

PENDER ISLANDS PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION (PIPRC)
Minutes of Monthly Meeting
Thursday, April 21, 2011 (9:15 am)
Community Hall Lounge, North Pender Island

Present: Arn Berry, John Chapman, Pete Williams, Colin McLarty, Michael Symons, Margaret Alpen, Jon Heaney, Jim Pugh, Zorah Staar (Recorder), and Ethan Smith (PIPRC Contractor, present until after Maintenance Report)

Regrets: Ken Hancock, Peter Clarke

Public: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Arn Berry called the meeting to order at approximately 9:25 am.

2. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

Chair Berry noted that there had been a request from Sheena Fulop to speak with the PIPRC. Fulop commented as follows:

- last year she'd applied for Recreation Funding to support her Pender swimming lessons for children, but she'd subsequently been told by someone from the PIPRC Recreation Subcommittee that her application was problematic because it included the purchase of a pool cover for warming, and because there was some uncertainty about where she would teach;
- it was now clear she would be teaching at Poet's Cove, which would charge her either drop-in fees of \$3 per pre-schooler and \$5 per school age child (per lesson), or possibly a flat rate depending upon the number of students;
- Fulop described her Red Cross swimming program, qualifications, purchase of required insurance, and intention to keep lessons at roughly the same cost as Victoria rates, which would only be possible with the Recreation funding she was now requesting, to help pay for Poet's Cove pool use charges.

There was initial discussion. Margaret Alpen of the Recreation Subcommittee confirmed the history of the application by Fulop. Chair Arn Berry said that the PIPRC could potentially make a decision later in the meeting (see 9.4 below), and he would let Fulop know (waterwings.firstaidandswim@gmail.com).

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Jim Pugh was welcomed as a new PIPRC Commissioner. The meeting agenda was amended to add discussion of the April 23 Pender Beach Cleanup and the CRD Regional Parks Strategic Plan (under Chair's Report).

MOTION: Moved by Jon Heaney, seconded by Michael Symons, to approve the proposed agenda as amended. **CARRIED**

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Moved by John Chapman, seconded by Jim Pugh, to approve the March 17, 2011 PIPRC minutes as circulated. **CARRIED**

5. MAINTENANCE REPORT

Contractor Ethan Smith had emailed out a detailed Maintenance Report. Now he made additional comments and/or there was PIPRC discussion as follows:

- 160 more feet of boardwalk installed at Enchanted Forest, and Trust Fund Board had now approved trail re-routing out of wetland, and adding a new trail entrance (PIPRC then discussed a separate proposal for an additional trail from the Enchanted Forest onto adjacent private property, for a new ocean view which the landowner was considering; general agreement that John Chapman would find out survey costs to locate agreed new trail entrance and also to survey for potential viewpoint trail, and then he would report back);
- other progress in past month included moving boulders to permit wheelchair access at Drummond Bay Ocean Access, containing the Butterburr at Thieves Bay, and installing 10 metal parks safety signs, a clearer sign at Found Road, boardwalks at Welcome Bay and Capstan Lane, and new steps at Oaks Bluff;
- cedar ordered for 300 more feet of boardwalks to be built and installed (likely at Enchanted Forest), after which further boardwalks to be considered in fall;
- potential PIPRC shed location near CRD shed (at Ball Park parking lot) now ruled out, and the other potential location near Ball Park parking lot appeared to need rezoning (agreed that Arn Berry would confirm this with IT Planner);
- PIPRC subcontractor would be doing most of the required spring trimming on trails and parks, while Smith worked on other priority projects.

MOTION: Moved by John Chapman, seconded by Colin McLarty, that the PIPRC approve the expenditure of \$3,800 to repair the Magic Lake Swim Hole Dock. **CARRIED**

Note: Ethan Smith then left the meeting.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

None

7. PRIORITY ITEMS

7.1 PIPRC Signing Authority

Chair Arn Berry confirmed that the PIPRC had to update signing authorities.

MOTION: Moved by Pete Williams, seconded by Michael Symons, that the PIPRC rescind the current signing authorities from Angie Gray and Carmen Oleskevich, and give PIPRC signing authority to Arn Berry and John Chapman. **CARRIED**

7.2 Hunt Property Site Visit

Arn Berry confirmed that there would be a site visit to the Hunt property (Buck Lake watershed) on Thursday, April 28, 2011 (10 am), with Graham Boffey of the watershed Working Group.

7.3 Enchanted Forest Proposed Viewpoint Trail (see 5. Maintenance Report)

8. IN CAMERA ITEMS

MOTION: Moved by John Chapman, seconded by Margaret Alpen, that the meeting be closed to the public for the purpose of approving previous In Camera Minutes and discussing property matters. **CARRIED**

Note: See separate In Camera Minutes of today's date.

