



## **Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Monday, October 25, 2021

6:30 pm – 9:35 pm via video conference

### **MINUTES**

Present Board Members: David Elden, Cathy Major, Megan Reilkoff, Michael Barnes, Susan Khazaeli, William Milner, Jan Finlay, Peggy DuCharme, Yipeng Ge, John Verbaas, Hilary Duff, Anya Fraser, Stéphanie Plante

Regrets: Trina Cooper-Bolam.

Guests: There were a total of 22 people in attendance including the Councillor and Erin Wood.

1. Approval of minutes of Board meeting:

- The minutes for the September 27, 2021 will be approved at the November 29, 2021 meeting.

2. Meeting Agenda:

- **Motion:** ? moved that the meeting's agenda which was emailed to Board members prior to the meeting be approved. The motion was seconded by ? and unanimously approved.

3. President's Update:

Panda Party:

- Susan Khazaeli drafted a letter in which she proposed recommendations and solutions for future Panda Game parties. The letter was circulated to the Board for comment. Will Milner, the Town and Gown representative, did not provide written comments to the letter. Susan asked for his input during the meeting. Will stated he was very disappointed in the letter and that it pointed the finger at students. He suggested that instead of a Code of Conduct for Students there should be a Code of Conduct for Residents. He also stated that the recommendations gave too much power to the police. Cathy Major argued that this was a student riot and pictures from that evening did not show families and seniors in attendance. She also stated that people are tired of living in fear in their homes when these student parties are in progress. She suggested that the drafted letter should be finalized and sent to the Councillor prior to the November 4 Town and Gown meeting so that he knows where the Community stands on this matter.
- The Councillor mentioned that he would be bringing an inquiry before Council on Wednesday which would ask the following questions:
  - what consequences can be given to deter individuals from further engaging in mass, unsanctioned street parties?
  - What can be done proactively to prevent destructive, unsafe, unsanctioned parties in Sandy Hill?
  - Were individual fines given out to those who engaged in activities that broke public health regulations?
  - What and how many fines were issued by By-law in response to the incident that followed the Panda Game?
  - What tools does the City have to ensure all risk areas of Panda Game are prevented and properly responded to (including Special Events Tools)?

- Michael Barnes suggested that with public monies an independent person should be hired to look at what has been happening at other universities to determine what works best. Peggy DuCharme suggested all control of the Panda party be put in the hands of the University in order to avoid putting the Community in this position.
- **Motion:** Peggy DuCharme moved that any additional comments on the draft letter be sent to Susan Khazaeli by November 1 in order for the letter to be sent to the Councillor and copied to the City Manager, the Chief of Police and the President of the University prior to the November 4<sup>th</sup> Town and Gown meeting. Dave Elden seconded the motion. The majority of directors voted in favour of the motion. Will Milner was the lone nay vote.

#### Issues in the Northwest of Sandy Hill:

- Two letters were received from residents on Daly Avenue and Besserer Street which outlined the issues faced by residents on those streets. These issues include security, theft, urination on private property, noise, garbage and rats. More frequent garbage pick-up, better lighting and more street sweeping were recommended by the residents to deal with the ongoing problems of garbage and used needles and syringes. Louise Lapointe stated that these issues were unacceptable and supported the recommendations in the letter.
- Mike Allen mentioned that the petition to reopen Daly Avenue at Waller was on line and he hoped to get a larger part of the neighbourhood to sign. Michael Barnes indicated that because of the problems around the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre (SHCHC), a lot of the patrons of the SHCHC would go else where for their health care if they could to avoid the conditions surrounding SHCHC.
- Ottawa Public Health is sending two speakers to the November 29 ASH Board meeting to discuss the safe supply program. The Councillor indicated that there needs to be more attention paid to the root causes of the problems on Besserer Street. The Councillor has developed 3 strategies for dealing with the situation:
  - Advance 24/7 on the ground City presence.
  - Doubling of the Safe Supply Program
  - Investment in permanent housing
- There was a lengthy discussion on the 3 strategies. Susan mentioned that the residents want more immediate solutions such as increased garbage collection and street sweeping. Jan Finlay suggested that we canvas wards like Lowertown and Somerset where there are safe injection sites to find out how they resolved similar problems.
- John Verbaas mentioned that the reopening of Daly Avenue at Waller would allow traffic to flow thereby alleviating some of the problems in this area. He asked that the Board should direct him to talk with the Councillor and City Staff on the reopening to determine if there is support to do so. The Councillor mentioned that there are other closed streets in Sandy Hill and that reopening Daly may have consequences for the other closed streets.
- **Motion:** Peggy DuCharme moved that the Board direct John Verbaas to explore the possibility of reopening Daly Avenue at Waller with the City traffic staff. John would report his findings to the Board for further direction. Anya Fraser seconded the motion. It was passed unanimously.
- The Councillor suggested that rather than go directly to City staff to discuss the reopening, ASH would be further ahead to first consult with the community through an article in Image to gauge whether there is an appetite to do so. Peggy suggested that John could approach the City at the same time as the community is being engaged. The Councillor indicated with the upcoming election, priorities change. If we have a strong direction from the community to reopen there is a greater chance of success.
- ASH received a letter from the Rideau WinterTrail asking that we sponsor this group again this year. Megan said that we donated \$1500.00 to RWT last year. However, since we have no revenue sources this year, we could support RWT but not with the same amount. Susan will send a note to the RWT to see what their expectations are this year.

#### 4. Clean and Safe Committee - Terms of Reference:

- Peggy DuCharme reviewed version #6 of the Terms of Reference for the Clean and Safe Committee. She mentioned that Anya Fraser was prepared to introduce a motion to approve this version of the Terms of Reference. John Verbaas would second the motion.
- Cathy Major asked which Special Events would be supported by the Clean and Safe Committee. Peggy provided the example of the recent Park protest at Besserer Park. The Committee would check the park in advance and remove garbage, discarded needles etc.
- The Councillor was concerned about a duplication of efforts between the Committee and Town and Gown, the Police and Bylaw.
- Michael Barnes suggested that the Committee choose an issue with a narrow focus as a pilot project to test the effectiveness of the Committee.
- Peggy indicated she would contemplate Michael's proposal.
  - Note: Following the meeting, Peggy sent an email to the Board in which she stated that given that the Board could not reach a consensus on a Terms of Reference for the clean & Safe Committee, she was withdrawing her interest to form and chair this committee, thusly dissolving the Clean & Safe Committee. Peggy agreed to remain as the Board's representative on Public Realm Maintenance and Public Safety matters.

#### 5. Councillor's Updates:

- Annie Pootoogook Park: November 7 is the official opening of Annie Pootoogook Park. The Councillor's office will send out a poster for the event.
- Infrastructure: Due to EMS and current traffic volumes, the City has moved work on Laurier and Nicholas to the spring of 2022. The redo of the Range/Somerset intersection will take place in early spring of 2022.
- Sandy Hill Community Centre (SHCC): A request has been made by Emergency Services to rename the SHCC as SHCC can be confused with the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre. Susan and Stephanie have a few names in mind. The community will be consulted with before deciding on a proposed new name.

#### 8. Adjournment:

**Motion:** Stéphanie moved that the meeting should be adjourned. Michael seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm.