



Minutes

Meeting of the Board of Directors

Monday, April 24, 2023

6:30 pm – 8:55 pm in person & virtual

Present: John Verbaas, Marilyn Whitaker, Kendra Eyben,, Cathy Major, Jan Finlay, Glenn Grignon, Jessica Silburt, Bryan Dewalt, Megan Reilkoff, Calla Barnett, Dave Elden and Michael Barnes

Regrets: Louise Lapointe

Guests: Total number of participants were 11.

1. Review of agenda

Kendra wanted to add an update on the ASH records. Unfortunately due to a time restraint the update was not possible. This will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

2. Review and approval of minutes of March 27, 2023 meeting, with changes

Motion to adopt the minutes moved by Cathy, seconded by Jan, **Carried**

3. Chair's opening remarks

John clarified that due to Louise's ongoing health issues, he would be filling in for Louise where a physical presence of the Chair was required. Louise has set up a President's in box which John and Louise are monitoring. John attended a meeting with Lowertown and Vanier Community Association Presidents and the Councillor at which was discussed:

- social issues around Rideau Street. The Councillor will push for low tolerance for encampments. She is studying the emergency response calls associated with encampments and the costs associated with these calls.
- The government has set aside \$400M in the last budget for more consumption and safe injection sites. The Councillor and other stakeholders want to meet with our MP to ensure that there will be no more safe injection sites in our community and that funds will be directed towards better security at the current site and more rehabilitation opportunities. Nathalie, the MP's assistant is working to set up this meeting.

John reminded Board members about tomorrow's meeting at the Community Centre which is the third in a series of meetings to arrive at solutions to achieve a balance between the services provided through the SHCHC and the needs of the community which include local businesses and residents in close proximity to the SHCHC. John mentioned that Théo, the student residence on Rideau, is also experiencing security issues related to the services provided at the SHCHC. This has motivated the students to seek solutions.

Jerry Sabin will represent ASH at a meeting at St Albans Church to discuss plans to pursue heritage approvals with the City in order to make much needed safety improvements to the south east corner patio of the Church at the corner of King Edward and Daly. The church members and neighbours have concerns about how the corner is being regularly used by street engaged and homeless members of the community. Sandy Hill along with 5 other inner city community associations (Dalhousie, Centre Town, Lower Town, Vanier and Overbrook) will be receiving \$550 from the the Ken and Debbie Rubin

Public Interest Advocacy Fund to help develop our own neighborhood safety action plans.

4. Community Engagement Team (CET) – Jalin

Kent will attend the tomorrow's meeting at the Sandy Hill Community Centre. Some CET clients will also be attending. The CET has started to work one on one with clients to connect them with services. One more staff member will be hired bringing the total number of CET members to 8. Their main focus is downtown Rideau Street. The CET is hiring an individual from the shelter to help clean up Besserer.

Dave asked how to report encampments online. The Councillor's assistant will try to find out how to do this and report back.

5. Councillor's Report – provided by the Councillor's assistant Carina Pogoler

- The Councillor attended two ribbon cutting events (Daly and Range Road)
- An event at Dutchies Hole is being planned during Police week (May 14 – 20)
- Councillor is putting together a list of problem addresses with building code issues. This is different than the list of addresses used during the fall walkabout which focused on addresses with noise and garbage issues.
- There maybe a solution to the garbage problem at 600 Rideau Street (strip mall). Sleepwell has a new property manager (Pat – pat@sleepwell.com) who is responsible for all properties in Vanier and Sandy Hill.
- Planning an in person/virtual townhall meeting for Octranspo route changes on May 24 at the Vanier Richelieu Centre.

6. AGM – May 18

- John reported that planning has started on the May 18 AGM. John will invite the 3 elected representatives.
- Cathy mentioned that the space at the Sandy Hill Community Centre has been booked and asked for help to set up the room on the day of as well as take down. Glenn volunteered to come early to help. She will have an AGM poster ready to put up and will give each Director a few posters to put up in the area. There will be 7 vacant positions on the Board as of May 18. Jane Gurr will act as the Elections Officer. Cathy clarified that only Board Directors and the ASH Chair are elected at the AGM by the members. All other officers are elected at the first meeting of the new Board.