MOTION: Moved by Pete Williams, seconded by Jon Heaney, to adjourn the In Camera portion of the meeting, and once again open this PIPRC meeting to the public. **CARRIED**

9. REPORTS

9.1 Chair's Report (Arn Berry)

Chair Berry raised the issue of the upcoming April 23 Beach Cleanup (the day after Earth Day). It was confirmed that the Roesland parking lot access would be checked, and then a confirmation email sent. [PIPRC volunteers did ultimately participate by starting at Roe Island and then doing some beach cleanup at Ella Bay, Otter Bay, and Irene Bay.]

Chair Berry reported on the April 5 Parks & Recreation Commonality Meeting at CRD offices in Victoria. This had included an agreement to try to develop a common Parks Bylaw for the Southern Gulf Islands Commissions, using the Pender Parks Bylaw as a starting point. Michael Symons and Arn Berry now offered to be part of the inter-island committee to work on this (and possibly John Chapman as well). In addition, Director Ken Hancock was inviting further Commissioner input on revising the protocol agreements between the SGI Commissions and the Local Trust Committees (for example, to ensure that subdivision monies paid in lieu of park dedication stayed within the Trust areas they came from).

Also at the Commonality Meeting, Lloyd Rushton said that the CRD had templates for stairs, boardwalks, and other structures (which could be useful to the PIPRC future). Another point discussed was the Occupiers Liability Act, which could have some application to private property owners adjacent to parks. Chair Berry confirmed that PIPRC Commissioner could refer concerned landowners to the Occupiers Liability Act and their own lawyers, but Commissioners needed to be careful not to give any interpretations which could be construed as legal advice.

Finally, Chair Berry noted the revised CRD Regional Parks Strategic Plan, which the CRD wanted to discuss with the PIPRC and the Pender community in the latter part of May. There was PIPRC agreement to have a separate meeting for this. Chair Berry would follow up to arrange a date.

9.2 CRD Electoral Area Director's Report (Ken Hancock)

Alternate Jon Heaney was present, but did not have any additional comments to make.

9.3 Financial Report & Recreation Funding Issues

PIPRC volunteer bookkeeper Angie Gray had emailed out the latest CRD financial statements for the Parks and Recreation budgets. In addition, Pete Williams said that the CRD had approved the PIPRC's proposed 2011 budget, which could be reviewed at the next meeting.

9.4 Recreation Funding Report

Chair Arn Berry had to leave the meeting, so Vice-Chair John Chapman took over that role. Margaret Alpen noted the previous PIPRC agreement to clarify applicable criteria for decisions on Recreation funding (prior to the next round of funding applications this summer).

The PIPRC considered the revised 2010 Recreation funding request described earlier in the meeting by Sheena Fulop.

MOTION: Moved by Pete Williams, seconded by Michael Symons, that the PIPRC approve Recreation funding for children's swimming lessons by Sheena Fulop, specifically to pay pool costs to Poet's Cove to a maximum of \$1,000 (subject to receipts being provided).

CARRIED

Then the PIPRC once again considered the Dierz Dance funding request still pending from 2010. Margaret Alpen said it had now been confirmed that the request was for dance props, supplies and/or equipment for 3 summer dance camps, but it was not clear whether these camps were taking place in a public facility or at the applicant's home studio. There was general agreement that because the applicant's request had changed again, it would be helpful if she came and met with the PIPRC to explain further.

9.5 Communications Report

Margaret Alpen said that she planned to arrange for some changes to the PIPRC website, e.g. to change the dates for the next round of Recreation funding application.

9.6 Volunteer Coordinator's Report (None)

10. NEW /ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

10.1 South Pender Island OCP Review

Vice-Chair Chapman noted that the South Pender Official Community Plan was being reviewed, and that a formal referral to the PIPRC was expected in the near future. Chapman encouraged Commissioners to review the emailed OCP provisions relating to Parks (e.g. re: forward planning), ideally for discussion at the next PIPRC meeting.

10.2 Disc Park Green Sign

Jim Pugh said that visitors often had difficulty finding Disk Park, and wondered if PIPRC could arrange for one of the official green tourism signs to provide directions. It was believed that there was a Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure signage program in this regard, and it was suggested that either Arn Berry or John Chapman follow up by contacting the local Highways maintenance company.

MOTION: Moved by Michael Symons, seconded by Jon Heaney, that the Pender Islands Parks & Recreation Commission support having a green provincial government sign for the Disk Park. **CARRIED**

11. NEXT MEETING

The next PIPRC Meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 19, 2011 (9:15 am, Community Hall Lounge).

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Pete Williams, seconded by Colin McLarty, that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 12:22 pm. **CARRIED**