mitigation measures are not effective, the cul de sac will almost certainly remain open.

During the course of our efforts on this file we discovered some disconcerting realities:

1. the URCDP contains a clause that may allow the opening of other cul de sacs between Lowertown and Sandy Hill, which were established as barriers many years ago, after a thorough city transportation study. Without a major study to rationalize any change, we are profoundly concerned that what was originally intended to protect our downtown communities from heavy commuter traffic may be changed arbitrarily and in the interests of any developer.
2. No one at the city was able to explain, until very late in the process, how a publicly owned street could be manipulated for private benefit.

560 Rideau Street is intricately connected to the URCDP. After a willingness to compromise, once new plans were submitted for that project just over a year ago, ASH was blindsided by the city's planning committee hearing in early July for a 14 storey tower and full development of the south side of almost the whole block between Charlotte and Cobourg. Stalwart efforts to meet with members of that committee were not effective enough to avoid the eventual acceptance at Council. Our defeat on this issue was especially discouraging as a petition asking for respect for the UPRCDP had been signed by over 600 residents and our arguments were sound - the older CDP allowed up to six storeys on this site and the proposed CDP would have allowed the same. So far no date has been set for the ASH OMB appeals on this file.

URCDP- was finally adopted by Council in November after nearly two years of meetings, discussions and compromises with all parties. ASH was represented throughout by our president, Chad Rollins. Generally the community was satisfied with the new, presumably more potent and realistic CDP which recognizes Upper Rideau as a street with four distinct areas for development potential. Character area A, the south side of Rideau from the river to Chapel Street, is limited to development height of six storeys, due to the proximity to low rise heritage housing on Besserer Street. Since 560 Rideau Street is within that area, ASH has appealed the CDP as it affects that particular development.

We continue to be concerned and confused about multi bedroom housing replacing what were once modest single family homes. Despite our efforts and involvement with city planning studies and outcomes (conversions stopped, infill 1 and infill 2), it seems to be profitable to build residential units that belie our secondary plan and neighbourhood vision. These units are mostly rented by students - once that market is satiated, which appears to be the case, what will become of them?

On the assumption that we are all walking and biking and about to hop on the LRT and public transit system, the city has considerably relaxed parking requirements. We are still waiting for parking studies to limit the amount of parking provided in new developments. If parking is limited, there will be less underground digging and disruption of soils and water tables among other benefits. The developers of 151/153 Chapel agreed to provide every unit with a one year transit pass, partly in response to concerns about increased traffic. This may be a good policy for every large development.

On the other hand -

The city continues to offer excellent planning courses - generally on Saturday or Monday mornings.

There is an impression that the concerns of community are beginning to command more attention and respect.

A few of us met with Lee Ann Snedden who, as acting chief of the city's development review services, has been seeking the views of community associations. Chad attended a meeting at the city where Sandy Hill and two other communities presented to the whole planning department, major community issues. The city has also announced that communities will be supported by "ambassadors", perhaps to counter the outrage expressed when a similar program was set up for developers.

Recently, in the cases of two large developments in our area, the city has insisted on more strictures for soil monitoring (very important in our Leda clay districts) and vibrations and noise - all issues which seemed to be ignored, as tragically evidenced in Lowertown at Claridge's Water Street condo development.

The coach house or lane house policy has been drafted and will be reviewed in the fall - ASH commented about privacy, light and assurance that there would be no ability to sever such houses.

Thanks to the efforts of the by law committee and good communication, DARC takes note of and comments about garbage and snow storage when reviewing site plan applications.

Garbage may be the new smoking - we really need to raise awareness of and insistence about our rights to garbage free neighbourhoods.

The reality in Ottawa is that the development industry is small and well connected socially, politically, and professionally. It is not easy, even if financing can be accomplished, for anyone outside that circle to find professionals (e.g. traffic engineers, lawyers, planners) to represent them. Development application fees pay the entire salaries of the city's development planning staff and the city does almost no independent analysis of any aspect of development applications.