7. Committee Reports

Environment Committee – Marilyn & Bryan

- April 29 – Cleaning the Capital in Strathcona Park. Directors were given posters to put up in their area.
- CAFES will hold climate resiliency workshops. Brian will send Directors information on these events to ensure ASH representation.
- The EcoFair will be held on May 13. 12 Exhibitors have confirmed their participation. The grant application for funding this event was denied. See Motion #4 below re funding for the EcoFair.

Town & Gown – Kendra

- Kendra is working with the Councillor to restart the Town & Gown Committee. The next meeting will held on April 25, 2023. Agenda items for the April 25 meeting, include move-out procedures and housing.
- Standing members of T&G are:
 - The Councillor – Chair
 - Kendra – Co-Chair
 - 1 graduate student and 1 undergraduate student from uOttawa
 - 1 uOttawa administrator from uOttawa
 - Ottawa Police Service and Bylaw Services
 - a Sandy Hill resident

- Sandy Hill Landlord represented by John Dickie, Eastern Ontario Landlord Association
- Kendra will send a summary of the move-out plan presented at the April 25 meeting.

Block Reps: Jan Finlay

- Nothing to report.

Planning & Heritage: Glenn Grignon

- Glenn will be stepping aside as Chair of the Committee in order to focus on finding another property for his Co-op. The University will not be renewing its lease with the Co-op which expires in 2028.
- OCH submitted an application for the development of a 20 storey apartment building at Chapel and Beausoleil. Little to no parking is planned for this building. There was a discussion about the impact of developments with little to no parking spaces on the community and how on street parking permits are issued.
- Micheal Barnes suggested that all proposals should have a clear, one page statement describing the application.
- The Committee will discuss ASH's approach to the new Zoning Bylaw.

Transportation: John Verbaas

- The City's Transportation Master Plan (TMP) was approved at Transportation Committee and will be submitted to Council for approval on April 26. The TMP does mention that the downtown truck problem is an issue to be solved. The TMP suggests either a tunnel or a bridge is a possible solution. The TMP mentions that the truck problem is a result of the lack of an appropriate roadway connection between the 417 and Highway 5 in Quebec. The TMP also indicates that a review would occur on the possibility of removing King Edward and Rideau St from the city's truck route network after a new project is built. John is concerned that how trucks will be routed in the future is a subject that must be clear prior to any decision being made about a new infrastructure project and not to be reviewed afterwards. John stated that the NCC has sent a letter to the Mayor with concerns about the wording in the TMP regarding the truck problem. John presented a motion (See motion #3 below) which would be presented by the Councillor at the April 26 Council meeting.

Bylaw Committee – Jessica

- Jessica is working with the Lowertown and Vanier Community Associations to develop a Terms of Reference for the Committee.

Treasurer's report - Megan

- The April 2023 Treasurer's report was sent to Board members prior to the meeting (see attached).

8. Motions

1. Dave moved that The organizing committee of the One & Only Craft Fair is requesting that the remainder of the profits from the 2022 Fair, in the amount of \$550, be donated to Ecole Publique Secondaire De La Salle for the 40th anniversary celebration of the school's Centre d'excellence artistique de l'Ontario, to be held May 26 & 27. Specifically, the funds would sponsor the creation of a painted wall mural inside the school. ASH would be identified as a sponsor of the mural, and would also receive free tickets to the May 26-27 weekend celebrations (valued at \$250 per ticket). Seconded by John. **Carried**
2. Marilyn moved that ASH agrees to submit an application to the City of Ottawa's Commemorative Tree Program in memory of François Bregha, and his work on behalf of Sandy Hill and his interest in environmental activities.
June 1 is the up-coming deadline for requests with an expected planting date of spring 2024. Forestry Services assists with the selection of a tree species and the location in a City park and will supply, plant and maintain the tree. The cost is \$400 plus tax, plus arrangements for a plaque, for an estimated total cost of up to \$1000 in 2024. Funding for this would come from

ASH's general funds. Seconded by Cathy . **Carried**

3. John moved that ASH requests that the ward councilor brings before City Council a motion to request that the policy language in the TMP (regarding the downtown interprovincial truck problem) be amended to indicate that a plan will be produced for how trucks will cross the river before any future decisions are made concerning the implementation of any new infrastructure project. Seconded by Glenn. **Carried**
4. Jan moved that ASH supports the EcoFair up to a maximum of \$1,550.00 for expenses. Seconded by Glenn. **Carried**

9. Other Business

- Calla will draft a letter to the Federal Government requesting more oversight in spending the \$400M on safe injection and safe supply sites. The draft will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

10. Next meeting – May 29, 2023.