

PENDER ISLANDS PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION (PIPRC)
Minutes of Monthly Meeting
Thursday, October 18, 2013 (9:15 am)
Community Hall, North Pender Island

Present: Arn Berry, John Chapman, Colin McLarty, Rob Fenton, Jim Stafford, Michael Symons, Zorah Staar (PIPRC Recorder)

Regrets: Karen Parker, Jim Pugh, Ben Symons (PIPRC Contractor)

Public: Ken Hancock, Peter Pare, and Jude Farmer (present during 4. below)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Arn Berry called the meeting to order at 9:24 am.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was amended to advance items 10.1 (Einer's Hill Bypass) and 10.2 (Bench designs), to earlier in the agenda (see 4. Delegations).

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Moved by Rob Fenton, seconded by Jim Stafford, to approve the September 19, 2013 PIPRC minutes. **CARRIED**

4. DELEGATIONS

4.1 Ken Hancock (North Pender Local Trustee)

Ken Hancock was present to liaise with the PIPRC about two North Pender Island Local Trust Committee projects. Firstly, the Shoreline Review Project involved using new shoreline mapping and information materials to increase public awareness and protection of key sensitive shoreline features. A project aspect that potentially involved the PIPRC was Hancock's proposal to have QR codes at key shoreline sites, for example on PIPRC ocean access trail posts. These codes could direct smart phone users to self-guided shoreline ecosystem tours, PIPRC information, and also offline library materials for people without smart phones. Hancock was not requesting resources, but rather support in principle to allow QR codes on PIPRC ocean access posts, and a liaison person for more discussion. PIPRC Commissioners asked questions and made some supportive comments.

Secondly, Ken Hancock reported about the North Pender LTC's Conservation Subdivision Review Project. This was intended to increase awareness and support for handling Pender's remaining subdivision density in ways that clustered lots, left more open spaces, and protected key

features (environmental, archaeological, sustainable forestry potential, etc.) There was a Conservation Subdivision Workshop on Saturday, November 23. Also, the PIPRC Master Plan already designated potential park dedications for remaining subdivision potential, and Hancock considered the PIPRC to be an important stakeholder for further discussions about this. Some PIPRC Commissioners made supportive comments, and suggested that they should have further discussion about these issues in future.

4.2 Peter Pare (Moving Around Pender, Einer's Hill Bypass)

Before Pare arrived, there was discussion of the proposal previously made by MAP (Moving Around Pender) for PIPRC assistance to create an Einer's Hill Bypass pedestrian and cycling trail (from the Driftwood via undeveloped road right-of-ways in the forest). There was PIPRC support in principle, as long as the PIPRC role was essentially limited to holding the two required Licenses of Occupation for the trail, and handling liaison related to that. MAP would have to develop the project plan and find resources for it, which might come in part from the Experience the Gulf Islands initiative. Also, PIPRC might have to amend its bylaw to allow bicycles on the proposed trail (unless the bylaw didn't apply to Licenses of Occupation of this type).

MOTION: Moved by Michael Symons, seconded by Rob Fenton, that the PIPRC supports in principle the creation of a multi-use trail bypass around Einer's Hill, from the Driftwood Centre traveling behind the air strip and along the Alice Church Road right-of-way. **CARRIED**

Peter Pare of Moving Around Pender then arrived at 10:41, and was told about the above motion. Chair Arn Berry said that he was reassured by a recent MAP email to the effect that PIPRC was being asked to hold the Einer's Hill Bypass Licenses of Occupation (LOO), but not to do the main project work. Pare said that the required Gulf Islands National Park Reserve LOO depended on approval of the new GINPR Management Plan. After this a survey might occur. A new trail would be expensive and PIPRC itself did not have any resources for it. MAP was pursuing some resources.

Peter Pare asked for 1 or 2 PIPRC people to be the liaison with MAP on this project. Arn Berry said we would follow-up about this. A joint PIPRC/MAP site visit was suggested [and subsequently occurred on October 26, 2013].

4.3 Jude Farmer (Bench Design Issues)

Jude Farmer arrived, with two small-scale models of potential PIPRC benches that he'd designed. These were based on PIPRC needs previously expressed to him, including a consistent multi-purpose design, lightness, durability, and keeping costs down. The proposed bench design had a frame from Ipe (Ironwood), and a back and seat from cedar. The design could also be adapted to be built on top of a fallen tree (where appropriate). The Ipe was all plantation grown and Forest Stewardship Council certified. The bench prices were \$990 and \$740 (log top) for one-offs, but if multiples were built at once (e.g. 6), the estimated prices were \$740 and \$540.

