

ERLTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday September 12, 2023
MNP Community and Sports Centre – Riverview Room
Meeting called to order at 7:03pm

1. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES (June 13, 2023) AND AGENDA

Approved.

2. NEW BUSINESS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

a. Join us for an Autumn Equinox Bonfire on Friday September 22 from 7-10pm @ the Garden

- Overview of planned event and discussion regarding whether to print physical posters for the event. Agreement to print a couple to post in the ECA Garden.
- Related discussion: Individuals who are not gardeners appear to be accessing the garden to use the fire pit. We need an additional lock for our leased area, and Anthem has been contacted because locks have been removed from the adjacent site which can be used to access our leased area as well.

b. Ongoing West Elbow Local Area Plan Engagement

- The West Elbow Local Area Plan is a planning document that guides development in our neighborhoods for many years. It is currently under review and your feedback is important!
- Please take a few minutes to complete the West Elbow Local Area Plan Residents Survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XRNT76R>
 - Note that this survey is something communities are doing to try and ensure we have genuine input rather than being limited by City-selected engagement questions.
- Let Dylan (erltonpresident@gmail.com) or Heesung (ecaplanningchair@gmail.com) know if you have any questions about the West Elbow LAP engagement.
- Additional information will be distributed by the City at a **new Little Library structure at Erlton Park**. It is OK to place books there, but the intent of the structure is to house LAP-related communications.

c. Upcoming “Swap, Drop, Donate” Event on Sunday September 24, 10-2pm @ Western Canada High School (641 17 Ave SW)

- CBMCA has organized this event to (a) Trade gently used items, (b) Donate gently used clothing items to the Women in Need Society and Drop-in Centre, and (c) Drop off garbage items that don't fit in your bins and/or electronic waste for City of Calgary pick-up
- We are looking for day-of event volunteers. Please let Nicole (erltonsecretary@gmail.com) know if you are interested in helping out with (a) traffic direction, (b) unloading assistance, (c) staffing swap/drop/donate stations, (c) making and setting out signs before the event.

d. Thank you to our Parking Fundraiser Volunteers!

- We had a very successful Stampede Parking Fundraiser raising funds for ECA events and for the community garden. A volunteer appreciation event was held on September 9.
- **THANK YOU** to Heesung for organizing this fundraiser and **THANK YOU** to all our volunteers for making it a success!
 - In addition, we want to specifically thank and recognize **Jack and Yvonne Peace** for all the hours they spent volunteering to help make this event a

4. REPORTS

- **President's Report:** Dylan Rayburn
 - Ongoing West Elbow Local Area Plan engagement (please see above).
 - Attended Ward 8 President's meeting. This meeting focused on the City's Housing Affordability Strategy and City Infrastructure. Housing, zoning, planning are major issues in the City and will be for the foreseeable future.
 - Thank you to everyone who volunteered at summer events like Neighbor Day and Stampede Parking Fundraiser.
- **Vice President's Report:** Vacant
- **Treasurer's Report:** Debra Smith
 - No updates.
- **Secretary Report:** Nicole Bakker
 - No updates.
- **Traffic Report:** Dave Greszczyszyn
 - Meetings were held with City representative to try and manage Stampede Parking issues. We were advised that controls would be in place, but we didn't see much other than a couple signs. There may have been some additional patrols, but residents' experience with parking issues in North Erlton have been the same as previous years despite the ECA's additional engagement efforts with Councillor Walcott and other City representatives.
 - Sarah Papineau has committed to making some inquiries into why there was so little response from City representatives to our pre-emptive engagement related to Stampede.
 - Market parking has largely been postponed to December, though certain elements are coming online earlier. Discussion regarding potential divisive issue within communities between (a) people that want to remove permit parking requirements to retain free street parking and (b) people that want to retain permit parking despite the cost. It was also noted that this issue ties into the Housing Affordability Strategy, which considers waiving parking requirements for inner city multi-unit developments.
- **Parks Report:** Jessica & Judy
 - After consideration with our Farm Stand partner, we have decided that the cancellation of the farm stand is in the best interest for all parties. This will not impact our application for a Farm Stand next season, and we currently plan to do so.
 - Call for committee volunteers for the Erlton Park beautification project. The need for some improvements was noted when we spent a lot of time there for our Neighbour Day event. Clearing some weeds, shoots, etc. would make a big difference.
 - Sarah has committed to following up with the Scollan Bridge rehabilitation team regarding whether they will reseed the area and install a picnic table as previously promised. Sarah has also committed to introducing the ECA to Cathleen, the new City Parks Coordinator.
 - Report on steps taken to secure a permanent site for the ECA Garden:
 - Judy has reached out to Anthem to determine if it is possible to continue using the site for another year. Anthem is not able to commit one way or the other at this time but asked to provide a more concrete answer in November/December.

- Great progress has been made in terms of getting our Lease Agreement with the City signed, and progress has also been made in terms of reaching out to landscape architects, though they seem to be quite busy during the summer months. Additional efforts will be made this month. Note that having a Lease with the City will make us eligible for a casino fundraiser night.
- A (beautiful!) preliminary design has been developed with the goal of matching with the area and adjacent homes' landscaping. Note that the immediately adjacent home is currently on the market, and we will likely need the future owners' consent. Due to the sloped nature of the land, a retaining wall will be needed. Goal is to make the space long rather than wide to retain flat area for kids' sports, etc.
- The LPCA has agreed to review the design, consult with us on this project and potentially become involved with the project going forward. They will be meeting in October.
- Work has also been done looking into the grants that we are eligible for including and in addition to the Landscape Architect Grant.
- Significant unknowns at this time include timing for irrigation changes in the park and how much this initiative will cost.
- Water costs have been \$1200 this year (due to a significant water leak, hot temperatures, etc.). Having free water at the new garden site will represent big saving in this regard.
- **Planning and Development Chair Report:** Heesung Kim
 - Decision on Erlton School Site will be made in December.
 - 3-Plex at 28th Ave and Erlton Street has been approved (no appeals filed) but no construction progress has been made to date.
- **Membership Report:** Nicole Bakker
 - We now have a partnership with Reader's Garden Café! Show your membership card or membership confirmation email to receive 10% off beverages.
- **Communications Report:** Lorraine Mounkes
 - Working to develop message board(s) for the community, including in Erlton Park.
 - You can access the September 2023 Edition of the ECA Newsletter here: https://erltoncommunity.com/?page_id=3817
 - While Lorraine was absent tonight, we want to recognize her for all the great work she is doing on the Newsletter. It is an excellent communication tool and keeps getting better every month!
- **Social Committee Report:** Susan Armstrong
 - Please join us for an Autumn Equinox Bonfire on Friday September 22 from 7-10pm at the ECA Garden. See above poster for more details.
- **Planning and Development: Cemetery Sub-Committee:** Shirine Lund
 - No updates.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02pm.