

**Meeting minutes of the Rio Terrace Community League Board  
October 28, 2015  
Rio Terrace Community League Hall**

Present: Lorne Dach (Member of Legislative Assembly for Edmonton- McClung), Lance Burns, Samantha Gullekson, Erin Waye, Emma Woolner, Jen Osmond, Antoni Andrzejewski, Lisa McColl (City of Edmonton), Auriana Burns, Aman Athwal, Yves Forté, Carrie Doucette, David Feldman, Dawna-Lynne Duffy Power, Carlene Nohas, Catherine Darrah, Jessica Natrass (recording).

Regrets: James Lavoy, Peter Wong, Matt Harris.

Call to Order: 7:33PM

**1) Approval of August, 2015 meeting minutes**

- Motion to approve the minutes by Tony, seconded by Samantha, carried.

**2) Approval of Agenda**

- Motion to approve the agenda by Tony, seconded by Samantha, carried.

Lorne Dach introduced himself as our MLA. Mr. Dach has always wanted to be an elected official. He attended our movie night and the Church's party on Community League Day. He is currently consulting with many community leagues within our riding, and will represent our concerns at the provincial level of government. Specifically, he indicated that he would advocate for us in our submission of grant applications to the Province.

**3) Introductions – Ice breaker**

- Auriana organized an icebreaker activity for the new board. Members interviewed each other and presented their learnings to the group. Lots of fun was had.

**4) Items for discussion**

**▪ Email Motions**

- i. **Ball Hockey Tournament:** On September 21, 2015 Auriana Burns moved that the community league donate the use of the Rio Terrace Community League Hall for five days to a group attempting to set a world record for the longest ball hockey game, from Thursday, May 19 to Monday, May 23. This motion passed on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- ii. **Director Appointments:** On September 25, 2015 Lance Burns put forward two motions by email moving that Matt Harris be appointed to a Director at Large and that Erin Waye be appointed Membership Director for the remainder of the term (until AGM, 2016). This motion passed on September 25<sup>th</sup>.

- iii. **Hall Cleaning fees:** On September 30, 2015 Auriana Burns moved that the league's hall cleaning service rate be raised by \$25 per week to \$125 for the months of September 2015 to June 2016. The increase will accommodate the additional cleaning of the preschool. The motion passed on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - iv. **Spray Deck support:** On October 14, 2015 Auriana Burns moved that the Community League Board continues to support the Spray Deck Committee in their pursuit of building a spray deck at Rio Terrace Park with a proposed budget of \$375,000. This budget was presented at the August 2015 Community League meeting. Continued support includes: support for the Spray Deck Committee to apply for NPDP and CFEP grants that may total \$250,000, support for the Spray Deck Committee to apply for other available grants as they see fit, and a funding contribution from the Community League to the project that will be discussed at our October 28, 2015, Board Meeting. This motion passed on October 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - v. **Hall Rental Donation:** On October 24, 2015 Emma Woolner moved that the board approve a donation in the amount of the hall rental fee to a community member who rented the hall to host a celebration. This community member has overcome significant health challenges. The motion was defeated on October 27<sup>th</sup>
- **Old Business**
    - i. **Spray Deck subcommittee update:**
      - During its fall canvassing the committee raised \$13,000.
      - The Neighbourhood Park Development Program (NPDP) grant has been submitted to the City; this grant is for \$125,000. An application was made for the Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP), but has since been withdrawn at the direction of the Province. The Province wants the NPDP grant to be approved first. The committee will reapply for the CFEP grant in December, but this delay could mean that the spray deck does not get built in 2016.
      - The committee has other fundraising events planned over the next 6 months. Auriana outlined the project fundraising plan and total dollars expected. After all of the planned fundraising is completed, there will still be a shortfall of \$25,000.

**MOTION** by Auriana Burns

I would like to make a motion that the community league supports the financing of the Rio Terrace spray deck in the amount of \$25,000.

A discussion took place on the motion.

- Questions were raised on where the money would come from. The Treasurer indicated that money would come from the operating fund and from our GIC's and that this level of donation would not put the league's finances at risk.
- Questions were raised about budgeted maintenance projects for the year. The Treasurer indicated that the maintenance budget this year is not extensive as previous years.
- There was concern that in the event that the committee does not require the full \$25,000, the balance could not be returned to the league. The spray deck chair indicated that the committee will track its fundraising and inform the board when it is approaching its target. In the case that the league's donation and fundraising amounts puts the committee over its goal, the extra funds would be put towards additional water fixtures or furniture.

The motion was seconded by David Feldman and carried.

ii. **Bylaw Amendments:**

- The amended bylaws have been filed. The Corporate Registry will let us know the status in 3-4 weeks. Once the bylaws are approved they take effect.

▪ **New Business**

i. **Illuminight:**

- The league has provided a donation to the Church for this event in previous years. Our donation covers part of the costs of the horse drawn carriages.
- This year the Church is hiring a different company to provide horse drawn carriage rides as they were unhappy with the service and treatment of the horses last year.
- The Church intends to hold a fundraiser for Illuminight to offset some of the costs. The remaining costs will be split between the Church, the league, and community realtors, Dean and Osmond.

**MOTION** by Jen Osmond

I make a motion that the community league donates up to \$1000 to the Moravian Church.

