



EDMONTON COMBATIVE SPORTS COMMISSION
Board Meeting
6:00 p.m., December 18, 2017
3rd Floor, Edmonton Tower, Room 03-320

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chair Steven Phipps at 6:00 PM

1. Roll Call, Recording of Attendance

Present: Chair Steven Phipps, Vice Chair Levi Bjork
Commission Members: Sandy Bugeja,
Scott Wallace, Trudy Nastiuk, Andrew LeMoine
Executive Director David Aitken
Recorder Tracey Poberznick

Absent with Regrets: None

2. Call for Requests to Speak from the Public

Requests to speak were received from the following persons:

- Melanie Lubovac – KO Boxing
- Sunny Sareen – Unified MMA
- Milan Lubovac - KO Boxing
- Kurt Sorochnan – PWA Wrestling
- Sean Dunster – Promoter
- Victor Valimaki – Competitor

3. Adopt Agenda

Amendments:

MOVED/SECOND: To add '2018 Meeting Schedule' to Item 13. CARRIED

MOVED/SECOND: To add 'Policy Revisions' as Item 10A. CARRIED

MOVED/SECOND: To add 'Public Speaker Presentations' as Item 4A. CARRIED

MOVED/SECOND: That the Agenda be adopted as amended. CARRIED

4. Approve Minutes from the Previous Meeting

MOVED/SECOND: That the October 23, 2017 minutes be adopted as presented. CARRIED

4A. Public Speaker Presentations

The ECSC heard presentations from the following persons:

Melanie Lubovac, KO Boxing; Sunny Sareen, Unified MMA; Milan Lubovac. KO Boxing; Kurt Sorochan, PW Wrestling; Sean Dunster, Promoter; and Victor Valimaki, MMA Competitor.

Everyone in attendance was advised they could also register and make presentations to members of City Council at the Community and Public Services Committee meeting on January 17, 2018.

MOVED/SECOND: That the Executive Director provide the Commission with a report, at the February 2018 meeting, as to whether professional wrestling, considered as sports entertainment, is properly included within the Combative Sports Bylaw, as well as the pros and cons of doing so and a comparison of other jurisdictions. CARRIED

5 Items Arising from Previous Meeting

a) Policy Review/ eScan Medical Suspensions

Policy Review

Discussed the potential for a policy review framework and how to go forward in a format to review the pieces in an orderly fashion. MNP provided a framework option recommendation. The Commission will let Administration know what kinds of changes were being considered.

eScan Medical Suspensions

The Commission wanted to take a look at the policies and see where they could be improved. A hold was put on this pending the MNP results. Given repeated delays, the ECSC agreed to get the process started and asked Administration to start looking at specific areas of the policies. Issuing medical suspensions and rest periods was noted as high priority. The eScan was received for information.

b) Creation of Email Addresses

Email addresses have been created for each Commission member and will be used as the primary contact point to the ECSC. Everyone will transition to the new email addresses after the January 15 meeting. It was requested that Commission members get notification of any new email.

c) **Awards Banquet Report**

This item will be carried forward to the January meeting for discussion and decision. The Executive Director would be responsible for the coordination of this event.

d) **2018 Recruitment**

The City Clerk inquired of the Chair whether recruitment for the one vacancy on the Commission was desired given the City Council directed moratorium on 2018 licenses. The Chair advised recruitment should proceed as scheduled. The moratorium does not affect the ECSC governance role.

6 **K.O. Boxing Request**

KO Boxing requested permission to announce an event for March of 2018 prior to any Event Permit being issued for the event. ECSC policy prohibits announcements or promotion of events unless an Event Permit has been issued or written permission from the ECSC has been granted. Administration recommended permission not be granted given the recent moratorium on licenses until December 31, 2018. ECSC accepted the recommendation and declined to grant permission to announce or promote the event.

7 **2018 Budget**

The proposed 2018 Budget was provided for discussion. There will be no revenue while the license moratorium is in effect. Accrued surplus funds will be used to pay Commission expenses for the short term. The 2018 budget proposes an increased amount for continuing education for Commission members. If the moratorium is removed, the budget will be adjusted to reflect expected revenues.

MOVED/SECOND: To adopt the 2018 Budget as distributed.

CARRIED

8 **Financial Statements – October 31, 2017**

MOVED/SECOND: To accept the October 31, 2017 Financial Statements as presented.

CARRIED

9. **Executive Director Report**

A written report was provided to the Commission with attachments.

- a) It was suggested that a framework be developed, including written documentation for submission to the Commission by the Executive Director prior to monthly ECSC meetings. Touching on key elements
- b) December 8, 2017, KO Boxing Event Update: An event summary document was provided to the Commission which is broken into five elements indicating what was done by Administration and Officials.
- c) Continuous improvement – An information package was provided to the Commission by the Executive Director including all relevant documentation for events including an operational check list.
- d) ABC Data Base Issue – Policy requires that the Executive Director provides the results of events within two business days to the various data bases within the ABC. The Executive Director checked this information for accuracy a few days after the last event data was submitted and found four errors raising concerns

about accuracies on the website. Emails were sent regarding the errors and corrective action was requested. The Executive Director will continue to check and make sure data base is up to date.

- e) MNP Report – The review was released December 14, 2017, and there will be a report going to the Community and Public Services Committee meeting in January of 2018. Administration will provide a report regarding MNP's review to Council. There will be an opportunity for public to register with the Office of the City Clerk to provide a request to speak.

In the future, the Executive Director will provide suspension history on each of the fighters as well as where the ECSC exceeded the minimum rest period and suspensions to the Commission.

MOVED/SECOND: To accept the Executive Director's Report as presented.