PIPRC Commissioners liked Jude Farmer's proposed designs, and noted that there had been another request for a commemorative bench (e.g. with the dedication carved in?). There was a PIPRC consensus to order one of the free-standing benches, which Farmer could build in the new year.

Note: The three Delegation speakers each left after their presentations.

5. MAINTENANCE REPORT & DISCUSSIONS

PIPRC Maintenance Contractor Ben Symons was not able to be present, but he had emailed his Maintenance Report, and there was discussion as follows:

- Thieves Bay Park: branch trimming had opened up park/parking lot; trees were also hanging over boat ramp (agreed for Symons to ask Bear to chip branches, and to take down trees over ramp, which Greenangels could pick up);
- Shingle Bay: branches here could be spread instead of chipped; some park Alders unsafe for neighbouring property (agreed to ask Bear to drop them);
- Lilias Spalding Park: no decision yet re: handling branches there;
- Lively Peak Park: significant work done by Symons, and he had more ideas about further improvements (PIPRC agreed to do site visit on October 26);
- Oaks Bluff: following up on site visit, agreed that Symons could do new trail section and stairs up to an existing bench, cut down broom for a future picnic table, and move and replace the other old bench with something simple;
- new Gowlland Point viewpoint trail: following up on PIPRC site visit to plot out an approximate trail route, it was agreed that Symons could work on the trail; suggested to check Ocean Access checklist for other steps (John Chapman would email it to other Commissioners); Arn Berry was checking on the official trail name, as a Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure right-of-way);
- Non-slip mesh: agreed that Symons could use "lath" (expanded mesh) for now, but he was asked to do further research re: dedicated non-slip products (John Chapman would also check with "Experience the Gulf Islands" contractor).

6. PRIORITY ITEMS

None

7. IN CAMERA ITEMS

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

Three property matters were discussed during the In Camera meeting.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

None

9. REPORTS

9.1 Chair's Report (Arn Berry)

Chair Berry reported that yesterday's October 17 Commonality meeting with other island Parks & Recreation Commissions had been very useful, including discussions about the following: sign thefts; property encroachments; the Experience the Gulf Islands initiative; maximum Commissioner terms; updating of Commissioner handbooks; and the new Alternative CRD Director for the Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area.

Note: At 12:45 pm, John Chapman had to leave the meeting.

9.2 Treasurer/Financial Report

Treasurer Rob Fenton had just received the latest PIPRC financial reports from the CRD (no chance to review yet). Meanwhile he'd confirmed that the \$14,000+ of CRD accounting charges to the PIPRC's Shed Project included: \$7,000 to buy the right-of-way; \$2,700 for the survey; \$1,700 for CRD legal/admin charges; and \$3,500 for CRD Labour Consumption (CRD Real Estate). Fenton would now check about accessing remaining capital funds, to get the PIPRC work shed operational as soon as possible.

9.3 CRD Director Report – None

9.4 Recreation Report

A Recreation Committee of PIPRC Commissioner Karen Parker and volunteer/former Commissioner Margaret Alpen had been going through Recreation Funding applications. The PIPRC agreed that Rob Fenton should clarify with Parker and Alpen that there should be a second PIPRC Commissioner on the Committee, and that no decisions on Recreation funding could be made until they had been approved by the full Commission. This should include verification that applicants had provided adequate reporting on the spending of previous Recreation funding.

9.5 Communications Report

Jim Stafford would try to write a PIPRC Pender Post article for either November (deadline in 2 days) or December.

9.6 Volunteer Coordinator Report

Michael Symons was encountering CRD technical challenges in trying to arrange for a separate PIPRC email address for trail reports.

10. NEW / OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 PIPRC Bylaw Revisions

Michael Symons said that he planned to contact someone about the PIPRC desire to make revisions to its outdated bylaw.

10.2 Archaeological Considerations (Jim Stafford)

This item would need to be postponed to the next PIPRC meeting.

10.3 PIPRC Maps

Discussion postponed to next meeting.

11. NEXT MEETING(S)

The next PIPRC meeting was scheduled for Thursday, November 21, 2103 (9:15 am, Community Hall Lounge).

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Rob Fenton, seconded by Jim Stafford, that the meeting be adjourned at 1:02 pm. **CARRIED**