



Date: January 12, 2023

EFCL Board Meeting Minutes

6:00 p.m MST
via Zoom

Attendance:

Jenn Parsonage, (District L), President / Chair
Giselle General, (District E), Vice President Internal
Jon Morgan, (District K), Vice President External
Anita Lunden, (District J), Treasurer
Steven Gaudet, (District C)
Joshua Wochansky, (District F)
Morgan Wolf, (District G)
Bert Richards, (District H)

Guests / EFCL Staff:

Deanne Patsula, City of Edmonton
Jonathan Lawrence, Community Planning Advisor
Laura Cunningham-Shpeley, Executive Director
Sandra Johnston, Board Development Advisor

Minutes recorded by Marjorie Stefanyk

1.0 Land Acknowledgement

Jon Morgan delivered the land acknowledgement.

2.0 Welcome and Introductions

J. Parsonage welcomed everyone and introduced D. Patsula.

3.0 Review of agenda

Due to time restraint, Item 14.0 was moved up to immediately follow item 5.0 News From the City.





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Motion 23-01-12-01: That the agenda be approved as amended.

J. Wolchansky / J. Morgan

Carried

4.0 Electronic Motion

Following the request from M. Wolf, District G, at the December 2022 EFCL Board meeting (Agenda Item 8.0) for an increase in District G's budget to go towards the Leagues Bowling Night, an electronic motion was made and approved.

Motion 22-12-22-09: That the 2023 budget for District G be increased to \$500.

K. Mansaray / G. General

Carried

5.0 Consent Agenda

4.1 Minutes

4.2 Letters

4.3 Committee Reports

Motion 23-01-12-02: That the consent agenda be approved as written

G. General / A. Lunden

Carried

6.0 News From the City

D. Patsula delivered an update from the City.

- **Abundant Community Edmonton (ACE)** is hosting two "Creating a Neighbourly Vibe" workshops each month as an introduction to community development. They will include:
 1. The importance of the neighbourhood to society
 2. The nature of the neighbour relationship and how it is different from friendship and family.
 3. Effective steps any neighbour can make to enhance neighbourhood health.Upcoming dates are January 12 and 26, February 9 and 23, and March 9 and 23. There are also monthly workshops on Community Development themes exploring the Why, What and How of community development.
- **Sandbox information:** The City is offering free sand in boxes to over 150 Community Leagues and other City locations for Edmontonians to use on residential sidewalks.

14.0 Planning and Development

Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues

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J. Lawrence provided a comprehensive briefing note of the proposed District Plans which are to be presented by the City of Edmonton to Council's Urban Planning Committee (UPC) on January 17, 2023. The briefing had three purposes: to provide a brief overview of the key elements of the proposed District Plans, to highlight League concerns, and to provide recommendations for the EFCL Board. L. C-Shpeley prepared a letter to the Urban Planning Committee on behalf of the EFCL outlining three recommendations:

1. Specific feedback on item 7.2 with regards to maps and content, and item 7.3, with the recommendation to establish a new Neighbourhood Planning model within the City Planning Framework.
2. Priority future work that includes establishing a District Participation Framework.
3. Establishing a Community Design Panel.

J. Lawrence and L. C-Shpeley took questions and Board members provided feedback. L. C-Shpeley added that from comments received, communities still want a voice in planning. It was agreed to proceed with sending the letter to the Urban Planning Committee. Meetings:

14.1 Motion to approve

Motion 23-01-12-03: Be it resolved that the recommendations in the letter to the Urban Planning Committee be approved as written.

J. Wolchansky / J. Morgan

Carried

7.0 District Updates

- **Meetings:** Several districts held or will be holding their District meetings as well as SWAC and TRAC meetings. L. Olsen, District I, provided minutes from their District meeting of January 11, 2023.
- **Events:**
 1. Flying Canoe is coming to District J at Mill Creek Ravine and Cite Francophone.
 2. Illuminight in District E has been moved from December to mid January in the hopes that, not being in competition with Christmas events, it will be better attended.
 3. District L is planning a Greater Millwoods Dining Week promoting local restaurants in Millwoods, Meadows and Ellerslie. A map will be available for distribution identifying the location of participating restaurants.
 4. District G is completing plans for the Bowling Night.
 5. District I is planning a new event called Multicultural Sweets Exchange.
- **Problems and Concerns:** Vandalism occurred in the Riverbend Community for the second time. Police were called and an arrest of a suspect has been made. Action is





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being taken to discourage further vandalism such as increased lighting, cameras, and trimming of shrubbery. District I also reported hall vandalism and is taking similar action. In District D, it was discovered that a League had not submitted the annual return as a society to Corporate Registries for 2 ½ years through an oversight and, as a result, has lost that status. They are working on reviving their registration.

