



MIPRC Minutes - October 8, 2013

The October meeting of the Mayne Island Parks & Recreation Commission was held at the Library on Wednesday, October 8 and was called to order at 3:17 pm.

Present: Jerry Wise (Chair / Secretary) Jerry Betker Peter Askin
Bill Duggan Liz Howard
Absent: Dennis Akey Al Cannon Veronica Euper

1. **Adoption of agenda:** **moved** by Liz, seconded by Bill, that the agenda be adopted. Motion carried.

2. **Guests:** Helen O'Brian and Irene Barrett were on hand to introduce the newly incorporated Gulf Islands Trails Society ("GITS"). It has been modeled after the Galiano Trails Society but represents all four of the Southern Gulf Islands – Pender, Saturna, Galiano and Mayne. The GITS's strategy is to be a vehicle for consistency of signage on all four Islands as well as develop and execute common usage documentation such as Landowner and Indemnity Agreements, and to hopefully make fundraising less difficult. It is also possible that the GITS can arrange trail use liability insurance coverage for all four Islands at a lower cost than each doing this separately. The immediate focus of the GITS will be on the proposed pathway linking Village Bay and Miners Bay where some funding is already in place. It is the intention of the GITS Board to work closely with all other trail and economic development organizations that are in place throughout the Islands to enhance their efforts. They also intend to work within the existing CRD draft trail plan.

3. **Approval of September minutes:** as there were no errors or omissions it was **moved** by Jerry B, seconded by Liz, that the September minutes be approved. Motion carried.

4. **Correspondence (in-coming):** an email was received from CRD staff relating to the new Clean Air by-law.

5. **Correspondence (out-going):** none

6. **Items arising from old business:**

- I. Jerry W reported that he had been to have a look at Lot 63 in the red zone on Wood Dale Drive which has been offered to the MIPRC as a donation. The property has a large flat area before it runs into the Mt. Parke escarpment. He recommended that before any further discussions take place with the owner we get a preliminary opinion from CRD staff relative to liability issues if we were to construct a Pocket Park on the property. **Moved** by Peter, seconded by Jerry B, that we obtain such an opinion. Motion carried.
- II. As there are four Commissioners with terms expiring on December 31 an advertisement will be placed in the November MayneLiner inviting interested Islanders to apply to fill a vacancy.

Moved by Peter, seconded by Jerry B, that the meeting go in-camera to discuss a personnel issue. Motion carried

Moved by Bill, seconded by Liz, that the meeting return to the regular format. Motion carried.

7. **New Business:**

- I. A date was set to raise the stairway at the Kippen Road beach access.

- II. A discussion took place on continuing to sponsor the Tides Table page in the monthly MayneLiner magazine. **Moved** by Liz, seconded by Bill, that the MIPRC continue to sponsor the Tides Table page for the year 2015 at a monthly cost of \$75. Motion carried.
- III. Five Commissioners plan on attending the Saturna Island Commonality Meeting to be held on October 22.
- IV. The email received from CRD staff concerning the Clean Air by-law contained information that effective April 1, 2015, the no-smoking ban will now apply to community parks as well as many other new venues. The CRD will provide the relative signs with one to be placed at each park entrance. We have ordered an initial supply of 14 signs.

8. **Treasurer's Report:** Jerry W presented his financial report for the period ending October 8, 2014. He mentioned that the only large expense was incurred at the Japanese Garden and was the cost of the trial removal of silt from the pond by using a septic pumper truck. **Moved** by Peter, seconded by Jerry B, that the report be accepted as presented. Motion carried. Jerry W went on to advise the meeting that our Recreation Funds budget will end in a deficit unless remedial action is taken. The deficit is being caused by a previously unknown monthly charge of \$178.33 levied by the CRD to cover a portion of their overhead. He went on to further advised that our previously filed budget for 2015 should be, and can be, increased in order to maintain the total funds we provide to various community groups at current levels. **Moved** by Liz, seconded by Peter, that we cover the cost of the Commissioner's Christmas dinner from Park operating funds rather than from the Recreation Funds budget in order to cover the deficit, and that further, we file a revised Recreation Funds budget for fiscal 2015 increasing the tax requisition to \$31,780. Motion carried.

9. **Park Reports:**

- I. Dinner Bay Park report from Jerry B – Matt Taylor has delivered a load of shale to the Park which will be used to fill some low spots. Also, he has noticed a huge ants nest near the shed that houses the well and storage tank. This will be dealt with. The beach stairway has now been given a coat of wood preservative and the non-slip matting should be installed in the next couple of weeks. The Frisbee golf baskets have been ordered and should be arriving soon. Some good news – the structural cracks and other issues appearing on the big tractor mower head have been repaired by welding. **Moved** by Bill, seconded by Peter, that a donation box be ordered and installed near the putting green. Motion carried.
- II. Japanese Garden report from Liz – the trial removal of silt from the pond by using a septic tank pumper truck was not a success and so a plan B strategy will have to be developed. In the good news column, the new Zen Garden has been completed and the highly regarded Mayne Island Quilters Guild will be holding their 2016 show in the Garden and in Dinner Bay Park.
- III. Miner's Bay Park report from Bill – the grass in the Park is already green much to everyone's amazement considering how brown it was only 2 weeks ago. A final decision on new bike racks has been made – we will order 4 green ones with 4 loops each.
- IV. Henderson Park / Trails Network report also from Bill – the trees that were blocking the view from the top of the Chu-an trail will have to be taken down as limbing them up or topping them would not solve the problem. The property owner has given his approval.
- V. Village Bay Park report – no report.

10. **Adjourn:** **moved** by Jerry B, seconded by Peter, to adjourn the meeting at 4:38 pm. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held at 3:15 pm on Wednesday, November 12 at the Library. Liz has advised that she cannot attend.

