



MIPRC Minutes - October 12, 2016

The October meeting of the Mayne Island Parks & Recreation Commission was held at Cotton House on Wednesday, October 12, 2016 and was called to order at 3:00 pm.

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

Absent: None

1. **Adoption of agenda:** moved by Peter, seconded by Al, that the agenda be adopted. Motion carried.
2. **Approval of September minutes:** as there were no errors or omissions it was moved by Jerry B, seconded by Peter, that the September minutes be approved. Motion carried.
3. **Correspondence (in-coming):** emails were received from three on-Island non-profit groups expressing thanks for having their recreational funding applications approved.
4. **Correspondence (out-going):** None.
5. **Items arising from old business:** Jerry W updated the meeting on the final agenda for the Pender Island Commonality meeting to be held on October 19. He also advised that the pathway committee has not yet heard from the MIPATA as to when a planning meeting might be scheduled relative to the Village Bay / Miners Bay pathway.
6. **New business:**
 - I. Peter advised that he will co-ordinate a work party to raise the stairway at the Kippen Road beach access.
 - II. It was decided that the annual Commissioner's Christmas dinner will be held on Saturday, December 3 at the Mayne Inn Bistro starting at 6:00 pm. Spouses are cordially invited.
 - III. It was moved by Dennis, seconded by Jerry B, that a letter of resignation from Al, effective October 31, be accepted with regret as he and Gail are moving to Vernon. Motion carried. A farewell luncheon for Al will be held on Wednesday, November 2 at the Mayne Inn Bistro starting at noon. Spouses are cordially invited.
 - IV. Jerry W reported at length on a September 20 telephone meeting with CRD and Islands Trust staff concerning Cotton Park. Two issues were on the agenda with the first being the fact that even though nothing done to date seems to contravene the existing zoning it would be a good idea to move forward with the planned re-zoning of the property from "Rural" to "Park". The second topic was the residence demolition. It was moved by Bill, seconded by Peter, that a formal re-zoning application be prepared and submitted to the Islands Trust Planning Department to change the Cotton Park zoning from "Rural" to "Park". Motion carried.

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Jerry W volunteered to look after this with welcome assistance from Veronica. He also advised that it was the opinion of everyone participating in the telephone meeting that deconstructing the residence seemed to make the most financial sense given the huge list of building deficiencies that need repairing. However, the manager of the CRD building inspection department, who dropped into the meeting briefly, advised that demolition could cost between \$40K and \$50K. Jerry W was then able to offer some good news in that he has been in touch with an anonymous donor who is offering to pay up to \$40K of these costs. This individual is concerned about the Commission spending scarce resources on demolishing the residence and would far rather we focused what capital we have in positive directions such as seed money for a possible replacement structure at some point in the future.

7. Treasurer's report: Jerry W presented his report covering the period September 15 to October 12, 2016. He advised that three large cheques had been written to Matt Taylor Contracting. One was for a load of gravel delivered to Dinner Bay Park, the second covered an invoice relative to work done at Cotton Park to bury the vault toilet tank and provide gravel fill and the third covered work done at the Library in laying down a new topcoat of recycled asphalt on the parking area. It was **moved** by Bill, seconded by Veronica, that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Motion Carried.

8. Park Reports:

- I. Dinner Bay Park report from Jerry B – as mentioned in item (7) the load of gravel has been delivered by Matt Taylor. The putting green is getting very soft because of the rainfall and will shortly be shut down for the winter. Also, the men's washroom will be closed for winter at the beginning of December with the ladies' washroom becoming unisex at that time with appropriate signage. Also, the Adachi Pavilion water system will be drained and shut down. There is a need for some additional keys for the tractor storage shed. The downed Willow tree beside the driveway will be burned in the near future now that the burning season has started. A burn permit has been obtained.
- II. Japanese Garden - no report but Jerry W passed along some comments from Len Epp that a casual labourer has been hired to work on the weakened rock wall. The pointing work is going well and the wall is a lot stronger. It is also a lot better supported now that some large rocks have been obtained at no cost from John Dodds and pushed under the base of the wall to create a new footing.
- III. Miner's Bay Park report from Bill - the Library renovations have started. The parking lot has been re-surfaced as mentioned in item (7) but the work highlighted the need for some new curbing. Quotes for concrete curbing will be obtained. The tractor repairs are ongoing so Bill Warning will be asked to do any necessary grass or hedge trimming. The pruning of the community Christmas tree might have to wait as it is unlikely the Hydro contractors will be back on-Island any time soon. Any emergency trimming will be done by the crew who installs the lights.
- IV. Henderson Park / Trails Network report from Peter - numerous trails and beach access pathways continue to be groomed and all are reported in good shape. Two new trail guardians are on board and very welcome. There is a dangerous tree ready to come down on the Chu-an Park trail and will be handled in the next day or so. Now that Bill is back from his travels he will start building the new bench for the viewpoint.

The hiking and walking brochure might have to be re-printed in the spring and Peter is thinking of organizing a photo contest to attract new pictures for it. There is a well-read book in many Island stores about hiking in the Gulf Islands and Peter has been asked to write the section on Mayne Island. Bill mentioned that he was up at the Henderson Park Vulture Ridge viewpoint recently and was amazed at how well all the newly planted fir trees are doing.

- V. Village Bay Park from Al - he is undertaking a search for someone to take over his duties in organizing the summertime sea weed clean-up and take ownership of the vehicle used in getting this done. The Park is in good shape for winter.
- VI. Cotton Park report from Dennis - the abandoned well has still not been capped as this requires a specialty contractor such as a well driller. The search is on and a possible person has been found. The "decommissioning" of the gardens has been put on hold as some volunteers have advised they will get started on them. At some point in the distant future when we are thinking about a new purpose-driven structure to replace the house we should perhaps visit with the Pender Harbour Fine Arts Centre staff who will be happy to share their experience with us. In the closer future we should give thought to "dismantling" the house rather than "demolishing" it and let as much material as possible be re-purposed. Everyone agreed that however the work unfolds it should be under the supervision of an experienced general contractor. The Fred and Bette memorial concrete bench that is being funded by Debra Bell has been moved to the site but the necessary hardware to put it together could not be located. Jerry W has volunteered to track down some replacement hardware. Additionally, Jerry W will look after obtaining the engraved brass plaque for this bench as well as another one for the Jack Janzen memorial bench. Al advises that he has the necessary cedar slab for the new Park sign and that he will have time to carve the lettering but not the graphics. The new bike rack is here and will be stored in the Home Hardware yard until the concrete pad is poured. The bike rack can then be installed on it.

9. **Adjourn: moved** by Peter, seconded by Bill, to adjourn the meeting at 4:15 pm. Motion carried. Our next meeting will be on November 9 at 3:00 pm at Cotton House.

