



Winter General Meeting

February 9, 2023

Approved Minutes

EFCL Fall General Meeting

Thursday, October 20, 2022, held virtually via Zoom

Breakout Room conversations: 5:30-6:20pm; meeting: 6:30-8:30pm

Voting Representatives of Community League Members in Attendance

District A

Athlone, Melanie Limb
Calder, Jesse Watson
Cumberland/Oxford, Shahab Marzhoughi
Wellington Park, Rod Hunter

District B

Belvedere, Alana Prockiw
Delwood, Carol Dragich Bishop
Kilkenny, Amanda Donald

District C

Clareview South, Nicole Wetsch
Fraser, Liz Kalisvaart
Homesteader, Gunda Murray

District D

Belmead, Liz Woodruff
Callingwood, Kathy Kammermayer
Rio Terrace, Andrew Olsen
Willowby, Debbie Plant

District E

Canora, Susan McCuaig
Canora, Tony Lovell
Glenwood, Jamie Post

District F

Sherbrooke, Catherine Jevic

District G

Beacon Heights, Michael Neary
Beverley Heights, Tracey Hirtle
Delton, Janet Henderson
Newton, Rak Prasad
Parkdale/Cromdale, Tamie Perryment

District H

Oak Hills, Rob Agostinis
Riverbend, Miep Raedschelders
Terwillegar, Ryan Barber

District I

Allendale, Vahid Ayan
Landsdowne, Rosanna Anderson
Malmo, Ken Hemmerling
Parkallen, Jan Hardstaff
Strathcona, Nathan Caroll

District J

Cloverdale, Reg Kontz
Forest/Terrace Heights, S. McQueen
Fulton Place, Miles Berry

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Laurier, Karen Wilk
Lynwood, Dustin Sim
McQueen, Ken Eerkes

District F

Dovercourt, Laura Shewchuk
Oliver, Robyn Paches
Prince Charles, Cindy Schriener
Riverdale, Raquel Feroe

Kenilworth, Irene Wood
Twin Parks, Darlene Herret

District K

Ermineskin, Robert Pollard
Heritage Point, Yuan Zuo

District L

Ellerslie, Dotun Aderoju
Southwood, Delores Blake
Woodvale, Jacqueline Travis

General/Non-Voting Community League Members in Attendance

Allison Grasso, Calder
Brenda Kennedy, Wellington Park
Cheryl Fix, Yellowbird East
Elaine Solez, Windsor Park
Elise Duma, Avonmore
Janet Doblanko, La Perle
Karen Ferrai, La Perle
Kerry Parsons, Meadows
Kim Dineen, Meadowlark
Laura Ehrkamp, Greenfield
Miles Berry, Fulton Place
Patrick McMann, Twin Parks
Sherry Heschuk, Bellevue
Teresa Marshall, Big Lake
Tiffany Conrad, La Perle

Guests

Aaron Paquette, City Councillor, Ward Dene
Andrew Knack, City Councillor, Ward Nakota Isga
Constance Brissenden, Parkallen CL
Carla Johnson, COE
Gurpreet Bolina, Office of Councillor Wright

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Jennifer Wilkie, STENOvations
Jo-Anne Wright, City Councillor, Ward Sspomitapi
Scott Varga, Avison Young
Shauna Richard, COE

EFCL Board

Jenn Parsonage, President (District L)
Ryan Barber, VP Internal (District H)
Jon Morgan, VP External (District K)
Anita Lunden Treasurer (District J)
Giselle General (District E)
Morgan Wolf (District G)
Lesli Olsen (District I)

EFCL Staff

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|------------------|
| Laura Cunningham-Shpeley, Executive Director | | |
| Sandra Johnston, Board Development Advisor | | |
| Colin Johnson | Juanita Gnanapragasam | Tara Cerhit |
| Darlene Dudley | Kim Tanasichuk | Tim Querengesser |
| Jennie Gurnett | Michael Barnard | Victor Olayioye |
| Jonathan Lawrence | Priya Harinath | |

Marjorie Stefanyk, Recording Secretary

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m by Chair Jenn Parsonage.

