

EFCL Board Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2021, Virtual Meeting via RingCentral, 6pm MST

Attendance

EFCL Board Members

Ryan Barber, District H (President/Chair)

Rocky Feroe, District F - regrets

Giselle General, District D

Anita Lunden, District J

Martin Narsing, District C

Morgan Wolf, District G

Jon Morgan, District K

Guests/EFCL Staff

Andre Corbould, City Manager, City of Edmonton

Chantile Shannon - Director, City of Edmonton Neighborhood Services

Laura Cunningham-Shpeley, EFCL Executive Director

Chris Hyde, EFCL Board Development Advisor

Dana Mauer, Minutes

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

EFCL President, R. Barber chaired the Board meeting. The March 11, 2021 EFCL Board meeting (via RingCentral) was called to order at 6:02pm. A quorum of Board members was present. R. Barber welcomed the Board members and thanked them for attending.

2.0 Review of Agenda / Work in Progress

2.1 Agenda Approval

R. Barber welcomed agenda additions by Board Members.

Motion 2021-03-11-01: Approval of agenda for the March 11, 2021 EFCL Board Meeting with the following amendments:

Add Item 6.4 - District Updates

By: G. General / M. Narsing

CARRIED

2.2 Review and Update of Works in Progress List

Link to Work in Progress - Action Items document

Action Item: Chris to break out 'Works in Progress' on Board meeting agendas as Item 2.2 going forward.

- There were brief updates regarding the following Items:
- C. Shannon and Laura are working on grants and how to have better communication flow and will meet more frequently (bi-weekly).
- Investigation is still underway regarding the charity model including contacting the Calgary Federation who operate a charity that supports audits for non-profits.

Action Item: Include 'Board Evaluations' update on April Board meeting agenda.

- Re: Board recruitment initiative - some community league volunteers have stepped forward and expressed interest in sitting on the EFCL Board.
- Emma has become the EFCL's new full-time Financial Officer employee.
- C. Shannon advised that the EPL does not currently have a subscription to any grants database.

Action Item: R. Barber suggested including under the Work in Progress section, updates from other Board members regarding meetings relating to Action Items.

3.0 Review of Minutes

Motion 2021-03-11-02: The Draft February 11, 2021 EFCL Board Meeting minutes were approved as presented.

By: Board Consensus

CARRIED

4.0 News From the City- March 2021

C. Shannon referred to her written report provided (see link) in the agenda package. In addition to the items in her report, she commented on the following:

- Another report of interest to the EFCL is going before the Community and Public Services Committee on April 26. The "Alcohol in Public Parks" (Report CS00350) discusses allowing alcohol at select City of Edmonton picnic areas.

Some public consultation was done, including an Insight survey, that was mostly in favour.

- C. Shannon reminded Board members that Insight is an opportunity for any citizen to sign up for City of Edmonton public engagement surveys on numerous topics.
- The number of City Bylaw Officers was not cut under COVID. They were given Provincial authority to enforce health guidelines on transit etc. as part of the COVID response.
- The City is working on planning for summer activities and has heard more community leagues are considering including fireworks displays in their local summer events. NRCs are identifying the parkland areas that are safe for fireworks and working with Fire Rescue Services on an online application process.
- The Boyle Plaza, YMCA and the City had some issues in the past negotiating their relationship. Since then, it has been resolved with everyone involved working closely to provide programming to be financially sustainable. The original Tripartite Agreement expires in August, and the City is going ahead with signing another 3 year Agreement.
- The Community Rec Facilities is planning for city staffed operated playground programs this summer. They want to be ready if it is possible to run the Green Shack program this summer. Recognizing the struggles leagues have had this year, the City will not ask for the \$1000 optional community league contribution this year if it goes ahead.

5.0 Discussion with the Andre Corbould, City Manager, City of Edmonton

R. Barber introduced the City of Edmonton's new City Manager, A. Corbould. Round table self-introductions were done. A. Corbould mentioned attending the United Way Red Tie campaign which he currently Chairs which raised 34.4 Million in the Capital Region. He commented about working closely going forward with the EFCL Executive Director, and partnering with community leagues and the EFCL to continue to foster good relationships.

Regarding progress on the Tripartite Agreement renewal process, A. Corbould emphasized the importance of completing the Agreement process prior the October civic election. He asked R. Barber to advise how the City may assist to this end.

Regarding the Relmagine plan, A. Corbould advised that the City's overall goal is to reallocate resources and find efficiencies to adjust and adapt for the post-Pandemic

recovery. The five priorities of the Plan include City Building; Services; a Modernized Workforce, Relationships and Partnerships, Financial Viability. The EFCL and Community Leagues may play a vital role as a City Building partner. He advised that City Administration is very interested in learning more about the EFCL's Community Activator strategy with regard to how it may eliminate duplication of services. Interested community leagues may have an "opt in" role to play in Emergency Management going forward opening their halls etc. He is willing to be involved in that discussion.

