



edmonton
SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 13, 2020 (via TEAMS)

Attendees:

Susan Morrissey, Executive Director
Justine Basilan, Recording Secretary
Dave Trautman, Board President
Vanessa Zembal, Board Director
Danielle Dolgoy, Board Director
Nicole Smith, Board Director

Katherine Weaver, Board Director
Charlotte Bennie, Board Director
Peter Schalk, Board Director, Treasurer
Paula Kirman, Board Director

Regrets:

Bill Howe, Board Director
Jalene Anderson-Baron, Board Director

Guests:

1.0 Welcome – Meeting called to order by Dave Trautman at 6:07 pm.

2.0 Consent Agenda & Minutes

MOTION: moved by Nicole Smith, seconded by Katherine Weaver, to accept the minutes as presented and agenda with amendments: 6.2 Policy & Governance Committee Report.

MOTION: CARRIED.

3.0 Orientation Follow-Up

No outstanding questions during the orientation.
EA to send the video of the orientation to Charlotte Bennie.

4.0 Executive Director's Monthly Operations Report

ED presented and reported on September 2020 operations.

Additional note: Under Research and Analysis, the Alberta Child Poverty report is underway and expected to be released in early December. There are more students contributing to the report this year. Additionally, under Presentations and Consultations, the Research Coordinator presented on social determinants of health to the U of A Human Geography class.

Question: Who initiated the work on School Resource Officers (SROs)?

Answer: As it is considered part of the current discussion regarding Anti- Racism, and the Research Officer did work in this area for the Masters, the team decided to pursue this. Furthermore, staff have suggested the Council do a couple "special" reports each year that are different from ESPC's blog posts or annual publications. The special reports currently being worked on by staff are SROs and Race-Based Data. dissemination plan established as yet for either reports.

Question: Are there any updates on Keep Alberta Strong?

Answer: ESPC's role is to continue to be part of the discussion as Keep Alberta Strong has overlapping mandates as ESPC. Keep Alberta Strong is currently working on a possible Charter/MOU that would provide foundational direction and information regarding the purpose of the initiative.

Question: Can you provide more information on the ISMap group?

Answer: Partnership between ESPC and ISMap stem from the Tracking the Trends report. ISMAP will also be providing data for the dashboard. ESPC is currently deciding on the software to use for the dashboard.

Question: Any updates on the 80th Anniversary booklet? And are there considerations on using the booklet as a fundraising tool?

Answer: The content for the 80th Anniversary booklet is finished and a designer has been selected. There will be two documents, the booklet and a possible standalone timeline poster. ED has not considered using the booklet as a fundraising item as it was never intended to be sold, but Danielle Dolgoy has offered assistance if fundraising option is undertaken.

5.0 Board Committees Appointments

Board members to self-select committee assignments.

Policy & Governance Chair: Danielle Dolgoy Peter Schalk Jalene Anderson-Baron Katherine Weaver	Finance & Audit Chair: Vanessa Zembal Treasurer: Peter Schalk Chari Bennie	Membership & Engagement Nicole Smith Paula Kirman Bill Howe
---	--	---

The Membership & Engagement Committee will meet to finalize their chairperson.

6.0 Committee Reports

6.1 Scheduling of Committee Reports

The calendar was not prioritized in their previous committee meeting.

ACTION: Discussion on scheduling will be tabled for the November meeting.

6.2 Policy & Governance Committee Report

Danielle Dolgoy led the discussion. There are three policy areas for review related to the other standing committees:

- 1) Policy & Governance Committee will review the Executive Director Performance Review by comparing what other organizations are doing and adapting ESPC's process accordingly.
- 2) Finance & Audit Committee will review the use of Casino funds, risk management, and investment policies.
- 3) Membership & Engagement Committee will work on advocacy and community relations and the Board's function on those areas.

Question: Did the Policy & Governance Committee decide on a framework to guide each committee's review and ensure consistency?

Answer: The Policy & Governance Committee has discussed possible methodologies on guiding the policy reviews. Suggestions were made on identifying gaps with regards to anti-racist policies and practices.

6.2 Finance & Audit Committee Report

Year to Date Financial Update

ED presents the year-to-date information up to August 2020 (i.e. Balance Sheet and Comparative Income Statement).

Additional note: Much of the significant surplus is due to the impact of COVID (staff working from home and the organization's work on the Anti-Systemic Racism project which was unbudgeted revenue. The additional revenue was mostly used for staff wage and adjusted the 2020 budget wage category. The expenses for the 80th Anniversary booklet have not been realized in the current income statement.

Question: Why is there a variance in Wages & Salaries?

Answer: Project wages are reflected under the specific project line items and are not included in the general wage and salary line item. When you add all the project wages to the general there is not as high a variance. As well, the lower actual wages take into account the delay in expense between hiring for the Research officer position after John Kolkman retired.

MOTION: moved by Vanessa Zembal, and seconded by Danielle Dolgoy, to accept the 2nd Quarter Financials as presented.

MOTION: CARRIED.

ACTION: 3rd Quarter Report to be presented on November Board meeting.

Budget 2020

Budget 2020 was provided for information purposes only in the meeting package. Budget discussions for 2021 will be presented in November and December.

7.0 Other Business

7.1 Executive Director Performance Review – Bylaw

Two bylaws were highlighted:

- 1) Bylaw **6.1.7** states that the “Executive Director is accountable to the Board”
- 2) Bylaw **6.3.6.f** states that the duties of the Executive Committee of the Board include “To conduct an annual evaluation of the Executive Director”

Based on ESPC’s bylaws, the Executive Committee consists of the chair (President) and the three vice-chairs (the chairs of the standing committees).

ACTION: The Executive Committee, with the Policy & Governance Committee’s guidance, will meet in October to discuss the process and timeline of the Executive Director Performance review. The Executive Committee will report on this discussion on the November Board meeting.

7.2 United Way Campaign Pledge Forms

ED and EA discuss the 2020 Campaign.

Campaign pledge forms have transitioned digitally and will be shared by the EA to the Board when the online service is officially set up. The campaign will run from October 22, 2020 until November 30, 2020. Staff have decided to hold a bottle drive as their special event for this year’s campaign as their usual bake sale fundraiser is not feasible. The Board is invited to participate in the campaign.

8.0 General Discussion

8.1 Foundations for Social Change (FSC) New Leaf Project

FSC provided a direct cash transfer of \$7,500 to 50 people who recently became homeless, with recipients choosing how to spend the funds (like a guaranteed basic income). Their preliminary data has shown that participants spent fewer days homeless and achieved better food security, among others.

8.2 Ontario Basic Income Pilot Project debrief

Findings from the evaluation also demonstrate that recipients used the additional money to upgrade their skills for better paying employment. It was described as a safety net that ensure household expenses could be paid while upgrading and looking for better employment.

8.3 Camp Pekiwewin

ED has not contacted the Camp organizers. ED will reach out to the camp organizers and provide an update at a future meeting. ESPC did prepare comments and submitted to the Edmonton Journal editorial department supporting the City of Edmonton’s decision to use the convention centre for the homeless over the winter months.

Meeting adjourned:

Meeting adjourned at 8:04pm.

Next meeting:

November 10, 2020	March 9, 2021
December 8, 2020	April 13, 2021
January 12, 2021	May 11, 2021
February 9, 2021	