B. Richards, District H expressed concern over the loss of the current Riverbend Library once the planned new library is completed in Terwillegar, and wondered what action customers could take. L. C-Shpeley suggested contacting Councillor Cartmell to advocate for the current library to remain open.

District L has not received word on whether the City will finance the annual fireworks for the Canada Day celebrations.

J. Wolchansky, District F, inquired about sources that could help support the rent of space, not on Tripartite Agreement land, used for fundraising.

Many Leagues continue to face the problem of filling board positions, and are experiencing burn-out.

8.0 Planning and Support for District Meetings

As discussed at the December meeting, Board members are encouraged to hold one district meeting in the first half of the fiscal year. S. Johnston prepared an agenda and minutes template and an invitation compliant with EFCL Bylaws which were distributed to the Board. L. C-Shpeley gave a brief tutorial on how to use these tools. She stressed that once a meeting was booked that it should be entered in the calendar and invitations given to herself and S. Johnston for the purpose of providing assistance in coordinating the meeting and other requirements such as taking minutes.

9.0 Meeting Schedule for The EFCL Board 2023

The proposed schedule suggested alternating meetings between virtual and in-person, and holding in-person meetings at a different community hall each meeting. The latter would provide a chance to view halls and their amenities throughout the different communities. Following a request for maps of city areas and their transit accessibility, L. C. Shpeley provided a website link. Concern was expressed over the difficulty of attending in-person meetings for those people who don't drive and may reside quite some distance away from the community where the meeting is to be held. It was also pointed out that including the choice of hybrid would be a logical solution to these problems as well as providing ease of accessibility in many situations. L. C. Shpeley agreed that this request could certainly be accommodated.

Motion 23-01-12-04: Be it resolved that the meeting schedule for the EFCL Board for the year 2023 be approved as written





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M. Wolf / J. Morgan

Carried

10.0 Plans and Priorities for 2023 Based on New Funding

In preparation for the Winter General Meeting, L. C-Shpeley reviewed that the City had agreed to increase the operating budget by \$200,000 to support the online learning portal, the mentorship programs, and community activation work. In addition, the City is allowing EFCL to use \$413,000 from the CLIP grant to cover the costs of the Community League Infrastructure Database, and almost \$300,00 of amenity assessments on Leagues. Plans include:

- Continuing the work of the Service Innovation Pilot Program
- Begin the Tripartite Amenity Assessment Work.
- Partnering with four other non-profit organizations to work collaboratively with 6-8 Leagues across the City to create dialogue and experiential learning that goes beyond anti-racism training, and explore what it means for Leagues to become intercultural spaces that welcome diversity and understand, navigate, and mediate differences.
- To continue work on updating EFCL's bylaws and providing updates to the Board and to the membership.
- Getting settled into the Jerry Forbes Centre.
- Working on the Collaborative Relationship Agreement made with the City of Edmonton's Neighbourhood Services Department to create a joint workplan and provide formal communication and support to Leagues.
- Determining a new approach to the Community League Operating Grant formula to Leagues.

Motion 23-01-12-05: Be it resolved that the plans and priorities are approved for presentation to the membership at the WGM February 9, 2023.

G. General / J. Wolansky

Carried

11.0 Winter General Meeting February 9, 2023

Recommended agenda items include:

1. A presentation on EFCL plans and priorities for the coming year.
2. EFCL annual budget approval.
3. Appointment of the auditor for 2023.
4. Elections of representatives of districts that are currently vacant.

At the November 2022 EFCL Board Meeting, it had been decided to attach Opportunity Fairs to the Fall and Winter General Meetings which involves having non-profit organizations available to meet with Leagues in the hour before the meeting to discuss opportunities for collaboration.

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Motion 23-01-12-06: Be it resolved that the WGM agenda is approved

J. Wolansky / B. Richards

Carried

12.0 Bylaw Renewal

12.1 Bylaw Renewal: Board Composition

The Bylaw Review Committee has recommended amending the Board composition (12 board members representing the 12 districts) to include up to 3 Members at Large who may be members of any Edmonton Community League. The reasoning behind this recommendation is that this could add diversity and extra skills to the Board. In addition, they recommend amending the duties of the Board to more accurately reflect the legal obligation of board members as written in articles 6 and 7. District Representative Board Members would continue to be elected at district meetings, but Directors at Large would be elected at general meetings. Nominations still have to be supported by the Community League in which the nominee holds membership.

Further, the Committee recommends the amendments to Article 5 to clarify the expectation for a minimum 2 district meetings per year.

