

Greenfield Community League: President's Report to the Community
2010-11 Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, April 19, 2011

Friends and neighbours:

This time last year, my update spoke about how quickly the first year of my term as President seemed to have gone by. If anything, my second and final year seems to have flown by even faster. 2010-11 was in many ways a year of consolidation for Greenfield, after the major upheaval of the spray deck and playground projects, coupled with considerable turnover on the Community League board in the preceding year. I am pleased to report we have a great core of volunteers – many of whom have come on board since my term began – and we have been extremely fortunate to recruit some exceptional employees to our paid positions.

As you will read below, we have some challenges and some exciting projects ahead. As “Past President” after this meeting, I look forward to working with my successor and the rest of the board to keep moving Greenfield forward.

Community Projects

The spray deck and playground projects wrapped up in 2009-10, but we held the “official” launch party in June of 2010. This was a tremendously successful neighbourhood event, which saw a perfect day and many hundreds of visitors to the park. Sincere thanks to all volunteers at the party, and particularly to **Melody Mah**, who led the volunteer effort.

The final piece of construction for the park area took place in the early summer months, when Epcor completed moves and repairs to the night security lights.

From a financial point of view, we continued to have some issues reconciling donations to the park projects, however thanks to the hard work of our Treasurer, Kim MacDonald, these have recently been resolved.

The one major capital project undertaken by the League in 2010-11 was the resurfacing of all four of our tennis courts. Greenfield is recognized for having some of the best outdoor courts in the area, and the attention we have paid to maintaining this quality has been instrumental in the success of Greenfield Tennis Club.

As usual, we welcomed the City of Edmonton “Green Shack” program to Greenfield Park in July and August, and will hope to continue this and other activities with Edmonton Community Services in coming years.

The League has also been pleased to work with other non-profits during the year, notably:

- The Bissell Centre set up its mobile donation van for several weekends in the Greenfield parking lot. This was apparently a great success for the Bissell, thanks to a large volume of high quality donations.
- Special Olympics used the Greenfield outdoor rink on a weekly basis in the spring and summer for a youth soccer program.

This year's recipients of the Greenfield Memorial Scholarship were **Erika Rodning** and **Devin Smith**.

Volunteers and employees

Our sincere thanks for their efforts go out to those volunteers who have stepped down this year or are ending their terms at this AGM:

- **Mark Herbert**, Greenfield Gazette Editor
- **Brian Kerr**, South-West Area Council (SWAC) Representative
- **Krista Wintoniak**, Program Director

Welcome to our new volunteers since the last AGM – and sincere thanks to all those listed below and on the back of each Greenfield Gazette for your continuing efforts on behalf of Greenfield:

- **Kim MacDonald**, Treasurer
- **Susan Suh**, Soccer Director
- **Melissa Larson, Caitlin Crawshaw and Megan Miller** – Greenfield Gazette editing team
- **Sarah Wu**, Program Director
- **Cora Woodman**, Social Director.

I would also like to acknowledge our resident unsung hero, **Greg Clarke**, who continues to make himself available to assist the League, even though he has not officially held a director position since the end of 2009. Greg has been a great friend and mentor throughout my term, and I can honestly say I would not have got through it without him, particularly when I found myself working out of town for the last half of 2010.

As mentioned above, Greenfield also has some exceptional employees. The operations of our facilities and grounds take major time and effort. The age of our facilities is adding to this challenge, and our Facility Manager, **Karrie Adolf**, has consistently gone above and beyond the call of duty ever since taking on the position last year. Our thanks too, to **Zane Noruschat** for his groundskeeping work last summer, **Ian Lukan** for providing excellent janitorial services and to **Dave Moore** who is retiring after a very challenging winter of icemaking on the Greenfield rink.

Membership

Greenfield Community League currently sits at 280 memberships for the 2010-11 membership year. This represents a 13% increase over this time last year, but still less than 19% of households in Greenfield. Please refer to the Membership Director's report for further information.

The board continues to examine possible activities, such as holding a membership drive, in order to try and increase the proportion of Greenfield households with a Community League membership.

Future Projects

In conjunction with the City of Edmonton Community Services, the League went through a thorough inspection of our facilities in 2010, conducted by Stantec Construction. As one would expect, the age of our buildings is contributing to ever-increasing maintenance and operating costs. The report provided by Stantec has recommended a number of actions to be taken on both the Community Hall and Rink Shack buildings within the next 3-4 years. In order to help prioritize, investigate funding options and ultimately issue contracts for the recommended work, a Buildings Maintenance Committee will begin meeting this year.

The increasing maintenance burden means that it makes sense to split the current Facility Manager role (filled by Karrie Adolf) into two positions. We aim to recruit a new employee to work with Karrie and take on the buildings maintenance portion of the role. Please refer to the most recent Greenfield Gazette and the website for details.

Aside from maintenance projects, the League has recently formed a Rink Committee, to explore options for replacing the boards on the main outdoor rink. If you are interested in contributing to the rink replacement project in any way, please contact Greg Clarke (780-430-9227).

Neighbourhood Issues

Petrolia Mall

Shortly after the last AGM, I was able to connect with Mr. Fred Mok, owner of the Petrolia Mall property. At that time, he informed me that a mixed residential and commercial development, slated for the east end of the site (from an original proposal in 2007/8), was unlikely to go ahead due to market conditions. Subsequently, Mr. Mok was able to secure a tenancy agreement with Giant Tiger. The mall building has

been renovated and the Giant Tiger store has recently opened. Early indications are that the store has experienced a successful start, and the League hopes to work with Giant Tiger's community-focused programs in the future. It remains to be seen whether the increased legitimate activity at Petrolia will help to reduce the levels of undesirable activity that had been seen on the site in recent years.

Vandalism and crime

2010-11 has been a disappointing year for the levels of criminal activity we have seen in and around Greenfield Park, including break-ins in both the Community Hall and Rink Shack. In the late summer of 2010, the League engaged with Edmonton Police Service (Community Constable Joe Allan), who helped suggest some actions we could take to reduce incidents. The League also contracted a security company to conduct random nightly patrols through the summer months. The best deterrent remains the vigilance of residents, and we ask that you report any and all suspicious activities in and around Greenfield Park to the police.

Closing message

I already seem to have spent much of this report thanking people, so in closing, I would just like to say it has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve as President of Greenfield Community League – and alongside so many people who care so deeply about this great community. I look forward to watching the League go from strength to strength, and to helping out where I can in the role of Past President.

Respectfully submitted,



Ian Hicks
Outgoing President, Greenfield Community League

Upcoming events

Greenfield Board Meetings – second Tuesday each month @ 7pm
May 10th, June 9th, September 13th...

Spring Cleanup – Park and Community Buildings
Saturday, May 14th, 1-3pm

Garage Sale Weekend in Greenfield
June 3/4/5

Committee volunteers required for:
Buildings Committee
Scholarship Committee

See greenfieldcommunityleague.com or the Gazette for details