CARRIED

10 Chair Report

- A training opportunity for January 13, 2018 was provided to the commission regarding what you need to know as a Council of Committee. S. Phipps will be attending and has asked Commission members to notify him if they are interested in attending.
- The Chair's report will be provided in written format as opposed to verbal, from this point forward.
- There are three parties in the overall regulatory system for combative sports in Edmonton. Each plays an important role. The three parties are City Council, the Commission and City administration, primarily the Executive Director. Clarity was provided regarding the roles of each of the three parties.
 1. City Council is the legislative body responsible for the Bylaws. It creates the ECSC and defines its jurisdiction. It creates the Designated Officer position of Executive Director and defines its jurisdiction. It sets out minimum operational standards in the Combative Sports Bylaw to be applied by the Executive Director.
 2. The ECSC is a Committee of Council. Commission members are appointed by Council. The members are volunteers from the community with an expertise in governance and related matters. The Commission is expected to act within the jurisdiction set out by Council. That jurisdiction is to regulate combative sports through the creation of policies to be applied by the Executive Director. It also includes hearing appeals of certain decisions made by the Executive Director. The Commission does not make operational decisions regarding combative sports events. The Commission reports directly to Council.
 3. The Executive Director is a Designated Officer position created by City Council. The Executive Director is hired by City administration and is a full time paid employee of the City of Edmonton. Although the Commission may provide direction to the Executive Director with respect to matters within its mandate, the Executive Director is at all times accountable to and under the supervision of the City Manager. The Executive Director is

responsible for all operational decisions regarding combative sports events, including licensing. The complete Executive Director's powers, duties and functions are set out in Section 28 of Bylaw 15638.

10A Policy Revisions

MOVED/SECOND: That ECSC Policies #1 to #10 and ECSC Policy #12 are revised as set out in the attached black lined versions of these policies. These revisions are effective immediately. (Complete motion is attached at end of these Minutes.)

CARRIED

11 2018 Executive Positions

MOVED/SECOND: That the terms and elections for executive positions be aligned with Commission appointments and current positions be extended until April 30, 2018. The next term will run May 1, 2018 to April 30 2019 with elections to be held at the April 9-2018 Commission meeting.

CARRIED

12 MNP Report and City Council Moratorium

There was a general discussion of both the MNP Report and the City Council Moratorium.

The decision to impose a moratorium was made by City Council without prior notice to, or input from, the Commission. It is, however, acknowledged that City Council has the legislative authority to impose such a moratorium.

The strengths and weaknesses of the MNP Report were discussed. A more detailed submission will be made on behalf of the Commission to the Community and Public Services Committee on January 17, 2018.

MOVED/SECOND: That if City Council is concerned about allegations in the MNP report, of possible operational non-compliance with bylaws or policies connected to safety, the Commission supports a continuation of the moratorium until City Council is satisfied any such concerns are resolved.

CARRIED

MOVED/SECOND: That a request be made on behalf of the Commission to the City Manager to direct the immediate production of the complete MNP report to the Commission, failing which, a request be made to City Council to direct such production.

CARRIED

MOVED/SECOND: That the City Manager be encouraged to forthwith investigate any allegations of operational non-compliance to ensure proper controls are in place to maintain compliance with operational requirements of bylaws and policies.

CARRIED

13 Date of Next Meeting (7:00 p.m., January 15, 2018)

The next ECSC meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on January 15, 2017 at a location to be confirmed.

MOVED/SECOND: That the 2018 Meeting Schedule as distributed be approved, with meetings to be held on the second Monday of each month with the exceptions of January, November and December where the meetings will be on the third Monday.

CARRIED

2018 meeting dates will be posted on the ECSC web page.

14 New Business

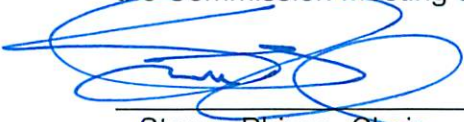
ECSC Website: The website needs to be updated and include a proper explanation of the three governing bodies. This will be added to the January agenda.

15 Motion to Adjourn

MOVED: That the meeting be adjourned.

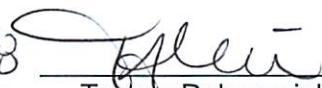
The meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

I certify that the preceding minutes represent an accurate account of the proceeding of the Commission Meeting on December 18, 2017.



Steven Phipps, Chair

Jan 16/18
Date



Tracey Poberznick, Recorder

Motion

1/8/2018

Policy Revision Motion.jpg

A MOTION TO REVISE CERTAIN LANGUAGE IN ECSC POLICIES TO ALIGN THE POLICIES WITH CITY OF EDMONTON BYLAWS AND CURRENT OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

WHEREAS the Edmonton Combative Sports Commission (ECSC) has been holding off on certain Policy language revisions pending receipt of the report on the combative sports event held in Edmonton on June 16, 2017;

AND WHEREAS the report has now been received (subject to certain redactions);

AND WHEREAS the ECSC desires to revise certain language in its policies that is inconsistent with City of Edmonton Bylaws and current operational responsibilities;

AND WHEREAS it will now be a priority of the ECSC to educate the media and the public generally with respect to the roles and responsibilities of City Council, the ECSC and the Executive Director, being the three parties involved in the regulation of combative sports in Edmonton, and the need to be precise and accurate when referring to one or more of these parties;

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED THAT the ECSC Policies #1 to #10 and ECSC Policy #12 are revised as set out in the attached black lined versions of these policies.

These revisions are effective immediately.

DATED this 18th day of December, 2017

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steven Phipps', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Steven Phipps, Chair