

PENDER ISLANDS PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION (PIPRC)
Minutes of Monthly Meeting
Thursday, February 19, 2015 (9:15 am)
Community Hall Lounge, North Pender Island

Present: Rob Fenton, Arn Berry, Colin McLarty, David Howe, Ben Symons (PIPRC Contractor), and Zorah Staar (PIPRC Recorder)

Regrets: Michael Symons (Chair), John Chapman (Vice-Chair), Jim Stafford

Public: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair, Treasurer Rob Fenton called the meeting to order at 9:21 am. There was initially no quorum, until David Howe arrived a short time later.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following items were suggested to be added to the agenda: Shed Outhouse under existing item 5. (Maintenance); new item 10.3 re: Commissioners Orientation Session; and new item 10.4 re: Lively Peak Trail.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The January 21, 2015 PIPRC minutes were received, and an amendment was suggested for page 4, item 9.4, fourth line – to read “PIPRC’s 2014 letter to their Treasurer...”, rather than “to their President...”

4. DELEGATIONS – None

5. MAINTENANCE REPORT & DISCUSSIONS

PIPRC Maintenance Contractor Ben Symons had emailed his Maintenance Report. He made comments and/or there was related discussion as follows:

- this month, Symons has been busy with regular site maintenance work, and also the projects below;
- Benches: 7 backless benches built, to replace older ones and to be placed at new spots; new oil based gloss finish being tried; Symons and Commissioner Jim Stafford (an Archeologist) viewed George Hill, to find a good site for a new “deluxe” bench that was finished ; picnic table also suggested (Commissioners agreed to proceed with new George Hill bench, but not table there yet); new picnic table also suggested for Oaks Bluff (Commissioners supported this);
- Signs: new sign posts finished and drying, to be installed; required small CRD non-smoking signs also being installed;

- PIPRC Shed: bulk wood materials had arrived (being used); Braedon had removed trash from demolition, and drywall would be next; Braedon also delivered requested load of road base (rock), for spreading out; Shed roof was leaking slightly (to be looked into); new outside metal door from local hardware store would cost \$250 plus handles (Commissioners supported this purchase);
- Shed Outhouse: Colin McLarty had suggested possibly having a public and contractor outhouse on the Shed grounds, which was part of PIPRC's Prior Park (Symons said that he would think about a location, and costs);
- Magic Lake grass damage: estimates for placing large rocks to block cars from grass were too expensive (\$4,500+); Symons planned to do more research; Arn Berry said that perhaps he could still access Hydro poles;
- Bike racks: Symons suggested 3 additional locations for bike racks, if we could make a plan for a Commissioner going into Vancouver anyway to pick up more (suggested that Symons cost out 3 additional racks);
- Castle Road Trail: rocks had fallen down in ditch, but were not an issue.

Ben Symons left the meeting at 9:45 am.

6. IN CAMERA ITEMS

MOTION: Moved by Arn Berry, seconded by David Howe, that the meeting be closed to the public for the purpose of approving past In Camera minutes, and discussing personnel and/or property matters, and further that Recorder Zorah Staar remain present. **CARRIED**

Note: See separate In Camera Minutes of the same date for the discussions that followed.

MOTION: Moved by Arn Berry, seconded by David Howe, that the In Camera Meeting be adjourned, and the PIPRC meeting re-opened to the public. **CARRIED**

One property matter was discussed during the In Camera meeting. Then items 10.2 and 10.1 were advanced for discussion, before David Howe had to leave at 11:35 am.

7. PRIORITY ITEMS

7.1 Commission Vacancies

There were 2 vacancies on the 9-person PIPRC (Jim Stafford could write about this in the next Pender Post article). To accommodate the PIPRC Treasurer, and also attract a particular new Commissioner, it was proposed to consider moving the PIPRC monthly meeting to Fridays (e.g. 1st Friday of the month) or Mondays (e.g. 1st or 2nd Monday of the month). Rob Fenton said that he would speak to the candidate involved, and then circulate an email. Arn Berry noted that the PIPRC quorum was a majority of the

PIPRC Commissioner spots that were currently filled, including the CRD Director (i.e. quorum is 4 out of 7 right now).

8. CORRESPONDENCE – None

9. REPORTS

9.1 Chair's Report – None

9.2 Treasurer/Financial Report

Treasurer Rob Fenton said that there was no financial report from the CRD for this month, because they were still closing off the year 2014. He also noted that Pender Island property tax assessments were once again down, which would decrease the PIPRC funding allocation for this year.

