



Meeting of the Board of Directors

Monday, November 30, 2020

7:00 pm – 8:27 pm via video conference

MINUTES

Present: David Elden, Claude Jobin, Cathy Major, Megan Reilkoff, John Verbaas, Susan Young, Hilary Duff, Paula Tchen, Michael Barnes, Yipeng Ge

Regrets: Trina Cooper-Bolam

Guests: Jan Finlay, Erin Woods (Councillor's office), Constable Sébastien LeMay

1. The agenda was approved without additions.
2. Review and approval of October 26 minutes – Motion to approve moved by Cathy Major seconded by Dave Elden, unanimous.
3. Ottawa Police Services – Constable Sébastien LeMay reported that the crime figures in all categories for the third quarter of 2020 were down for the same period last year. The pandemic was the main reason for this reduction. The sole exception was for breaches such as breaking curfews were up. However, these types of charges are not a direct threat to the community.

The Neighbourhood Resource Teams (NRTs) have been up and running for a couple of months. There are 4 teams of 8 officers each. They operate 7 days a week; 7am to 9pm, Monday to Friday and on Saturday and Sunday the hours are extended until the bars in the Byward Market close.

Constable LeMay has met several times with the organizers of the St. Paul's Respite Centre. The organizers have given the police agent status which means they can take action on the premises without first consulting with the management. The NRT officers were introduced to the management and “respecting the neighbours” has been stressed.

Susan mentioned that she is part of the focus group which is looking at the work of the NRTs.

Traffic officers have been engaged to survey Chapel at Wiggins Private where cars are illegally cutting through.

4. Councillor's Report:

- STO proposed tram crossing: The Transportation Committee approved two options to bring the proposed tram crossing from Aylmer to downtown Ottawa. Two options will be studied; a tunnel under Sparks Street (favoured by the Councillor) and another on the surface of Wellington St. Council then directed the Mayor to write to the Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Infrastructure and Communities to request that the federal government prioritize investments in Stage 3 LRT and the STO tramway, rather than in a sixth bridge between Gatineau and Ottawa. There was no discussion of how to remove trucks from the downtown core. Susan asked how this will work with the NCC interprovincial crossing study, which is not near completion – the Mayor's ask appears to be jumping the gun. John believes that Council's direction will confuse federal officials. John also pointed out that the removal of truck traffic from the downtown core was included in the Term of Council Priorities in 2019. **Action:** John will prepare a follow-up letter to City officials asking what work has been done to date on this Term

of Council priority. The Councillor will set up a meeting in the new year with the MP, MPP and ASH to discuss the issue further.

- 2 Robinson: No plans for the development at 2 Robinson have been submitted to the City. The Councillor is proposing a working group to look at active transportation and missing links at the site as well as park space dedication. A community working group is looking at a community benefit agreement (CBA) for the site which would include affordable housing options and City services. The Councillor stressed it was important to put together a list of items to be covered by the CBA. **Action**: Susan to share with the Councillor the very preliminary list of items being considered by the community group for a CBA.
- New Draft Official Plan (OP): At the ASH meeting in January 2021, the Councillor would like the team responsible for the draft OP to present those parts of the draft which will impact Sandy Hill. The SH secondary plan has now been incorporated into a new Centre-East Downtown Secondary Plan. **Action**: Susan suggested that this presentation should be open to the community and will convene the Communications Committee to determine how best to advertise this presentation to residents. Cathy will be comparing the existing Sandy Hill Secondary Plan with the proposed new Centre-East Downtown Secondary Plan, and the Planning Committee will meet to review and prepare questions for City staff.
- Mann/Templeton/Range Road Work: Most of the work has been completed. The Russell Ave. segment of the project will be completed in 2021. The Councillor is trying to get the section of the road where Mann runs into Range Rd asphalted before winter. A raised crossing at Range and Somerset will also be added next year.
- Strathcona Park Gazebo: The Councillor asked for an update on this project. Susan indicated that Barry Padolsky is looking for contractors that would provide pro bono work on the gazebo. Claude still has to discuss the possibility of enlarging the gazebo and including plugs, lighting etc. with Barry.
- City Budget: The \$3.9 billion budget will be going to Council for approval. The Councillor indicated he would be dissenting on a few issues such as the increase in the police budget and no extra funding for affordable housing.
- 12 trees available: There are still 12 trees available for planting in the community. The Councillor encouraged those interested in a tree to contact his office directly.
- Combined Sewage Storage Tunnel (CSST): The CSST on Cumberland officially opened last week. There is still some additional work to be completed next year such as further landscaping.
- Rideau St: The planned opening for Rideau St is December 19 at which time OC Transpo operations will return to normal.
- Respite Centre: The Respite Centre is open. Any issues should be forwarded to the Councillor.
- Town and Gown: Next meeting in March 2021 and the Councillor has asked uOttawa for an update on its housing plan.
- Cornerstone Facility: Cornerstone will open a centre for women in the uOttawa residence on Friel in December.

