

PENDER ISLANDS PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION (PIPRC)
Minutes of Monthly Meeting
Thursday, June 16, 2011 (9:15 am)
Community Hall Lounge, North Pender Island

Present: Arn Berry, John Chapman, Colin McLarty, Ken Hancock, Peter Clarke, Margaret Alpen, Jim Pugh, Zorah Staar (Recorder), and Ethan Smith (PIPRC Contractor, present until after Maintenance Report)

Regrets: Pete Williams, Michael Symons

Public: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Arn Berry called the meeting to order at approximately 9:18 am.

2. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

None

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was amended to add an item under Reports for comments about GINPR (Gulf Islands National Park Reserve).

MOTION: Moved by Peter Clarke, seconded by Colin McLarty, to approve the proposed agenda as amended. **CARRIED**

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Moved by John Chapman, seconded by Peter Clarke, to approve the May 19, 2011 PIPRC minutes as circulated. **CARRIED**

5. MAINTENANCE REPORT & DISCUSSIONS

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

- metal barrier post installed in concrete at Peter Cove South Ocean Access (as previously decided, and supported by local Trincomali residents);
- other PIPRC Contractor has constructed another 110 feet of boardwalk, to be installed in future at Capstan Lane park;
- seasonal trimming was behind because of Subcontractor's truck problems, but was now being caught up on;
- re: Found Road Ocean Access interpretive signs, agreed that Smith would pick them up at PIPRC office, mount them on boards, and work out placement with John Chapman's help;

- Shingle Bay Kayak Ramp was being affected by erosion along the bank (agreed that trying to protect the ramp installation could be problematic, and that it should be viewed at an upcoming PIPRC field trip);
- Shingle Bay outhouse still being affected by excess runoff, despite past work to raise it and install trenching and a culvert (agreed for PIPRC to view this site as well, with Arn Berry to email re: field trip date);
- final maintenance priority issue was new PIPRC shed to be installed in Ball Park parking lot (agreed for this to be third field trip site; Arn Berry reported on required steps for obtaining a Temporary Use Permit to begin this project).

MOTION: Moved by John Chapman, seconded by Margaret Alpen, that the PIPRC initiate the process of applying for a Temporary Use Permit for a PIPRC storage shed in the CP2 parking lot area of the Danny Martin Ball Park. **CARRIED**

It was also noted that the Bosun/Galleon Trail partial re-routing (to restore a wetland), was being ignored again, with signs removed and thrown in the bushes. There was general agreement that the Contractor Smith would build a strong barrier (4" X 4" posts set in concrete, with a cross piece and arrow sign), and that the next PIPRC Pender Post article (to be written by Peter Clarke) would discuss the reasons for the rerouting and the need for community support.

Finally, it was agreed that the display boards from the CRD could be donated to the Community Hall, with the condition that the PIPRC be able to use them for the Fall Fair and other events (Margaret Alpen to approach Hall about this). Ethan Smith then left the meeting.

6. PRIORITY / OTHER ITEMS

6.1 Outhouses

Another problem (revealed by recent pump-out of four PIPRC outhouses) was the amount of garbage, rocks, etc. being thrown into the holding tanks. Trying to remedy this by installing garbage receptacles could create an additional problem. It was agreed to monitor the situation, and to discuss it in the upcoming Pender Post article. Colin McLarty was also asked to contact the PIPRC sign maker about good visual signs to discourage garbage being put into outhouse toilets.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Reply from Ministry of Transportation re: Disk Park Signage

Jim Pugh reported that the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure had denied the PIPRC request for some roadside directional signage to the Disk Park, quoting a policy against doing this for municipal or local parks (in order to "reduce sign clutter"). Neither did the provincial tourist signage program seem applicable because it required an onsite manager and a brochure. An alternative could be asking nearby private property owners to agree to some signs, or finding a CRD site where directional signage was useful.

7.2 Letter from Three on the Tree Productions Society

Three on the Tree had written to thank PIPRC for the Recreation funding provided for this year's Magic Lantern Festival, and for the PIPRC having signed a letter of support for a federal grant application.

