

## **Environment Committee Report to October 30/23 ASH Board Meeting**

A Cleaning the Capital project was held on October 14/23 with 15 people turning out. After doing a clean-up in Strathcona Park from Laurier to Mann, people extended the clean-up to include parts of Osgoode, Somerset, Blackburn and around the Sandy Hill Community Centre.

Committee met on October 11/23. There was further discussion of plans for an EcoFair in 2024. It was agreed that a draft budget would be prepared, and dates proposed for discussion at the October Board in preparation for a park permit application. To assess how readily information might be prepared to guide tree planting priorities, Bryan has started to analyze tree canopy coverage information. This will be assessed further in the coming months. Other topics included miniforest initiatives.

Bryan has written to the coordinator for the Environment and Climate Change Committee and other city staff asking about the city's tree planting strategy and proactive tree planting and inquiring how ASH and the general public may provide input to this new strategy.

An article by Bryan was in the latest *Image* concerning the Zoning Bylaw process, responses by ASH on the discussions papers on climate change and trees, and opportunities for people to send comments to city officials.

CAFES held a Trees and Greenspace Caucus on October 25<sup>th</sup> which Marilyn attended. Much of this was a round-table discussion of activities by various neighbourhood groups, Ecology Ottawa, Fletcher Gardens and others. There was a proposal for work on planning, zoning, and trees to be submitted to the city in early 2024. Marilyn said that people from ASH would be prepared to be involved.

Also, the Sandy Hill Tree and Greening Group did a final clean-up of the season on a drizzly Saturday morning in the beds along Somerset at Chapel and Russell.

October 27/23