ASH will need to cooperate with other communities to find an effective way to ensure our values and political representation that address these imbalances.

Annex E

ASH AGM 2016: Annual Report - Transportation

The main transportation related activities carried on in 2015-2016 as part of the portfolio of the ASH Planning committee include:

1. Opening of Chapel-Beausoleil intersection (as side effect of the development application for 151 Chapel St
2. Advocacy re. downtown truck route issue (Truck tunnel feasibility study)
3. Cycling improvements for Somerset St E.
4. Parking related activities
5. Winter maintenance of Sandy Hill portion of East-West Bikeway
6. Traffic Calming Initiatives
7. Participation in other City-wide transportation issues

In more detail:

1. Opening of Chapel-Beausoleil intersection (as side effect of the development application for 151 Chapel St

Much time was expended in trying to convince the City that the proponent's request to open this intersection would lead to significant increases in cut-through traffic on Chapel St in Sandy Hill and onto Beausoleil Dr in Lowertown. We worked together with representatives from the Lowertown Community Association in these efforts. The City requested that the proponent (Trinity Developments) put this question to a traffic consultant who reported back that in their estimation no such cut-through traffic issues would result. This greatly increased the efforts required on our part to hold to our thesis and after many meetings and letters the City and the developer finally addressed our concerns by agreeing to prohibit north-south movements through the Chapel-Rideau intersection (via signage) and that the developer would pay for dedicated traffic enforcement personnel to ensure compliance with this change. Lastly, the developer also agreed to undertake a traffic study approximately 6 months after the development was completed and to commit to further mitigation measures should the traffic study indicate the site had generated any traffic related problems.

ASH had suggested and preferred other approaches to mitigating the cut-through traffic problem however these were rejected by the City as being impractical from a Public Works perspective (snow clearing, movement of garbage vehicles, etc).

The final design for Chapel Street between Rideau and Beausoleil will include bike lanes along this block and a raised all way stop intersection at Beausoleil. The completion of the development along with these Chapel St changes is expected to take about 3 years.

One of the elements of this whole episode that was most frustrating for ASH was that such a significant change to a long established traffic calming/management plan (this cul-de-sac at Beausoleil) could be overturned by an application from a developer without any hearing or debate by the City's Transportation Committee. In contrast to this, a community requesting

something like converting an intersection to a 4-way stop or a change to 40 km/hr in a school zone does go through debate at Transportation Committee!

2. Advocacy re. downtown truck route issue (Downtown Truck Tunnel Feasibility Study)

During the past year the City of Ottawa has been putting the final touches to the Downtown Truck Tunnel Feasibility Study which was initiated in the Fall of 2013. It is expected that this report will be released and presented to the City Transportation Committee on June 4. The current Study is intended to resolve the question of whether such an initiative is technically feasible along with a very rough initial cost estimate.

ASH along with several other interested community representatives have met in 2016 with City councilors, MPPs, and MP's underscoring the importance of this Study and the need to show vision in moving the possibility of this solution to the downtown truck problem forward towards reality. 2016 will be a very important year in determining whether or not the 3 levels of government are going to work together to finally resolve this issue.

During the peak hours of the day a heavy truck is passing through the Waller, Rideau, and King Edward corridor approximately every 20 secs. This volume (2600 interprovincial trucks per day) adds up to almost 1 million trucks per year passing through our downtown.

3. Cycling improvements for Somerset St E.

With the opening of the welcome new Adawe pedestrian and cycling bridge over the Rideau R. Somerset St is going to become a much more heavily used cycling connection to/from the UofO and downtown. ASH has been meeting with the City to define both shorter term and longer term changes to Somerset St to make this cycling route safer and more attractive. An initial set of changes, including the painting of what is referred to as 'advisory bike lanes' along approximately half of the blocks between Range Rd and King Edward. An advisory bike lane is slightly narrower than a regular bike lane and is delineated from car traffic by dashed lines vs a solid white line. This is necessary because the road is not wide enough to support a regular bike lane and still leave enough room for 2-way car traffic to pass. The dashed line indicates to cars that they are allowed to drive in the bike lane if no cyclists are present when needed for 2 cars to pass each other. Implementation of more cycling related features on Somerset is complicated by the fact that a bus route uses this road and lane widths need to be greater to accommodate the bus traffic.