Regarding the possibility of the City providing charitable receipts for community projects, City legal and financial staff are currently looking into if and how this may be possible.

He closed by thanking the EFCL and community leagues for all their support and efforts. A. Corbould welcomed questions from Board members, resulting in the following items for follow-up:

A. Corbould asked about the possible City roadblocks and process barriers that may exist for community leagues to utilize innovative fundraising mechanisms and initiatives.

Action Item: A. Corbould requested a top 10 list of "red tape" issues for Community Leagues to help understand where league priorities are.

R. Barber spoke briefly about the Commercial Use changes to the Tripartite Agreement and the importance of recruiting community leagues volunteers through recreation and sports activities. He thanked A. Corbould for attending the EFCL Board meeting and invited him to attend anytime.

There was a break from 7:28pm to 7:37pm.

After the break, R. Barber provided a debrief of A. Corbould's discussion with the EFCL Board including the following points for further action/discussion:

- Top 10 "red tape" community league issues list
- Joining the EFCL Community Activator and ACE roles to support community leagues and help eliminate duplication
- Recreation piece (changing role of leagues in recreation going forward)
- What role can community leagues play in Edmonton's Emergency Preparedness Plan?

6.0 Discussion Items

6.1 Horse Hill Community League Next Steps Horse Hill Community League Update

M. Narsing advised he had not received an email from Horse Hill Community League's designated representative P. Gwinner outlining the league's specific grievances with the EFCL as requested in their meeting. After Board discussion ensued a motion was passed.

Motion 2021-03-11-03: That the EFCL Board pursue a mediation process with Horse Hill in order to have an impartial party (the Mediation and Restorative Justice Centre) host the discussion and ensure a fair process to move forward with a positive outcome.

By: M. Narsing / M. Wolf

CARRIED

6.2 Community Inclusion Working Group Meeting Summary & Guidance

EFCL Board Report: Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives

EFCL Report: Engagement with Settlement Organizations

Laura outlined the evolution of this large Working Group committee, which started a few years ago. A draft Terms of Reference was created, but was never approved by the Board. The EFCL took the Committee over when the Chair moved to Ottawa. Laura advised that at this time, it is necessary to define the relationship of the working group committee to the EFCL Board.

What is the EFCL's Board's vision/ model for the Committee? I.e

- 1) Community of Practice
- 2) Subcommittee of the Board
- 3) A hybrid of both

Discussion ensued at length.

Action Item: Laura and Anita to investigate an alternate reporting and accountability mechanism/model, in tandem with the EFCL Bylaws and make a recommendation for the April board meeting. Laura will communicate an update back to the Working Group.

There was brief discussion regarding changing the EFCL Bylaws to allow for an alternate form of informal committee or working group that does not need to be chaired or co-chaired by an EFCL Board member.

6.3 EFCL Finance and Building Innovation Committee Formation

Background: Finance and Building Innovation Committee/Working Group

R. Barber advised there has been interest expressed by community volunteers in District H in chairing this committee. The recommendation/motion was tabled to the April Board meeting pending investigation of an alternate committee model

(see Item 6.2). A. Lunden recommended someone from Strathearn Committee League sit on the committee as they recently built a hall. R. Barber, M. Wolf and other interested Board members will participate on the committee.

Action Item: Laura/Chris to craft messaging to be sent to leagues regarding recruiting and spread awareness about participation of interested community league members on this new committee after the committee model is determined.

6.4 EFCL District Updates

District D - G. General reported that she has not yet hosted a District D meeting prior to the COVID restrictions, there was not a lot of uptake. She stays informed of the District's leagues' activities via social media platforms, newsletters, and neighborhood group forums etc. She also sends them the monthly summaries from the Board meetings. Several leagues have now finished their rink season. Rosenthal was able to successfully salvage their rink after it was vandalized with gravel. Many leagues are having spring fundraisers selling flower planters, seeds etc.

District G - M. Wolf reported that the Alberta Ave league is very active and is doing some Cree teaching activities. She was recently contacted by someone from another league regarding the Goldbar Waste Treatment plant and EPCOR wanting to move the fence line further onto parkland. Laura mentioned several leagues are concerned about this. Elmwood league is doing an easter egg hunt event with 1010 Easter eggs, hiding 42 eggs per block. Participants are encouraged to send a photo to win a gift card, and Easter Bunny mascots will be delivering crafts.

District J - A. Lunden reported there is a very concerned group in the Goldbar league that are active regarding the EPCOR Goldbar Treatment Plant. For Easter, one league has enlisted a local theater group to do an Easter bunny run through the neighborhood. Ottewell community league partnered with a local microbrewery to sell a special St. Patrick's Day beer as a fundraiser. They are close to having the necessary \$50,000 in funding to complete the skate park in Fulton Place. She suggested it would make a great District J spotlight story.

