

PENDER ISLANDS PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION (PIPRC)
Minutes of Monthly Meeting
Thursday, February 16, 2012 (9:15 am)
Community Hall Lounge, North Pender Island

Present: Arn Berry, John Chapman, Colin McLarty, Margaret Alpen, Michael Symons, Zorah Staar (PIPRC Recorder), and Ethan Smith (PIPRC Contractor, initially present)

Regrets: Peter Clarke, Pete Williams, Jim Pugh, David Howe/Ken Hancock

Public: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Arn Berry called the meeting to order at approximately 9:20 am.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Moved by Michael Symons, seconded by Margaret Alpen, that the agenda be approved. **CARRIED**

It was generally supported that in future, the In Camera portion of the meeting be moved to the very beginning (so members of the public could arrive later and not have to wait in the middle of a meeting).

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The January 26, 2012 minutes were amended on page 1, second point from the bottom, to replace the words "PIPRC supported" with "Ken Hancock suggested" re: asking CRD Project Engineer to assist with the shed Temporary Use Permit).

MOTION: Moved by Margaret Alpen, seconded by John Chapman, that the January 26, 2012 PIPRC minutes be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

4. MAINTENANCE REPORT & DISCUSSIONS

Contractor Ethan Smith had emailed out his monthly Maintenance Report. He made additional comments and there was PIPRC discussion as follows:

- Smith had been doing a few more clean-ups from winter windstorm damage;
- Conery Crescent: new trail had now been completed, including signage that directed people for a 20-minute loop walk;
- New PIPRC Work & Storage Shed: Contractor Smith and Arn Berry were to meet with Trust Planner Andrea Pickard on February 20, to discuss specifics for Temporary Use Permit (required for shed to go near Ballpark parking lot);

- meanwhile it was agreed that PIPRC should check if old pump shed at Schooner and Ketch (owned by CRD?) might be available for PIPRC use (John Chapman to ask CRD; Arn Berry to check with Planner Pickard);
- confirmed that CRD process required two other verbal bids for shed construction, but plan was to get Temporary Use Permit process moving first;
- Magic Lake sign and boats: Ministry of Environment sign at Schooner end of Magic Lake had fallen over (suggested that Smith ask Andrea Pickard about a Ministry contact to email, re: PIPRC removing the fallen sign);
- also, a number of boats were often scattered beside Magic Lake, and Smith suggested a low boat rack using something like 4" by 4" posts laid on blocks (agreed that PIPRC Commissioners would try to go have a look at this site);
- Dog Waste Stations: planned to be installed at 5 locations next week;
- Pender Post: Smith volunteered to write article due February 20 (about Conery Crescent, new dog waste stations, March 10 Broom Bash, etc.), and Margaret Alpen said that she would write Pender Post article due March 20;
- Trail additions by public: there was discussion about people adding to PIPRC trails without permission, e.g. to make private routes to their lots, which had led to some complaints from trail walkers who ended up in people's backyards (agreed that Smith would try laying logs across unauthorized trail additions);
- Poet's Cove Lookout Trail: Smith said that it could be possible to have this new trail completed for April Commonality Meeting (if legal work done first).

5. CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 Letter from Playgroup

Margaret Alpen read a letter from the Pender Island Playgroup children, in thanks for the Recreation funding that they had received.

5.2 Email from Chuck Newell re: Beaumont Marine Access

Chuck Newell had written to suggest that the PIPRC open up a designated road allowance leading from Ainslie Point Road into Beaumont Marine Park. There were a number of other PIPRC priorities to achieve first, but John Chapman and Colin McLarty said that they would look at this route.

6. IN CAMERA ITEMS

MOTION: Moved by Michael Symons, seconded by Margaret Alpen, that the meeting be closed to the public for the purpose of approving In Camera Minutes and discussing personnel and/or property matters.
CARRIED

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

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

7. PRIORITY ITEMS

None

8. REPORTS

8.1 Chair's Report (Arn Berry) - None

8.2 CRD Director's Report (David Howe) - None

8.3 Treasurer/Financial Report

Treasurer Margaret Alpen was in the process of taking over her new role, and was going to meet next week with Val Leigh-Dorin of the CRD. Alpen was asked to find out more about the CRD system for financial statements, including reserve funds.

Shortly after the last PIPRC meeting, Arn Berry had been advised by the CRD that there was a deadline for transfer of the 2011 Parks operating surplus to capital reserves, which Berry had authorized based on previous PIPRC discussions. Now a formal motion was required.

MOTION: Moved by Michael Symons, seconded by Margaret Alpen, that the PIPRC approves the transfer of the 2011 Parks operating surplus of approximately \$31,207 to capital reserves. **CARRIED**

8.4 Communications Report

Ethan Smith was writing the next Pender Post article (for February 20), and Margaret Alpen had volunteered to write the one after that.

8.5 Recreation Report

The \$2,000 of unspent Recreation funding from 2011 could apparently be carried over to 2012, for which the new funding would be \$50,320.

8.6 Volunteer Coordinator's Report

Michael Symons noted that the PIPRC had over 73 properties, which was far more than the number of volunteer trail guardians that we'd managed to sign up thus far. He was attempting to prioritize sites for inspection. The PIPRC could keep seeking volunteers (for example, at the March Broom Bash). Re: trail reports, Margaret Alpen had been forwarding them to Ethan Smith, and would now also send copies to Michael Symons.

9. NEW / OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 March Broom Bash

In cooperation with Keith Pincott of PICA, John Chapman was organizing a PIPRC Broom Bash at Lively Peak on Saturday, March 10 (10 am to noon). All PIPRC Commissioners and other community members were invited to come help remove invasive broom for a couple of hours. The poster explained how the focus was cutting broom at the base, because pulling it frequently caused soil disturbance which led to greater propagation of remaining seeds.

9.2 April Commonality Meeting

Arn Berry said that the Commonality Meeting date preferred by the other Parks & Recreation Commissions was Tuesday, April 12, so this appeared to be the best date. There was a consensus to book a Poet's Cove meeting room and catering (as the first choice), with the alternate location being Hope Bay. Arn Berry would email the other islands for a head count.

Islands Trust Planner Andrea Pickard has agreed to do a presentation about property matters. It was also suggested for there to be a follow-up presentation about dealing with invasive species (John Chapman to call Jeff Ward of the CRD to find a good speaker). Chapman said that unfortunately the Pender Islands/Parks Canada Liaison Meeting was also on April 12.

After the morning Commonality Meeting and lunch, there could be an afternoon field trip to Conery Crescent and Enchanted Forest/Poet's Cove. The Pender Island Taxi bus would likely be needed (Margaret Alpen said that she would call them?) Arn Berry invited people to email him with any further ideas.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next PIPRC Meeting was scheduled for Thursday, March 15, 2012 (9:15 am, Community Hall Lounge).

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at approximately 12:25 pm.