5. Block Reps Report: Jan had nothing to report.

6. Executive Report: none.

7. Treasurer's Report: Megan

- The Treasurer's Report for October 2020, was circulated by email to the Board members. Susan asked whether the \$5K designated for the Rideau River Trail had been sent. Megan indicated it had and the dispersal would appear on the November Treasurer's Report.
- Megan indicated that the first rink payment should arrive this month.

8. Committee Reports:

- a) Communications: Hilary had nothing to report. Susan commented that residents are sending positive feedback on the ASH newsletter.
- b) Environment: The planting plan for the north side of Mann (the strip mall) was received and commented on. We are waiting for the revised plan which will then be presented to the owners and tenants of the strip mall.
- c) Membership: 239 members. Dave noted that there were memberships which expired in November. He noted that some of the expired memberships were usually renewed at the One and Only Craft fair. However, since the fair has been cancelled due to COVID, the renewals have not been received. **Action:** Dave will send out reminders to renew ASH memberships and Susan suggested that Dave link the renewal to the Craft fair.
- d) Dark Side of Sandy Hill Walking Tour: Hilary indicated there were 4 walks with a total of 80 participants. \$540.00 was raised and was presented to Megan. 4 to 5 people joined ASH during the tour.
- e) Planning and Heritage: No further meetings have been held with local Sandy Hill developers to discuss future developments. Susan reported that ASH supported the Lowertown letter to fund the Byward Market Public Realm Plan. There has been no new developments in the plans for 71, or 114-122 Russell Ave. Michael Barnes emailed draft minutes of settlement for the development at 244 Fountain Place which will be presented to TCU. Cathy asked about the work on the Egyptian Embassy site. **Action:** the Councillor will send an update on this project. The owner of 460 Wilbrod (located in a Heritage Conservation District) who started to cover the bricks with stucco has agreed to restore the bricks. Paula mentioned she saw Bylaw officers at 322 Somerset St. There have been no developments at this address since September. 2 Robinson: The Lebreton Flats Community Benefit Agreement Coalition is an organization whose goals are to develop and provide affordable housing, revitalize communities, and provide outreach & education through a CBA for LeBreton Flat. The Coalition has much experience and information to share about how to proceed with Community Benefit Agreements, which is of interest to a community working group concerning 2 Robinson. **Motion:** Claude presented a motion that ASH join the Coalition. Dave seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.
- f) Transportation: There was a short discussion as to whether ASH should support the Centretown letter to the NCC requesting that the Queen Elizabeth Driveway (Driveway) be made into multi-use pathway. Michael indicated he did not support the proposal as it would eliminate access to people with disabilities who use the Driveway to see the Canal, and it would make access to those living close to the Driveway difficult. John said that this was not an easy decision to make and would require studies to determine the impact of closing the Drive. **Action:** Susan will reply to Centretown suggesting a hybrid model for the Driveway as opposed to closing the Driveway completely.

9. New Business:

- Due to COVID, the annual Christmas Party will be postponed and a 2021 spring party will be considered.

10. Next Meeting: January 25, 2021.