7.3 Email from Sandy Johnson re: Peter Cove South Ocean Access

Sandy Johnson had written to thank PIPRC for placing the "no vehicles" sign and metal barrier post at Peter Cove South, and he'd also volunteered to look after this ocean access. John Chapman said that he would follow up.

7.4 Email from Elizabeth Kennedy (GIPRC) re: Fall Commonality Meeting

Elizabeth Kennedy of the Galiano Parks & Recreation Commission had written to confirm their desire to host the fall Parks & Recreation Commonality Meeting (on October 13, 2011). They'd also asked for agenda items (invasive plants, outhouses, and liability issues were suggested).

8. IN CAMERA ITEMS

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

Note: See separate In Camera Minutes of the same date.

MOTION: Moved by Peter Clarke, seconded by John Chapman, to adjourn the In Camera portion of the meeting, and once again open this PIPRC meeting to the public. **CARRIED**

It was reported that during the In Camera portion of the meeting, there was discussion of the Harbour Hill subdivision in progress, and the entitlement of the PIPRC to a new trail within it.

9. REPORTS

9.1 Chair's Report (Arn Berry)

Chair Berry reviewed a letter from a landowner adjacent to Capstan Trail, who was dismayed to hear about the current PIPRC policy not to cut down trees at landowner request, unless there was an obvious danger or an arborist's report supporting action. Meanwhile one local tree faller had said that the Capstan tree in question should be cut down, and another had said it was in good health and did not require this. It was agreed to consider the matter further, and meanwhile Colin McLarty offered to go look at the tree.

9.2 CRD Director's Report (Ken Hancock)

Ken Hancock had nothing to report.

9.3 Financial Report

PIPRC volunteer bookkeeper Angie Gray had emailed out the latest CRD financial statements, with the amounts spent and remaining of the Parks and Recreation budgets. There were some questions, which Chair Arn Berry said he would follow up with the CRD. In addition, Pete Williams was to review the 2011 PIPRC budget with Commissioners at the next meeting. Arn Berry had begun familiarize himself with the CRD budget format.

9.4 Recreation Funding Report

Margaret Alpen noted this year's September 30, 2011 deadline for Recreation funding applications. Blank forms were now in the PIPRC folder in the Community Box, and also available at www.crd.bc.ca/penderparks/ Alpen said that she would give Peter Clarke some related information for the upcoming PIPRC Pender Post article.

9.5 Communications Report

See above re: items for the upcoming Pender Post article.

9.6 Volunteer Coordinator's Report

John Chapman said that he had contacted all the PIPRC trail inspection volunteers to confirm their status, with some having ceased to be active. Now the role of Volunteer Coordinator was being taken on by Michael Symons. There was discussion about the need to recruit some new volunteers, and to support volunteers by regularly acknowledging their trail reports and useful contributions. In addition, John Chapman was going to check with Amanda Griesbach of the Pender Islands Conservancy Association, about their beach cleanup volunteers and the potential for the same persons to report to PIPRC on adjacent ocean accesses.

9.7 Gulf Islands National Park Reserve (GINPR)

John Chapman reported that the next Pender Islands/GINPR Liaison Committee meeting was postponed to June 22. Parks Canada was also holding a June 25 public gathering about the proposed Management Plan for the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve (Open House at 11:00 am, vision workshop at 12:30). Chair Arn Berry thanked John Chapman for representing the PIPRC on both the GINPR Liaison Committee and the CRD Regional Parks Citizens Advisory Committee (see below).

10. NEW / OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 CRD Regional Parks Strategic Plan Meetings

There was discussion about the recent Pender meetings with CRD staff re: the proposed CRD Regional Parks Strategic Plan. After the smaller meeting with the PIPRC, the public meeting had involved some spirited comments in favour of more bylaw enforcement and keeping cyclists off trails, as well as concerns about the proposed cross-island trail system. In addition, a CRD map showed a vision of Regional Parks trails across the islands, but this created confusion about potential private property impacts. John Chapman said that Regional Parks could have a powerful role, and that it was better to plan ahead for park spaces, before private development further limited the possibilities.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next PIPRC Meeting was scheduled for Thursday, July 21, 2011 (9:15 am, Community Hall Lounge).

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Margaret Alpen, that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 12:00 noon. **CARRIED**