9.3 CRD Director Report – None

9.4 Recreation Report

Arn Berry said that he'd spoken with Dianne Allison of PIRAHA (Community Hall), who said that they were developing a way to provide more detailed information to justify their annual requests for Recreation funding. It was also agreed that Berry could speak with Mike Walton of the CRD, to explore whether this funding could be handled by simple CRD approval, instead of the PIPRC having to analyze the Hall's detailed bookings records.

9.5 Communications Report

2,000 new PIPRC Guidebooks had arrived and were currently stored at John Chapman's. Rob Fenton reported on CRD advice regarding sales tax and related issues. The books basically cost \$5 each to print, and it was agreed it would be ideal for them to be sold at various Pender locations for about the same price (e.g. \$10 to \$12 maximum, including tax). Arn Berry asked Fenton to find out what the commission would be for sales through Talisman, and then the PIPRC could set the price at their next meeting (no quorum for this right now).

9.6 Volunteer Coordinator Report

Arn Berry was the new Volunteer Coordinator for PIPRC trail monitors, and he asked that trail reports be sent to him from now on.

9.7 PIPRC Shed Coordinator

See Maintenance Report, page 2.

10. NEW / OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 Alice Church Road aka Einar's Hill Bypass

John Chapman (PIPRC Commissioner and member of Moving Around Pender) was requesting authority to proceed with PIPRC applications for two trail permits from the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure. This was for the two MOTI right-of-ways needed for the Einar's Hill Bypass trail. It was noted that the PIPRC had previously passed a motion to proceed with these applications (as requested by Moving Around Pender), and there was no objection to this now occurring. There would still be related PIPRC issues to deal with, like whether the PIPRC Bylaw prohibiting bicycles on trails would be changed for this site.

10.2 Enchanted Forest Proposal

Community member Mamie Hutt-Temoana had made a previous written proposal to the PIPRC, to add certain enhancements to the PIPRC's Enchanted Forest Park in order to make it more "enchanted" (e.g. stone or wood gnomes or trolls, or other whimsical artistic creations). A CRD grant of \$3,500 had been offered for this purpose.

PIPRC Treasurer Rob Fenton confirmed that Mamie Hutt-Temoana was his partner, so he would recuse himself from discussions. He said that Mamie was willing to work further on the project right now, but if it was delayed, she might no longer be able to. Fenton left the meeting at 11:08 am.

The remaining PIPRC Commissioners discussed the proposal, noting firstly that they did not have a quorum. The PIPRC Chair and Vice-Chair were not present, and neither was PIPRC Commissioner Jim Stafford (an Archaeologist). Meanwhile, the Commissioners present noted that the Enchanted Forest was right next to Poet's Cove, site of an ancient Coast Salish First Nations village, where 10 years ago there was a massive violation of First Nations middens and burial grounds. In this context, it seemed appropriate that any plan to add features to the Enchanted Forest should involve direct PIPRC consultation with First Nations representatives (e.g. Tsawout Land Manager Gwen Underwood), and also with the Islands Trust Fund, which held a conservation covenant on the property. For the foregoing reasons, it was supported to discuss this matter further at the next PIPRC meeting. Rob Fenton then returned to the meeting.

10.3 Commissioners Orientation Session

Arn Berry reported on the recent CRD-organized meeting in Sidney, which was a Commissioners Orientation Session for various kinds of Commissions. Berry noted some requirements that were reviewed, e.g. 72 hours posted notice of meetings, keeping permanent paper copies of minutes and agendas, having 3 quotes for contracts over \$5,000, and asking Commissioners to sign a Non-Disclosure / Confidentiality Agreement (e.g. re: In Camera meetings). It was agreed that as part of the required PIPRC file re-organization at Hope Bay, Zorah Staar would ascertain and improve the overall state of the PIPRC paper minutes and agenda storage.

10.4 Lively Peak Trail

The PIPRC was still wanting to do a site visit with Fire Chief Charlie Boyte, to the Lively Peak Park proposed site for an emergency exit trail from Magic Lake (and the associated forest fuel reduction demo project).

10.5 PIPRC Planning & Priorities Meeting/Discussions

It was noted that the PIPRC intended to have further Planning & Priorities discussions in future, to finalize how available resources for the year should be allocated for special projects. Colin McLarty said that he had pictures of the Mayne Island Dinner Bay picnic shelter, which he could share.

11. NEXT MEETING

Scheduled for Thursday, March 19, 2015 (9:15 am, Community Hall Lounge).

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 12:41 pm.