ASH is continuing discussions with the City to attempt to introduce changes to the 'bulb-outs' on Somerset St. E. so that cyclists are not forced by these bulbouts towards the center of the road and into the path of overtaking vehicles.

4. Parking related activities

During 2015, the City reviewed the parking utilization along Rideau St and decided that it was so low that they would reduce the hourly rate for the on-street paid parking in an attempt to encourage more patronage of businesses along Rideau.

The City also undertook a review of the zoning requirements for the amount of parking that should be provided for new developments in some areas of the City. The scope of the proposed changes that affects Sandy Hill are related to one area and that is along Traditional Mainstreets (which in our case is Rideau St). The intent is to reduce the amount of required parking in order to reduce the burden on some kinds of new developments, such as retail businesses along the street or smaller scale residential buildings. I.e. many restaurants or stores are currently unable to provide the required amount of parking and so avoid location along some areas of traditional mainstreets. Similarly, the current parking requirements favour larger highrises because only those have enough number of units to be able to front end the high cost of underground parking. In the new proposed regulations along a traditional mainstreet the parking requirements can be broadly summarized as:

- no parking will be required for residential or office buildings that are 4 stories or less in height.
- for residential buildings higher than 4 stories there will be no changes from the current parking requirement
- for office buildings higher than 4 stories the amount of parking spots required will be half of the current requirement
- for businesses along the ground floor/basement along traditional maintreets there will be no parking required if the business is < 500m² in size (with 2 exceptions to this 500m² rule). If the business is a restaurant the threshold is 350m² after which some parking must be provided and if the business is a grocery store, the threshold is 1500m² before any parking must be provided.

It should also be noted that earlier in 2015 (unrelated to this parking zoning review described above) the City removed the need to provide any parking for any low-rise residential development that consists of 12 units or less. This change does have broad applicability to much of the residential areas of Sandy Hill.

5. Winter maintenance of Sandy Hill portion of East-West Bikeway

Winter 2016 was the first year that the City committed to provide enhanced snow clearing on the bike lanes in Sandy Hill along Laurier, Cumberland, Stewart/Wilbrod, and along Coburg streets. The City encountered some challenges with this commitment and feedback is ongoing on how to improve the service for next year. The initial commitment is to continue this practice for the remainder of this term of council (till 2018).

6. Traffic Calming Initiatives

During the current term of council, the City is providing 2.8m\$ per year for "Traffic, Pedestrian and Road Safety Enhancements". Some of this money is to be used towards preparing and implementing a "Traffic Calming Measures Implementation Plan" for each ward. Recently the City has been advocating the installation of flexible centreline posts along streets as a preferred method for achieving traffic calming. These posts would be installed each spring and removed in the winter (to enable snow clearing operations). ASH has been in discussion with Mathieu Fleury about the possibility of such centreline posts on sections of Chapel, Blackburn, and Mann Ave.

7. Participation in other City-wide transportation issues

ASH also participates occasionally in other City-wide transportation related issues. This includes meeting several times per year with transportation representatives of other downtown community associations under the umbrella of a networking group we call the City Centre Coalition (CCC). More CCC maintains a web site at www.ccc-ottawa.ca

Some of the City-wide initiatives that ASH has participated in this year include:

- o the Environmental Assessment for 4-laning the Airport Parkway
- o the Study for adding a segregated bike lane along O-Connor St
- o proposed changes to Rideau St along the Rideau Ctr (to reduce from 4-lanes to 2-lanes and widen sidewalks)
- o advocating in support of a Councilor Chernushenko motion to study best practices in other cities for congestion charging/user fees and potential relevance for Ottawa.