2.0 Welcome and Land Recognition

J. Parsonage, President (District L), welcomed everyone and introduced Giselle General from District E, who gave the land acknowledgement and urged everyone to become familiar with Ward names and their pronunciation in an effort to show intention, thoughtfulness and appreciation. J. Parsonage then welcomed the City of Edmonton Councillors who were in attendance: Andrew Knack, (Ward Nakota Isga), Jo-Anne Wright, (Ward Sspomitapi) and Aaron

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Paquette, (Ward Dene). She expressed recognition of the EFCL Board members and EFCL staff, led by Laura Cunningham-Shpeley, Executive Director. She also welcomed representatives from the City of Edmonton, Shauna Richard and Carla Johnson and thanked EFCL sponsors for their support.

3.0 Greetings From the City

Jon Morgan, Vice President External (District K), introduced Councillor Knack. The Councillor expressed appreciation of how Leagues continued to work and survive throughout the impact of Covid-19, reinventing themselves in a new world and continuing to increase membership and forming new partnerships, as well as creating new programs. He encouraged League members to take part in budget discussions and to contact their Ward representatives to let them know the needs of their communities and the Edmonton they would like to see.

Sandra Johnston briefly went through the rules of engagement for voting and queries via chat. She confirmed that quorum had been met, with 39 voting members in attendance.

4.0 Approval of Agenda

The addition of District G to the elections was made to the agenda.

Motion 22-10-20-01: That the agenda as amended be approved.

M. Wolf / G. General

Carried

5.0 Approval of Annual General Meeting Minutes held June 1, 2022

Motion 22-10-20-02: That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on June 1, 2022 be approved as written.

K. Wilk / R. Anderson

Carried

6.0 Service Package Information - understanding EFCL's ask to City Council for budget 2023 - 2026

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L. C-Shpeley expanded on the two service packages that EFCL has presented to the City.

The **Expanded Community League Supports Package** focuses specifically on continuing support for online training, increasing diversity and inclusion, and for continued support of the community activation program. The pilot program was launched in 2020 with 161 Leagues participating. This included workshops, mentoring, an online learning portal and engagement with the community activator. The request is for **\$1.6 million over four years, averaging \$400,000 per year.**

The **Tripartite Amenity Assessment Service Package** is based on section 12.2 of the agreement that states that over the next 10 years, Community League buildings will be assessed to determine the investments required to ensure public safety, accessible spaces and thriving public assets. This part of the agreement has received no support from the City as yet. The League halls in most need will be assessed first based on present condition and comparison to the Stantec Report of 10 years ago. The goal is to have one third of the Leagues with licensed land assessed in the next four years and adding updates to the dashboard. The request is for **\$1.695 million over the next four years with \$1.1 million dedicated just to having the assessments done.**

The floor was then opened for questions.

Question: (Dustin Sim, Lynwood): How will the Leagues be selected for assessment?

Answer: (L. C-Shpeley): Using the Stantec Report and CLIP as baselines, and connecting with Leagues to ensure no work has been done, we will aim at working with 50 of the Leagues in most need within the next four years.

Question: (Jesse W., Calder): With tax increases proposed, what's our level of confidence given all the challenges the City is facing? How will we argue this is of value to Council?

Answer: (L.C-Shpeley): Specifically, the Tripartite Agreement is a formal document and a binding agreement between ourselves, the City and the Leagues. There is actually a statement in the Agreement that these assessments will be completed. So we need to have that conversation very clearly with our councillors, especially if you are president or on the board of a League that is struggling to maintain the hall or have major concerns about renovations needed to your hall. These are public assets, public amenities. They are there for the public so they can

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enjoy them and have access to local recreation. The other argument is the ability for the EFCL to be able to very broadly have a big impact on the city through a relatively small investment.

Question: (Robyn Paches, Oliver): Will Leagues who already have no hall be involved in the assessment? Ours was torn down a few years ago.

Answer: (L.C-Shpeley): First, we will make sure we tackle those that are of the biggest concern. We'll be focused on Leagues with halls first of all and then we'll move through all of the Leagues to ensure all of them are assessed based on their infrastructure.

Question: (Miles Berry, Fulton Place): Can you expand a bit more on what the \$1.1 million assessment will go towards? Hasn't much of this been done with the Stantec reviews?

Answer: (L. C-Shpeley): Stantec didn't do what is called an Audit Infrastructure Assessment. They didn't go beyond doing a visual assessment. The difference is that an audit assessment will test all the systems to understand the longevity ahead of them, to understand where they are at with how soon they will need to be replaced. In order for us to get a really better picture of the state of things, we really feel it is important to do a more thorough assessment especially on those first 50 that have the greatest risk.