Seconded by Auriana Burns

Carried.

- ii. **Halloween Party:** The Halloween party is taking place Saturday October 31<sup>st</sup> from 12-3PM. There will be games, food, magician, and a balloon artist. It is a free event but we are asking for donations for the Food Bank. Spray deck water park tickets will be available to win and to purchase. Memberships will also be on sale. Lance indicated that

20 students from Ross Shepperd High School are able to volunteer. The social committee requested all 20 volunteers.

- iii. **Babysitting for Meetings:** It was suggested that the league pay for babysitting costs for members who require this service during meetings.

**MOTION** by Yves Forte'

That the community league pays for babysitting services when required for directors or attendees explicitly invited by the President to board meetings. The league will pay up to \$30 per meeting per director. This offer will be in effect until the end of October 2016 and have a cap of \$1,500.

Seconded by Emma  
Carried.

- iv. **Preschools in the community:** Over the past year there has been confusion on the sign use policy of the league. A motion addressed this at the February, 2015 meeting. Our website also did not list both preschools as schools in the community. The West End Community Preschool (WECP) has since been added to the site. Samantha reminded the board that WECP operates in our community, is assisted by parent volunteers from our community, and attended by children in our community. We should maintain a friendly relationship with their organization.
- v. **Signing authority for preschool finances:** There is an issue with the signing authority of the preschool in the context of the bylaws. The EFCL is consulting with us on this issue. Lance will bring more info to the upcoming meetings.
- vi. **Sports director/Social coordinator position:** Lance is going to advertise for these positions. He will put together something for the newsletter and send out an email to the membership list.
- vii. **Neighbourhood watch:** It has come to our attention that garages have been broken into in our community. The concept of neighbourhood watch is being discussed. Catherine Darrah will connect with Lisa McColl and find out more info on starting up a program.

## 5) Reports

- **CRC:** See the attachment to the minutes. Highlights of the CRC report include a Winter Connections event taking place on November 24, 2015,

ice making workshops taking place on December 3, 2015 (6-9pm), information on the community recreation network program and the pilot green shack pilot program for all four seasons. Lisa will share more info on the green shack program at the next meeting.

- **President:**
  - i. Lance informed the group that an email was circulated to the membership from an unauthorized email list in September. This is an issue in the context of anti-spam legislation. All communications from the board to the community should come from the President or Secretary.
  - ii. The rink boards are being painted and are going up. The rink attendants from last year are returning. Machines are being winterized and serviced on site.
  
- **Vice President:** Directors are needed to be part of the bylaw committee should the bylaws need to be opened as a result of the preschool signing authority issue or the Corporate Registry not approving the proposed bylaws as filed. Community members have offered additional suggestions for the bylaws since the AGM. These comments have been acknowledged by the board; however, there is no plan to make further amendments at this time (beyond the aforementioned circumstances)
  
- **Treasurer:** Yves circulated copies of the financial report at September 30<sup>th</sup>. This report was also circulated in advance of the meeting by email on October 26<sup>th</sup>. The financial report included a summary for the community league and for the spray deck project. The report was accepted for information.
  
- **Membership:** Erin presented the membership report.
  - i. 2015/16 memberships: 193 sold equaling \$6390.00. This is 14% of the approx. 1360 households. Full membership potential is approx \$45,000.00

Of these 193 memberships:

70% are Family,  
9% are Single Family  
9% are Single Couple  
7% are Senior Couple  
5% are Senior Single

44% sold at Mac's,  
24% sold at Big Bin Event.  
19% sold at EFCL  
7% sold are Undefined/Misc  
4% sold by Preschool

2% sold at AGM

1% sold at Party in the Park

- ii. Promotion Plan - Have memberships available for purchase at all upcoming Community Events: Halloween Party, Craft Sale, Breakfast with Santa, WEM. Increase the exposure in community Newsletter.
  - iii. Mac's has requested that we communicate that the Memberships sold at the Mac's are Cash or Cheque only.
  - iv. Erin will investigate how we can accept credit card for membership sales. She will connect with the EFCL and Laurier Heights community league.
  - v. Erin will also consult with the EFCL on how early memberships can start being sold for the upcoming year.
- **Programs & Social:** The community league swim is up and running. Breakfast with Santa is the next planned social event and is tentatively planned for December 5<sup>th</sup>. Lance and Aman are interested in helping with this event.
  - **Preschool:**
    - i. The preschool silent auction will take place on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Information went out on doorknockers. The preschool board hopes to raise \$15,000 from the auction and items have already started coming in. The preschool has other fundraisers being planned such as poinsettia sales, pasta and sausage sales.
    - ii. An open house was held on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. One student enrolled as a result. The program enrollment is now at 41 (max capacity 52).
    - iii. Preschool president Catherine Darrah presented the preschool's budget for 2015-2016. This budget was approved by the preschool board at their September meeting. The preschool budget was accepted as information.
  - **Hall Rental:** The hall is busy. At the next board meeting a hall rental pricing/donation policy will be discussed.
  - **Newsletter:** The next submission deadline is Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. The newsletter will be distributed in mid November. Send your photos to D-L and Carlene. More carriers are needed for distribution.

Adjournment: 9:56PM

**Next Meeting: November 25th at 7PM, Rio Terrace Community League Hall**