

PENDER ISLANDS PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION (PIPRC)
Minutes of Monthly Meeting
Thursday, March 17, 2016 (9:30 am)
Community Hall, North Pender Island

Present: Michael Symons, John Chapman, Susan Parr, Arnie Alksne, Ben Symons (PIPRC Contractor), and Shannon Brayford (PIPRC Recorder)

Regrets: David Howe, Rob Fenton, Rob Burnett

Public: None.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Michael Symons called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. He reported the resignation of Peter Pare from PIPRC and noted the loss to the Commission.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Symons recommended the following additions:

- Lupin Pt Road and Ainsley Point Road under Item 6.
- Multi-modal paths under Item 10
- Removal of Item 3 as June Klassen sent her regrets.

The agenda, as amended, was approved by general consent.

3. DELEGATIONS

None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of Friday, February 19, 2016 Meeting

MOTION: Moved by John Chapman, seconded by Arnie Alksne, to approve the minutes of Friday, February 19, 2016 as presented.

5. MAINTENANCE REPORT & DISCUSSIONS

5.1 Maintenance Contractor's Report

PIPRC Maintenance Contractor Ben Symons provided the following update:

- Trail maintenance continues following stormy weather.
- Five benches are ready for installation once weather permits installation of concrete footing. He noted that benches at Shingle Bay and Thieves Bay are ready, but will wait until landscaping at those sites is completed.
- The self-guided tours at Mount Elizabeth and Welcome Bay have been revised and improved.

- Improvements have been made to the stairs at Niagara Road. He reported that RCMP had spoken with the individual who had damaged the site and noted that the site seems to be recovering from the damage.
- Connery Crescent trail has been rerouted slightly to adjust for portions that run on neighbouring properties.

A discussion was held regarding the Poets Extension. John Chapman noted that he has been unable to make contact with the manager, but that the trail is in need of improvements. It was generally agreed that Ben Symons should improve the state of the trail, improve the site's signage, and install a simple bench.

A discussion was held regarding the self-guided tour at the Magic Forest. It was noted that the tour is missing plaques and needs updating. Ben Symons suggested improving the tour once the loop is completed. There was general consensus with this recommendation.

Ben Symons reported that binoculars can be purchased for \$100-\$150 each. He also showed a demonstration model of the binocular boxes he proposed. A discussion was held regarding the binoculars and the box. There was general consensus that he should move forward with the project.

A discussion was held regarding the theft of the "No Biking" sign at Oaks Bluffs. There was consensus to wait to see if biking becomes an issue on the trail before considering new signs.

Ben Symons provided an update on the progress on the shed, noting that he was flattening the siding that had been delivered with a significant warp.

6. PRIORITY ITEMS

6.1 Results from Site Visits

Ainslie Point Road: John Chapman recommended having the site surveyed and there was general consensus that he and Susan Parr would work with a surveyor. A discussion was held regarding the boulders and depressions on the site. There was general consensus that these features may need to be addressed, but that they would not hinder the trail. A discussion was held regarding a set of stairs at the end of the trail and Ben Symons remarked that stairs would be possible.

MOTION: Moved by John Chapman, seconded by Arnie Alksne that Pender Island Parks and Recreation Commission authorize the expenditure of up to \$3000 and contact a surveyor for a quote to survey the Ainslie Point – Beaumont property. **CARRIED**

Mortimer Spit: John Chapman reported that he had discussed the pot holes with Ron Henshaw who had recommended a composite to solidify the road. A discussion was held regarding the types of materials available and their relative resilience to winter storms. John Chapman noted that the covenant may require amending should they choose to introduce foreign materials. A

further discussion was held regarding the sensitive nature of the site and whether archeological issues would be a concern.

Site 66: Following a brief discussion there was general consensus to direct Ben Symons to install a short trail and a bench at the site.

6.2 Work Estimates

Picnic Shelter: John Chapman reported on his research into the cost of picnic shelters on other gulf islands. He noted that Saturna Island installed their shelter for approximately \$80,000, while Mayne Island's shelter cost approximately \$180,000. A discussion was held regarding the facilities' differences including the fully functional locked kitchen and electric power of the Mayne Island picnic shelter.

Thieves Bay Field: John Chapman noted that the water level in the field at Thieves Bay is very high. He reported that he has been unable to secure a formal estimate, but shared the general recommendations received from Ron Henshaw, noting that the field would need to be closed for approximately one year starting in September. Following a discussion, there was general consensus that John Chapman would continue his efforts to get an estimate for the work.

A discussion was held regarding the timing of other improvements if the re-contouring was to be undertaken. Chair Symons reported that he would continue to pursue an opportunity to attend a Magic Lake Property Owners Society (MLPOS) meeting to discuss the proposed improvements. He also noted that he would compose a letter for distribution to neighbours regarding the picnic shelter and would include information on the possible drainage work.

Shingle Bay: Following a discussion there was general consensus to complete Thieves Bay prior to beginning a drainage project at Shingle Bay.

Note: A break was held at 10:54 a.m. and the meeting was re-called to order at 11:00 a.m.

7. IN CAMERA

MOTION: Moved by John Chapman, seconded by Arnie Alksne, 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 Shannon Brayford remain present. **CARRIED**

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

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

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 Re: Paul Petrie

Chair Symons reported that the South Pender Historical Society would like to hold a group event at Lilius Spalding Park as well as a Spring Clean Up. It was noted that they should be directed to PIPRC's event application for the group event.

There was general consensus that PIPRC accept the offer of the Spring Clean Up, that Arnie Alkne would serve as liaison, and that Ben Symons would be involved in the planning process.

MOTION: Moved by John Chapman, seconded by Susan Parr, that PIPRC authorize contractor Ben Symons to visit Lilius Spalding Park with Paul Petrie and a PIPRC Commissioner in advance of the South Pender Island Historical Society Spring Clean Up and to attend the clean up if needed.

CARRIED

9. REPORTS

9.1 Chairperson's Report

Chair Symons reported that he had spoken with other islands regarding the commonality meeting and there was general consensus that the meeting be held late in May. A discussion was held regarding potential dates and there was general consensus to consider the tentative dates of May 17 and May 19, 2016.

9.2 Treasurer's Report

Rob Fenton provided a written report in his absence, which was received by all members.

A discussion was held regarding the CRD charges for monitoring the Gardom Pond Dam. It was generally agreed that Rob Fenton would be consulted on this matter at the next meeting.

9.3 Capital Regional District (CRD) Director's Report

None.

9.4 Recreation Report

None.

9.5 Communications Report

Chair Symons noted that Peter Pare had drafted the most recent Pender Post article, but that this position would need to be filled. He noted that it would be discussed at the next meeting.

9.6 Volunteer Coordinator

Chair Symons noted that this item would be on the agenda at the next meeting.

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Beach Clean Up

John Chapman reported that the event would be held on April 23, 2016 and that PIPRC traditionally volunteers for a beach. He also noted that PIPRC was asked to donate one or more trail guide books to use as prizes.

There was general consensus that PIPRC would donate three guide books and that John Chapman would distribute them.

11. NEXT PIPRC MEETING

Scheduled for Friday, April 15, 2016 (9:30 am) at the Community Hall.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:36 p.m.