7.0 Bylaw Renewal

7.1 Bylaw renewal Terms of Reference

7.2 Project Plan

7.3 Bylaw Renewal principles

The above three documents were made available to members for review. J. Parsonage summarized the issues that make renewing the Bylaws a necessity.

- In the past, the Bylaws have been updated in piecemeal fashion. A systematic review has not been done for some time.
- As Edmonton grows, new Leagues have been formed resulting in an uneven distribution of districts and heavier workloads for those districts more heavily populated.
- Considerations need to be made as to the value, use and organization of districts to maximize their full potential, as well as the balance of representation and governance required from the Board. Is there value in relation to the cost of having three general meetings per year? Timing of financial procedures such as budget approval and presentation of financial statements are another factor.
- To address these issues, a **Bylaw Review Committee** was formed consisting of **Jenn Parsonage, Ryan Barber, Anita Lunden and Lesli Olsen** with assistance from **Laura**

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Cunningham-Shpeley and Sandra Johnston. The Committee formulated a **Project Plan** which will culminate in a new set of Bylaws that will be presented at the **Annual General Meeting next Spring**. To help guide the formulation of new Bylaws, a set of **Principles** was approved by the Board.

7.4 Breakout Rooms - Feedback on District System. Board Representation and General Meetings

Breakout rooms were arranged by district with a board member leading the discussion..

Breakout Room Questions

:

How can EFCL most effectively and efficiently organize its Districts to:

1. Bring together Leagues in a certain area of the city to accurately and powerfully communicate League voices to the City and other stakeholders?
2. Coordinate the work of Leagues in a certain area of the city through the timely sharing of information, providing training, and organizing shared services, initiatives and events?

How can EFCL most effectively and efficiently organize its Board to:

1. Accurately and powerfully communicate League voices to the City and other stakeholders?
2. Coordinate the work of Leagues by the timely sharing of information, providing training, and organizing shared services and initiatives?
3. Have a diversity of experiences within the city that contribute to the vision and direction of the organization? (idea of having members of large, need for certain skill sets)

8.0 Community League Infrastructure Dashboard: Let's look at League energy consumption data, EFCL Energy Transition Advisor (Michael Barnard) and Avison Young (Scott Varga)

L. C-Shpeley reminded everyone that at the Winter General Meeting in February 2022, a motion was passed that the Leagues would submit utility bills from the past year so that EFCL could begin doing energy benchmarking of halls over the next three years. Michael Barnard, Energy Transition Advisor, provided data based on League submissions. Forty-eight Leagues submitted complete data for the 2021 calendar year. These Leagues own 57 structures, mostly community halls, but also include secondary structures such as rink buildings and heated storage sheds.

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Total energy consumed by those Leagues was over 7,000 megawatt hours in the amount of \$418,000 to heat their buildings, water and provide electricity. This amounts to a bit over 2,000 tons of greenhouse gas emissions. The average use intensity was 25.8 kw hours per square foot which is 60 per cent lower than the national median for buildings classified as social or meeting halls. Those Leagues that have managed to keep their costs down will serve as a guide to others who are struggling with overconsumption and overpaying for energy.

Some of the insights that were gathered are:

- Some Leagues are paying for a service labeled “security light”, but because it is billed on a separate meter and has peak demand charges, it is costing the Leagues far more than necessary. It is recommended that Leagues using this service move it to the same meter as the rest of the building or remove it if it is not necessary.
- There is a very significant benefit for Leagues that have invested in solar systems for their halls, particularly if they have chosen a service provider that allows them to change their rates seasonally. From comparisons made, it was found that a solar system could potentially pay for itself within just a few years.
- Electricity accounted for 21 per cent of energy use overall, and natural gas for heating and hot water was 79 per cent. However, electricity accounts for over 50 per cent of the cost of energy and over half of greenhouse gas emissions, making it a good place for cost reduction measures.
- Energy Transition is currently signing up participating Leagues to the **Building Benchmarking Program** which will allow them to access the **Building Retrofit Accelerator Program** which provides rebates.

Questions were taken.

Question: (Jesse, Calder): A question on the year 2021, do you feel it is a representative year of true utility costs as a lot of halls might not have been mobilized?