Motion 23-01-12-07: Be it resolved that the Board approve for recommendation to membership, amendments to Articles 6 and 7 dealing with the Board of Directors.

J. Morgan / A. Lunden

Carried

Motion 23-01-12-08: Be it resolved that the Board approve for recommendation to membership, amendments to to Article 5 dealing with the District Meetings.

J. Wolchansky / G. General

Carried

12.2 Redistricting

The Committee recommends aligning EFCL Districts with City Planning Districts and then combining the lower population districts to have the following 11 districts:

- Northeast (Northeast and Horse Hill) - 13 Leagues
- Northwest - 18 Leagues
- Jasper Place - 17 Leagues
- South West Henday (South West and West Henday) - 12 Leagues
- West Edmonton - 10 Leagues
- Whitemud (will include Rabbit Hill) - 15 Leagues





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- Millwoods Ellerslie (Millwoods and Ellerslie) - 14 Leagues
- Southeast - 14 Leagues
- Central - 17 Leagues
- Scona - 16 Leagues
- 118 Avenue - 13 Leagues

S. Johnston went over the map of proposed revisions explaining the reasoning behind the changes.

The question of the number of City Councillors representing each revised district arose. S. Johnston answered that generally each district would have 1-2 councillors with the exception of South West Henday which would potentially have 4.

Motion 23-01-12-09: Be it resolved that the Board approve the recommendation to membership, the redistricting plan based on the City Plan Districts resulting in 11 districts.

J. Morgan / J. Wolchansky

Carried

12.3 General Meetings

The Committee recommends Option One: 2 general meetings; the annual general meeting held by the end of June (up to 6 months after the fiscal year) and a fall general meeting to be held in November. This decision was based on feedback from a survey of the membership. Although response to the survey was not high, it was from members who consistently attend general meetings. Overall, the preference was for less general meetings and more district and informal meetings.

Motion 23-01-12-10: Be it resolved that the Board recommend to members moving to 2 general meetings per year, the annual general meeting in June and a fall general meeting.

B. Richards / J. Morgan

Carried

13.0 Finance Committee

13.1 Budget 2023 Presentation

L. C-Shpeley gave a brief overview of the proposed budget.

EFCL is expecting an increase of \$778,000 to its overall operating budget for 2023 this includes:

- An additional \$200,000 for the operating grant-approved expanded Community League Supports Service Package.
- An additional \$413,000 for the Amenity Assessments work on League Tripartite land.
- Additional \$165,000 to be approved at the end of January 2023 for the approval by Council for the Anti-Racism Grant funding.



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- Long term sponsors, (Servus, NFP and Reynolds Mirth Legal Firm), have renewed and enhanced their commitments.
- Continued support for the rental program.
- Continued and enhanced funding for EFCL's online learning and mentorship program.
- New partnership opportunities with many City sports and event organizations such as Free Play, Free Will Shakespeare, E-Sports of Alberta, Elks, Stingers and K-Days.
- Funding for 2 new positions and a proposed small increase in staff wages.
- With the additional funding a surplus is expected at the year-end. An audited report was made available to the Board.
- Cost reduction measures include reducing the number of in-person general meetings to one per year.

The question of long-term sustainability was posed being that the majority of funding comes from one source only. Finding new independent sources of revenue would help to provide this assurance. A. Lunden suggested that the Finance Committee, currently consisting of only two members, could change the Terms of Reference to include financing and funding. This change along with committee membership will be discussed at the February Board meeting.

Motion 23-01-12-11: Be it resolved that the EFCL Board recommends the 2023 budget for approval by membership at the General Meeting on February 9, 2023.

J. Wolansky / S. Gaudet

Carried

13.2 Appointment of Auditor

The EFCL recommendation to the Board and to the membership is to move forward with working with Metrix Group accountants to do the 2022 audit. They have served as auditors for EFCL for some time and have provided satisfactory work.

Motion 23-01-12-12: Be it resolved that the EFCL Board recommend to the membership that Metrix Group Chartered Professional Accountants conduct the 2022 audit for the EFCL.

A. Lunden / G. General

Carried

15.0 Reports

15.1 President's Report

There was nothing to report at this time, other than EFCL's move to the Jerry Forbes Centre.

15.2 Executive Director's Report





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- **New initiatives** include the move to the Jerry Forbes Centre, Service Package approval, and approval to be recommended to Council for the Anti-racism grant.
- **Engagement with internal stakeholders:** working with Riverbend Community League following the destruction of a community hall in Brookview with support from EFCL staff and J. Parsonage.
- **New staffing** includes 2 new students: a public health student, and a social work student.

The meeting terminated at 9:03 p.m MST.

