

PENDER ISLANDS PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION (PIPRC)
Minutes of a Regular Meeting
Friday, December 20, 2019 (9:30 am)
Plum Tree Court, North Pender Island

Present: Michael Symon, Susan Parr, Bruce Alexander, Derek Wolff, Hans Tammemagi, Ben Symons (Maintenance Contractor), Shannon Brayford (recorder), David Howe (Director, CRD, SGI)

Regrets: None

Guests: John Chapman plus 11 members of the public

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tom Bell called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Recommendation of item 9 Master Plan

By general consensus, the agenda was approved as amended.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) Minutes of November 15 2019, Regular Business Meeting

Recommendation to add Bruce Alexander under regrets and remove John Chapman under guests.

By general consensus the minutes of November 15, 2019 were adopted as amended.

4. DELEGATIONS AND PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

a) Dog Park Proposal

Debbie Katz spoke on behalf of the group. She provided an overview of the history of the matter and the success that the dog park has had in mitigating the past complaints through new rules and practices.

She further reported that a second dog park location has been identified on $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre donated by Karl Hamson. She provided an overview of the parcel, the work that will need to be done prior to being able to open the park, and the support anticipated of the project.

She further noted that their request that the PIPRC hold the licence for the property should the project move forward.

Additional members of the community group spoke in favour of the park.

Commissioners asked and received responses on the following matters:

- Length of the lease would be 5 years.

- Maintenance would be required by the Commission, similar to that of the current dog park.

MOTION: Moved by Ron Underhill, seconded by Hans Tammemagi, that the Pender Islands Parks and Recreation Commission express their support of the new dog park in principal subject to the details to being formalized. **CARRIED**

Note: The majority of the public in attendance departed at this time.

5. MAINTENANCE REPORTS

Chair Symons noted that Ben Symons had circulated a written report.

A discussion regarding dying trees at Thieves Bay was held. Ben Symons outlined a recommendation for which trees could be left standing and which should be removed for the sake of safety.

There was general consensus that the Commission consider adopting a standing policy on maintaining dying trees, as often as possible, as part of the Master Plan.

MOTION: Moved by Hans Tammemagi, seconded by Bruce Alexander, that the Pender Islands Parks and Recreation Commission direct Ben Symons to proceed according to his recommendations and that the total cost is not exceed \$1000.00. **CARRIED**

A discussion was held regarding community members removing matter from the parks. It was noted that there is a bylaw prohibiting this.

6. OLD BUSINESS

a) MAP Proposal

Chair Symons provided an overview of the proposal and welcomed Dave Hargreaves, a representative of Moving Around Pender (MAP).

A discussion of the matter was held. Questions were asked and answered regarding the following points:

- Liability insurance matters, including the role of Gulf Islands Trail Society (GITS)
- The role and objectives of the Commission, including the enabling bylaws.
- The objective of MAPs in submitting their proposal.

By general consensus, the Commissioners agreed to express their decision that they would not be able to approve the proposal of MAPs that the PIPRC assume responsibility for their trails and car stops.

Note: A break was held form 12:38 – 12:46 pm.

b) Danny Martin Park and Disc Park Licence Agreement

Chair Symons invited John Chapman to provide an overview of the matter and the history of their use, including the licence between Youth Sports and the Commission.

He addressed the following matters:

- The CRD's solution to limit the responsibility of the licence holders should damage be caused that was outside of their control.

A discussion of the inadequacy of understanding of the matter by the commissioners and feeling that they are being left to approve things they don't understand. They are operating under the assumption that all adequate legal issues and community concerns have been addressed by the Capital Regional District.

MOTION: Moved by Susan Parr, seconded by Hans Tammemagi, that the Pender Islands Parks and Recreation Commission approve the Licence of Use for the Disc Golf Park and Danny Martin Ball Park as distributed by Jessica Arnet (Capital Regional District) on October 29, 2019.

CARRIED

c) School Joint Use Agreement Status Report

Chair Symons invited John Chapman to provide an overview of the history of the matter.

A discussion of the matter was held. The following points were identified:

- Insurance needs of the groups that are using the facilities and the potential for third party liability insurance from the CRD.
- The manners by which the agreement is meeting or not meeting the community's needs.
- The process by which the agreement will become a licence.
- The concern that the agreement will suppress the community use of the school.

John Chapman noted that a meeting will be held on January 7, 2019 and invited any Commissioners who would like to attend to join.

d) Policy on Donations

Chair Symons noted that a draft recommendation was circulated electronically. He provided an overview of the options recommended and a discussion was held.

Susan Parr noted that a large donation was recently made and provided an overview of the wishes of the donor and how the matter was managed. There was general consensus that the Chair shall send a letter of acknowledgment and thanks.

There was general consensus that a policy not be adopted at this time, but that an outline of best-practised be considered for inclusion in the Master Plan. There was further consensus that the Commission will carry on using common sense and curtesy and accommodate donors' interest in so far as possible.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Emails: Ursula Poepke

Chair Symons reported that Ursula Poepke has offered to donate native trees and shrubs that she has cultivated. He noted that he responded with thanks and assurance that the Commission would consider potential locations.

b) Castle Road

Chair Symons reported that he has received further concerns about trespassing at this site. He provided an overview of the measures taken by the Commission to deter such activity.

c) Commonality Meeting Date

Chair Symons reported that the Saturna Island Commission has requested the Commission's opinion on the for the next meeting. There was general consensus that Tuesday April 7, 2019 be recommended.

8. REPORTS

a) Director

None

b) Chair Person

Chair Symons provided an overview of his practice for managing public comments during delegations. He noted the importance of maintaining order his preference to ensure that delegations are provided with their time to speak and that he will deter ongoing debate.

c) Treasurer

i. Contracts for Bookkeeper and Minute Taker

Motion to go in camera: Susan, Derek section for personel.

Shannon not to attend

Meeting was begun at 11:55 and closed at 11:58.

Rise and report

PIPRC approve an increase in rate for the minute taker to \$25

Susan Parr provided an overview of the current budget and noted lines with additional funds remaining. There was general consensus that Commission direct maintenance contractor Ben Symons to purchase supplies in advance of future work for a total amount to be determined by the Treasurer.

A discussion of the Chamber of Commerce membership was held. There was general consensus that the Commission shall participate in meetings if invited, but shall not hold membership.

d) Recreation

No report.

e) Communications

i. Parks Canada Liaison Meeting: Derek Wolff provided an overview of the meeting in which he was in attendance. He included a report on the wild fire protection initiative that will be undertaken to demonstrate fire reduction in the Shingle Bay area.

A discussion of the Commission's participation in the project was held and opinions regarding the Fire Smart program were shared.

A discussion of high-risk behaviors, such as smoking and campfires, was held.

Derek Wolff further reported that the matter of the island being marketed as bike-friendly when it is not was addressed.

9. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS

a) Lantern Festival Use Permit

Chair Symons provided an overview of the application. It was noted that the application does not appear to request use of the dock.

There was general consensus that the application be approved as presented.

b) PIPRC Openings

A discussion of the vacancies was held and there was general consensus that an advertisement be placed in the January Pender Post and that a call for Commissioners be placed on the website.

c) Master Plan

Chair Symons reported that he has received the draft documents from John Chapman. There was general consensus that Chair Symons and Hans Tammemagi shall begin reviewing the documents.

10. SET NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Friday, January 17, 2020 at 9:30 am at Plum Tree Court.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There was general consensus that Ron Underhill shall write the next Pender Post article.

By general consensus, the meeting was closed at 12:26 pm.