Answer: (M. Barnard): It, for sure, is not going to be the perfect year, but it is just where we had to begin. Actually it will be kind of beneficial because it will give us a year where halls were largely unoccupied and give us a baseline consumption of what a hall is without all the activities that go along with it. Then we'll be able to tell what portion is due to activity within the hall. It is not the perfect representation in materials of what we can expect going forward, but it is a good starting point.

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Question: (Miles Berry, Fulton Place): You said some saved money when rates changed seasonally. Please explain.

Answer: (M. Barnard): Certain electricity retailers will allow you to switch your dollar per kilowatt hour rate between your winter months and your summer months. Leagues will phone their provider and ask them to switch their rates to the higher rates moving into summer when they're going to be providing a lot of solar. Then they'll get a much greater payback during those months. As they move to the winter months, they ask to switch back to the lower rates when they are not producing as much solar and using more electricity. That has allowed them to make a much greater profit from the systems. EPCOR doesn't do it because the cost is passed on to the distributor, which is EPCOR.

Question: (Robert Pollard, Ermineskin): Regarding the greenhouse gas calculation, you made a statement that we have a lot of coal generation in Alberta. Are you aware of the distribution of coal generation output over the last two years? Most of the coal plants have shut down and turned to natural gas. We only have three coal plants left in Alberta. How is your greenhouse gas emission based and calculated?

Answer: (M. Barnard): I used the most recent numbers available from Natural Resource Canada. It is possible that those were a couple of years old and represented before some of the coal was taken off the grid, but that was the most recent numbers available from the feds.

Question: (Miep Raedschelders, Riverbend): Can we get a copy of our League's entire report?

Answer: (L. C-Shpeley): At this point we're giving snapshots to the Leagues as to what your CLOG data is, your CLIP data, as well as what we can do if you have submitted your energy reports.

Question: (Laura Shewchuk, Dovercourt): Is there an opportunity for EFCL to negotiate a rate for all Leagues, similar to the insurance?

Answer: (C. Johnson): With the data that we are benchmarking, I think there would be more of an opportunity to aggressively negotiate with the energy providers.

9.0 Board Elections: Districts A, B, C, G

S. Johnston confirmed that quorum was not met in any of the Districts, so elections could not proceed. Shauna Richard added that the Bylaws provide for elections to be held at a subsequent General or District meeting. J. Parsonage encouraged members to consider running for the open positions.

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- **Recognition of outgoing District H Director and Past President - Ryan Barber**

J. Parsonage and L. C-Shpeley spoke in turn in praise of all that R. Barber had accomplished during his term as President, Vice President Internal and Representative of District H. They noted that in addition to his hard work towards completing the Plaza in Hawrelak Park and the Tripartite License Agreement, he offered great leadership, guidance and support. R. Barber responded by thanking everyone and wishing them well. A Willie Wong print will be presented to him on behalf of the EFCL in appreciation of his service.

10.0 Committee Mandates and Membership

10.1 Planning and Development Committee - TOR

Chaired by Miles Berry, this Committee focuses on city-wide development and planning policy, including communication and information sharing with Leagues, creating opportunities for League participation, feedback and reviewing and recommending policy to the EFCL Board.

10.2 Recreational Development Committee - TOR

Members are **Jon Morgan, Anita Lunden, Ryan Barber, Jenn Parsonage and Laura C-Shpeley**. J. Parsonage explained the committee was formed to explore new and creative opportunities for Leagues to bring recreation activities to members. The group is interested in meeting with other recreation organizations that serve all ages and abilities in order to discuss how to bring new opportunities to Leagues across the city. This includes branching out to different areas such as e-sports.

10.3 Audit and Finance Committee - TOR

Duties of the Committee chaired by A. Lunden (Treasurer of the EFCL Board), are to work closely with L. C-Shpeley and her staff to ensure the financial reporting, accounting systems, and internal controls are in place. They also oversee the budgeting and auditing process.

10.4 Board Development and Nominating Committee - TOR

J. Parsonage, as Chair of the Committee, is responsible for leading the work on finding new EFCL Board members when there are vacancies. They ensure that new members have the tools and information they need to be successful in their new roles, including training opportunities.

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11.0 Termination

J. Parsonage announced the termination of the meeting at **8:40 p.m.** but invited interested members to watch a short video about the **Start-to-Play** program that is a partnership with **Free Play**.

Next General Meeting:

- Winter General Meeting date: February 9, 2023

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