

The Erlton Community Association hosts monthly meetings every second Tuesday of the month at the Repsol Centre except for July and August. Meetings provide an opportunity for community members to receive updates on the status of projects from the ECA and bring any new issues to the attention of the community and executive.

Erlton Community Association

May 2017 Meeting Minutes

May 9th: 7:00pm

The May meeting of the Erlton Community Association (ECA) called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mona Hayes.

1. Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved. Motioned by Bill Fischer; seconded by Danielle Kraus.

2. Presentation of the Minutes

Minutes approved. Motioned by Bill Fischer; seconded by Danielle Kraus.

3. Information Items

a) President's Report: Mona Hayes

Mona briefly addressed the work of the Post- Flood Action Committee – see below.

b) Vice-President's Report: Krista Goranson

As Krista was absent, there was no report.

c) Treasurer's Report: Mona Hayes

Mona reported that the Annual River Clean-up, co-sponsored by the ch2m, Cliff-Bungalow Mission Community Association, Lindsay Park Community Association, and the Repsol Sport Centre on May 7th drew 92 volunteers. Lunch was served and ECA had a membership table.

d) Directors Reports

i. Membership: Danielle Kraus

Membership currently totals 88: 69 regular members, 16 complimentary seniors, and 3 paid seniors.

ii. Post-flood Action Committee: Dean Campbell

The Community River Action Group met recently and expressed strong support for the Springbank mitigation plan. Our MP, Kent Hehr, supports this plan. The MLA for Calgary-Buffalo, Kathleen Ganley attended and spoke. The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for Springbank Off-Stream Storage Reservoir (SR1) has been submitted and will be out for public input.

iii. Planning and Development: Bill Fischer

The City approved a development permit for a four-plex at 33 31st Avenue S.W. but the neighbour on the west has filed an appeal and the neighbour on the east has written an appeal letter. Our community association intends to make a presentation supporting the appeal at the meeting scheduled for June 8th.

iv. Traffic: Natalya Nicholson

As Natalya was absent, there was no report.

4. Positions to fill:

a. Parks Committee

Bill Fischer nominated Steve McAvoy for this position. Seconded by Danielle Krause. Carried unanimously.

5. Ongoing business

a. Neighbour Day – June 17

A poster recruiting volunteers has been circulated.

b. Book chat – ‘The Giver’ by Lois Lowry - April 27.

This event was cancelled.

c. River cleanup and Jane’s Walk- May 7

See Treasurer’s report above for River Cleanup details. 18 people showed up for Jane’s Walk, about half the number of last year, but the weather was not as good. Perhaps due to the smaller numbers, participants seemed more willing to share their stories about Erlton, fulfilling the intention of Jane’s Walk as “walking conversations” as opposed to “tours.”

6. New Business

a. Social Events Coming Up

i. Neighbour Day Saturday June 17, 3-5pm South entrance Repsol Sport

Discussion regarding whether to use Village Brewery or Banded Peak as the beer supplier - decided on bottles as we can return them if we have excess.

7. Guest speakers: “Erlton bunnies” information and Q&A session

a. Tanya Hope: City of Calgary Parks Ecologist

Most of the jackrabbits in our neighbourhood have been displaced by domestic bunnies whose lifespans are 16 months and who have an average of three litters of six babies each. The City is treating them as wildlife as they are many generations away from the domestic ones that were originally released.

Feeding bunnies doesn’t increase their lifespan, but increases their weight and litters, attracting predators. The Repsol Sport Centre has feeding stations and hay beds for the bunnies but the City is working with Repsol to raise awareness about the parks and pathway bylaw prohibiting feeding wildlife in the park.

The City will not cull bunnies or rabbits. Scoot, a chemical synthetic that mimics the smell of blood, can help deter them from your yard/garden. Alberta Environment has a great page on rabbits:

<http://aep.alberta.ca/fish-wildlife/human-wildlife-conflict/rabbits-hares.aspx>.

There is a bylaw regarding leaving things outside your home that could attract pests and you could be fined for feeding them. To dispose of carcasses, call 311 and the Roads Department will come pick them up. When you call 311 - get a reference number if you are not satisfied with the response from 311, forward the number to Ward 9 office so they can escalate the inquiry.

Rabbits have caused damage in the cemeteries, digging big holes and causing gravestones to fall over. The City's Integrated Pest Management Group does remove gophers for safety and has been advised of this problem. Rosanne Pinchin will follow up.

b. Dr. Shelley Alexander: Professor, Department of Geography, University of Calgary

Shelley reiterated the message of not feeding wildlife. Coyotes should not be brought in to reduce the bunny populations Coyotes have lived in this area for thousands of years and have the ability to survive on this landscape and are extremely resilient. Studies in 2006/2007 and 2009/2010 examined local coyotes' scat to determine their eating habits. The studies found that they eat mostly garbage, small wild animals, crabapples, rose hips, Saskatoon berries, etc. but very few pets. Coyotes will climb trees for crabapples and eat root vegetables in gardens. They will empty bird feeders nightly.

It is currently the coyotes' denning season; they breed at the end of January and have five to seven pups. Around October, they start to disperse with the young leaving the pack. The young are frightened and more likely to get in conflict because they are afraid.

Report any abnormal behaviour - Fish and Wildlife. If they tell you to call 311, call 311 and mention that you have talked to Fish and Wildlife.

For more information, see www.ucalgary.ca/canid-lab and <http://www.ucalgary.ca/canid-lab/foothills-coyote-initiative/living-coyotes-educational-faqs/>.

8. City representative guests

a. Rosanne Pinchin – City of Calgary –NPC (Neighbourhood Partnership Coordinators) Report

Rosanne will communicate with Tanya and Shelley about a display at Neighbour Day.

b. Ward 9 Update – Katie Hope

Katie was unable to attend.

Meeting
Adjourned

The May meeting of the Erlton Community Association (ECA) was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Motioned by Bill Fisher seconded by Danielle Kraus

Erlton Community Association MEETING ATTENDANCE

DATE: 9 May 2017

NAME	MEMBER	AFFILIATION

TOTAL: 12 Members: 9