

PENDER ISLANDS PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION (PIPRC)
Minutes of Monthly Meeting
Thursday, March 21, 2013 (9:15 am)
Hope Bay CRD office, North Pender Island

Present: Arn Berry, John Chapman, Margaret Alpen, Michael Symons, Rob Fenton, Derek Masselink (CRD Southern Gulf Islands Alternate Director), Zorah Staar (PIPRC Recorder), Ben Symons (PIPRC Contractor, present initially)

Regrets: Colin McLarty, Jim Pugh

Public: none

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was amended to add George Hill Shortcut and Beach Clean-Up.

MOTION: Moved by Margaret Alpen, seconded by Rob Fenton, to approve the proposed agenda, as amended. **CARRIED**

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The February 21, 2013 minutes were amended at page 4, item 8.5, to replace the second line with "for example on why he became a PIPRC Commissioner." There was also general agreement that draft PIPRC minutes could be sent to Val Leigh-Dorin of the CRD.

MOTION: Moved by John Chapman, seconded by Michael Symons, that the February 21, 2013 PIPRC minutes be approved, as amended. **CARRIED**

4. MAINTENANCE REPORT & DISCUSSIONS

PIPRC Maintenance Contractor Ben Symons had emailed a Maintenance Report, and he made comments and/or there was discussion as follows:

- Symons had another fine month, doing usual trail maintenance, replacing and adding steps, and also addressing specific issues as described below;
- new "public access" signs put on foreshore, at higher-use ocean accesses;
- vandalism this month, firstly at Heart Trail Extension, where sign and post to protect trail restoration were again torn out (general agreement that Chair

Arn Berry would contact Rod Pick of RCMP for advice, and that Ben Symons could contact RCMP directly in future where clear vandalism had occurred);

- second vandalism was graffiti on Ketch Road Shed, and third vandalism was cutting of limbs on trees near Shingle Bay kayak ramp, most likely to improve view of private landowners (agreed that PIPRC should ask RCMP to mention park vandalism in their next Pender Post article, and that PIPRC's own article should say vandalism would be reported to police; also suggested to place signs at kayak ramp and other problem locations, e.g. "tree cutting on public property prohibited, by CRD Bylaw" – Arn Berry to check on this issue);
- gravel for Swim Hole & Thieves Bay: Symons now had quotes from 2 Pender sources, for new gravel in parking lots at Magic Lake Swim Hole and Thieves Bay (Disk Park parking also made into a mud hole by CRD Sewer & Water work, but they should be responsible for that); cheapest gravel quote was \$5,600 (agreed that both Swim Hole & Thieves Bay should be done if possible; Arn Berry to check with Val Leigh-Dorin re: available PIPRC resources);
- further re: Magic Lake Swim Hole: agreed to remove "no dogs" sign; also, dock had moved and needed to be better anchored (agreed that Michael Symons would research mushroom anchors as a solution and report back);
- further re: Thieves Bay: fencing for bank overhang should be left in place; Butterburr was much worse (agreed for Symons to dig a bigger trench, apply an environmentally-friendly deterrent, and smother Butterburr with plastic);
- Enchanted Forest Park: modified trail route and new loop trail now viewed (agreed that John Chapman could suggest foregoing to covenant holder Islands Trust Fund, but not for immediate construction, because first PIPRC needed to do some prioritization about areas where new trails most needed);
- MacKinnon Road Ocean Access: quote received for removeable system of new welded handrail uprights (to prevent winter storm damage);

MOTION: Moved by Rob Fenton, seconded by Michael Symons, that the PIPRC spend \$400 to \$500 for metal handrail uprights at MacKinnon Road Ocean Access, in accordance with George Hudson's quote. **CARRIED**

Note: Contractor Ben Symons then left the meeting, at 10:16 am. Zorah Staar also mentioned that Colin McLarty had walked Ben's proposed George Hill Shortcut and it looked like a good idea (to be discussed at next meeting).

5. IN CAMERA ITEMS

MOTION: Moved by Michael Symons, seconded by Rob Fenton, that the meeting be closed to the public for the purpose of approving In Camera Minutes and discussing personnel and property matters, and further that PIPRC Recorder Zorah Staar remain present.
CARRIED

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

MOTION: Moved by Margaret Alpen, seconded by Rob Fenton, that the In Camera Meeting be adjourned, and the PIPRC meeting re-opened to the public. **CARRIED**

It was reported that two personnel matters and four property matters were discussed during the In Camera portion of the meeting. Note: Derek Masselink had left by this time.

6. PRIORITY ITEMS

None

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None

8. REPORTS

8.1 Chair's Report (Arn Berry)

PIPRC had given another letter of support for the Brooks Point proposal, as requested by PICA for the CRD meeting where this was recently approved. Melody Pender of the CRD had asked about repeating the PIPRC Commissioner vacancy ad (suggested that we do this in a couple of months). John Chapman would check again about the next Commonality Meeting.

8.2 Treasurer/Financial Report (Margaret Alpen)

Margaret Alpen had emailed out PIPRC's most recent CRD financial statements. Val Leigh-Dorin of the CRD was coming to the May PIPRC meeting, to provide helpful explanations and answer our questions.

8.3 CRD Director's Report (David Howe/Derek Masselink) – None

8.4 Recreation Report – None

8.5 Communications Report

Rob Fenton had written the April Pender Post article, and Margaret Alpen agreed to write the article for May (mentioning the recent vandalism, reporting to the RCMP, and potential dangers if signs were removed). Regarding re-printing of the PIPRC maps, Photoprint was less expensive.

MOTION: Moved by Michael Symons, seconded by Rob Fenton, that the PIPRC purchase 2,000 Trail maps from Photoprint for \$619.76 (as per the proof provided). **CARRIED**

In addition, Margaret Alpen had also now received some quotes for the proposed PIPRC logo mini-signs (to be discussed at the next meeting).

8.6 Volunteer Coordinator Report – None

9. NEW / OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Commemorative Benches

Colin McLarty's identified source for the first two commemorative benches was now delayed (by a workshop move). Alternative designs had been proposed by others. It was agreed to discuss this item at the next meeting.

9.2 Commemorative Tree

The Pender Post's request to plant a commemorative tree at a PIPRC site was now temporarily on hold, and we would await further word from them.

9.3 Castle Road Strata (use of PIPRC storage shed)

David Sykes of the Castle Road Strata had asked if they could store their broom puller in the PIPRC shed at Lilius Spalding/Heritage Park. There was no objection to this, as long as they were reminded to keep the shed locked John Chapman would follow up with lock combination. (Note: Zorah Staar then had to leave, so Michael Symons took the remaining notes.)

9.4 Encroachments on PIPRC Property

There was a brief discussion of the ongoing issue of encroachments on park property (e.g. private landowners cutting park trees, putting up structures, etc.) No decisions or actions resulted.

9.5 Annual Earth Day Beach Clean-up

PIPRC had been requested to participate in the annual Beach Clean-up, with our area of responsibility being Otter Bay. It was agreed to participate. Commissioners will meet at about 10:00 am on Saturday, April 20, at the Niagara Road Ocean Access. Michael Symons, John Chapman, Rob Fenton and Arn Berry agreed to attend (subject to overriding conflicts).

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Thursday, April 18, 2013 (9:15 am, Community Hall).

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Rob Fenton, seconded by John Chapman, that the meeting be adjourned at 12:05 pm. **CARRIED**