



EMERALD CITY FOOTBALL CLUB

Emerald City FC Special Board Meeting

July 20th, 2009

Sand Point Education Center, Seattle Washington

In attendance: President Joe Picciano, Executive VP Ruth Nicholson, Treasurer Jonathan Fischer, Secretary Tor Jernudd, VP of Membership Jeanne Suleiman, Coaches Representatives Tai Po and David Smith, Business Manager Mea Fischelis, Coaching Director Bobby Howe, Assistant Coaching Director Jon Matsushita, Player Rep Angela Fischer

Excused: VC Dan Barsher, Player Rep Chris Perkins

Arrived during the meeting: Assistant Coaching director Peter Fewing.

The meeting was convened at 7:13pm.

AGENDA

RN introduced the agenda.

MEETING SCHEDULES

Next regularly scheduled board meeting will be held at 7pm Monday Aug 10th, 2009 at the Sand Point Education Center

CONCUSSION LAW

MF explained the new law which is scheduled to take effect on Jul 26th.

The club will be required to distribute fact sheets to all members including parents and coaches, and will need to collect a new consent form. There may be some other requirements relating to the use of school district property which MF is researching. MF will take the lead with our team managers to ensure that ECFC is in compliance. The board discussed the benefits of inviting a specialist to help to continue educating our coaching staff regarding concussions.

ECFC Alumni Association

TP provided a brief update on her progress in creating an alumni association and hosting or coordinating appropriate events.



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SUPPORT FOR m93g team (going to US Club Soccer Nationals)

SYSA commissioner MK reported that SYSA will provide \$3000 in support on the condition that ECFC does the same.

TJ makes a motion that ECFC will pay for Coaching Director Bobby Howe's direct travel expenses to attend the US Club Nationals tournament in Virginia, and that ECFC shall provide \$3000 from the regional/national support budget to the m93g team for team expenses.

RN 2nds, 6 votes in favor, 2 abstentions by board members with players on m93g.

ELECTION DISPUTE UPDATE

TJ reported that a meeting had been held with WYS President Doug Andreassen, Treasurer George Maitland, and Executive Director Terry Fisher a few days earlier at the WYS offices in Federal Way. TJ, MK, DB, JP and parent volunteer Harry Schneider represented ECFC at the meeting.

At the meeting the WYS proposed that in their view a new ECFC board election was desirable. Reasons cited included a failure to consent to a previous WYS request to delay the June 09 election, unspecified procedural objections, and various "allegations and insinuations" from which one could conclude that "where there's smoke there's fire". No specific authority, by-law violation, or specific breach of rules was articulated. In order to "have a fresh start" the WYS directors also strongly suggested that all voting board members be re-elected, including coaches reps whose election had been held separately and those board members elected in 2008.

The ECFC representatives in attendance explained that they didn't have the authority to agree to a new election, that was an issue that must be considered by the full ECFC board.

Nonetheless, it was agreed that the ECFC election committee would draft a proposal for a new election that would incorporate the issues discussed. That proposal would then be returned to the WYS for their approval. If WYS approved the draft, then it would be submitted to the ECFC board for consideration and potential implementation.

Key points in the discussions and in the proposal include the following:



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Why ECFC board members elected in 2008 should be required to stand for reelection?

When a new election would be held?

Is there demonstrable need to "re-elect non voting members?"

What is the basis for Mr Fisher and Mr Andreasson's request to re-elect board members elected in 2008?

"Transition" criteria / Seattle United update

There was a discussion regarding the need for objective criteria to judge any future proposal to the Emerald City board in regard to affiliations/etc. The PDL has criteria: proven track record of player development, qualified coaching director and mission statement. Coaching Director Contract also has objective criteria.

PDL coaching directors have said any new club would take several years to establish record.

There was a question regarding the FC Royals and United merger, was it merger or was it takeover? Did the keep boys and girls CDs, at least initially?

JP reported re discussion with SU president Bret MacPherson.

Seattle United is moving ahead. Their intention is to build from ground up to create and control a new culture. SYSA President Parker Mason stated that SU is working with ECFC for smooth transition, but no evidence from meeting with Bret. Joe not optimistic. Publicly Seattle United leaders suggest that Emerald City FC should join Seattle United, but it appears their definition of "Join" is 'Surrender". JP reported that he and Bret agreed that they will talk when there's something to talk about.

Question regarding who appointed the current SU board members....Who is the "they" that appointed the SU board members

DS reported meeting with Seattle United Treasurer AC.

Nina Shapiro from Seattle Weekly had called looking for info about Coaches, or SU/ECFC. The ECFC board decided not to seek media coverage. Reporter spoke to LVR and Magnolia club Presidents



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ECFC Survey results are up...JP reported that SYSA President PM expressed concern that ECFC is conducting surveys and putting results on website.

ECFC members are wondering, what's the future? Want reassurances that we aren't going away... Need timeline now...in regard to options

Coaching Directors will have Academy plans within a week or so.

PDL coaching directors meeting in August. working on tiers for fall play. Good time to discuss ECFC moving forward in the PDL. All coaching directors have said ECFC is the Seattle PDL entity.

Board Meeting Issues

Does the board need a policy to differentiate open meeting vs executive session items?

Judicial, contractual, financial aid, grievances, Legal and personnel matters should be considered in "executive session". Executive session can be called at any time, but the intent is to plan executive sessions in advance.

Treasurers Report

JF intends to hand out updated reports at every meeting. ECFC is currently within 6 players members of the budget target Board will need to formally adopt club budget at next meeting and will need to get something going to raise the \$25,000 fundraising target for financial aid budget.

President JP moved to adjourn, DS 2nds, unanimous



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