District K - J. Morgan reported that SWAC is very supportive of the work the EFCL is doing regarding EMSA. He and the Heritage Point Civics Director are interested in participating in any future discussions regarding community league involvement in Emergency Management services.

District C - M. Narsing reported EMSA North is reducing its rates by 35% this upcoming soccer season. Several leagues in District C have moved away from EMSA and thus the two organizations are now competing for enrollment. More online events are being held, such as a trivia night with gift card prizes. There is a lot of eagerness to get outside after the winter lockdown.

District H - R. Barber reported that work on the Terwillegar Drive revitalization is well underway. A sports and recreation partnership is being formed between community leagues in District H whereby they are sharing resources and possibly financial resources. The District is considering creating a District H Affordable Housing piece, the idea being to submit a proactive vision of what leagues in the District envision and could support.

7.0 Motion for Exemptions

Motion 2021-03-11-04: That the written reports in the agenda package for Items 8.0 through 10.0 be accepted for information, with Items 8.1, 8.3, 8.6 and 9.1 exempted for Board discussion.

By: Consensus

CARRIED

8.0 Discussion

8.1 Winter General Meeting Debrief

Winter General Meeting Debrief

Laura advised there was overall positive feedback regarding the Winter General Meeting online registration process. The Pheedloop digital platform is different than ZOOM, and people appreciated the transparency around the Q and A and the ability to use the group chat function. There ideally needs to be a way for people to engage more visually on the platform. General discussion followed. G. General recommended the addition of closed captioning for General Meetings.

Action Item: Implement close captioning for spring general meeting.

Action Item: Advance communication regarding compatible browsers and the importance of Voting Member registration for spring general meeting.

8.2 Items for the Spring Annual General Meeting - accepted for information

8.3 Soccer and Recreation Discussion

Update on the February 24, 2021 Edmonton Minor Soccer Association (EMSA) Annual General Meeting

A. Lunden followed up on the email she sent to Board members. She attended a recent EMSA meeting. It appears some zones may not be well managed

financially and may not have audited financial statements. She expressed that action may be required from a governance perspective. J. Morgan thanked the EFCL for supporting community leagues in this matter over the past months.

Action Item: Laura asked Board members to review and send her any feedback as soon as possible in order to send the survey out and establish what leagues want the EFCL to do.

**8.4 CommuniBee App update - accepted for information
CommuniBee Report for the EFCL Board**

**8.5 Volunteer Appreciation Event - accepted for information
100th Anniversary Volunteer Appreciation Event**

**8.6 100th Anniversary Committee
100th Anniversary Committee**

G. General reported that the media plan is being executed. The District Spotlight videos are turning out extremely well. April is coming up quickly and the hope is to host the “Great Neighbour Movement” event at the Plaza in Hawrelak Park in keeping with COVID restrictions. The concept is an outdoor event promoting inclusive physical activity and accessible recreation. She noted that the update of the Urban Villages book is underway. The goals, tasks and activities around the EFCL Plaza Time Capsule have been updated, and a professional was consulted regarding the time capsule’s contents. The recommendation was to enclose symbolic, tangible items vs. technological or paper items and to find an angle that captures a moment in time in 2020. Board suggestions included metal message disc(s), and the text of the October 3, 2020 First Nations blessing of the Plaza Opening.

Action Items: Board member suggestions regarding time capsule items to be sent to G. General and Laura.

9.0 Reports

9.1 President’s Report

R. Barber thanked A. Lunden and M. Narsing for their continued service as EFCL Board members. There was an expression of interest in District L for the District Director position and a District election is being arranged. Tripartite discussions continue and are in the process of clarifying the wording of certain clauses. The desire of both the City and the EFCL is to complete the Agreement before the civic election. Community soccer discussions are ongoing.

9.2 Executive Director Report

Link to the Executive Director’s Report for March 2021

**9.3 Terms of Reference for EFCL Plaza Joint Committee - accepted for info.
Draft Terms of Reference (EFCL Plaza - Joint Committee)**

**9.4 Progress Against 2020 Strategic Goals - accepted for info.
Document: Progress Against the 2020 Strategic Goals**

10.0 Correspondence and Meeting Notes - accepted for information

10.1 Planning and Development Committee Meeting Summary

10.2 Minutes from the Community Inclusion Committee

10.3 Letter to the President of the Edmonton Minor Soccer Association

11.0 Adjournment

R. Barber thanked Board members for their participation and contribution. Laura mentioned that R. Barber would be speaking in recognition of the EFCL's 100th Anniversary at the City Council meeting on Monday, March 15th. The March 11, 2021 virtual EFCL Board meeting adjourned at 9:06pm.