

PENDER ISLANDS PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION (PIPRC)
Minutes of a Regular Meeting
Friday, May 14, 2021 (9:30 am)
Electronic By Zoom

Present: Ben McConchie, Hans Tammemagi, Susan Parr, Barry Mathias, Tim Frick, Rob Fawcett, Arnie Alksne, Derek Wolff, Paul Brent (Alternate Director CRD SGI), Ben Symons (Maintenance Contractor), Shannon Brayford (recorder)

Regrets: David Howe (SGI CRD Director),

Guests: Karl Hamson (Delegation), Lisa Baile (delegation), Aaron Campbell (delegation), Rick Mudie (Delegation)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair McConchie called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and introduced the Commission.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was recommended that the following amendments be made to the agenda:

- Defer 7 a, b, c, d and f to a future
- Addition of Rick Mudie under delegations
- Rename 8a as “Thieves Bay Concert Event”
- Move second 8 to follow section 6, and renumber accordingly
- Addition of new item “Location of Broom Bash Disposal Site”

By general consensus the agenda was approved as amended.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) Minutes April 16, 2021, Regular Business Meeting

It was recommended that Kathy Gilbert be added under delegations in attendance.

By general consensus the minutes of April 16, 2021 were adopted as amended.

4. DELEGATIONS

a) Aaron Campbell, Alice Church Road

Aaron Campbell addressed his concerns with the proposed trail on Alice Church Road and the process by which the Commission applied for funding for that trail without discuss the matter with property owners adjacent to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) right of way.

Aaron Campbell noted that one adjacent property also houses the BC Ambulance Helipad landing site and that his family (who own that property) have indicated for several years that if the MOTI right of way was exercised, the ambulance landing pad would be removed.

The PIPRC requested and received clarification on the specific concerns of the property owner, including concerns about the trail coming close to the farm's water source and the trail interfering with their ability to farm the land.

The PIPRC provided information on the current stage of the project and noted that the grant application included funds for consultation, but that the grant has not yet been awarded.

b) Lisa Baile and Karl Hamson, Trail Proposal

Lisa Baile and Karl Hamson delivered a presentation regarding a proposed trail through Loretta's Wood. They noted that the new trail would extend from the Community Hall area to Hooson Road and the Mount Menzies Trail.

A discussion of the properties that the trail would move through was held. It was noted that the private property owner, Karl Hamson, is in favour of the trail and is proposing its development. Discussion of the involvement of National Parks was held, including both the challenges and potential solutions.

It was noted that the trail would be included on the next agenda and the delegation offered to take Commissioners and Ben Symons (maintenance) on a site visit on the proposed trail.

c) Rick Mudie, Thieves Bay Music

Rick Mudie delivered a delegation which included concern that the process for approving the music events at Thieves Bay was moving ahead without consultation. Rick Mudie further outlined concern with the location of the proposed events, citing impact on neighbours, lack washrooms, narrow roadway access, and inhibiting emergency access to the Thieves Bay dock.

Chair McConchie invited Matt DeRoches (event applicant) to respond to the concerns.

Matt DeRoches provided an overview of the proposal and noted that for this year the plan is to deliver an open mic night with professional sound management. He noted that plans are in place for volunteers to manage refuse, vehicles, compliance with bylaws, etc.

Chair McConchie noted that the application would be discussed further in the agenda.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

The Commission acknowledged receipt of many pieces of communication from the community regarding the dog park, the Thieves Bay music events, and the Alice Church trail.

6. REPORTS

- a) Maintenance Plan:** Ben Symons requested and received information on moving forward on repairs to the Found Road trail. It was noted that repairs are essential for safety at this site, but that currently all repairs must first go through a consultation process with the WSÁNEĆ leadership Council.

A discussion of consultation process and the potential timeline for completing the repairs was held.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded, that the Pender Islands Parks and Recreation Commission close the found road trail until the WSÁNEĆ leadership Council has been consulted.

CARRIED

It was noted that Ben Symons shall come up with draft wording for a closure sign and will get approval from Chair McConchie.

Ben Symons noted that the swing set at Shingle Bay requires new bedding chips in order to comply with safety standards. A discussion of the project, the rationale for postponing the project in the past, and also potential alternatives was held.

It was noted that the Shingle Bay swing set maintenance has been deferred for several years because the site requires significant upgrades for drainage.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded, that the Pender Islands Parks and Recreation Commission approve the expense of up to \$5000 for the installation of wood chips under the swing set at Shingle Bay Park.

DEFEATED

By general consent, Ben Symons was directed to remove the swing set at Shingle Bay.

b) Chair's Report

Chair McConchie reported that he had a meeting with CRD staff regarding the operations of the Commission and the process for making decisions and passing/rescinding motions.

He further reported that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) graded the driveway portion of Moritmer Spit without the Commission's knowledge and that this work was contrary to the Commission's decision to defer such work until consultation with the WSÁNEĆ leadership Council had taken place.

c) Treasurer's Report

Susan Parr noted that the Treasurer's report was circulated electronically.

The report was received for information.

d) Recreation Report

Shannon Brayford reported that the CRD had confirmed the process by which groups would be expected to return funding to the recreation budget if they were unable to spend their full 2021 allotment.

e) Volunteer Committee

It was noted that the volunteer coordinator Ilse Phillips had not been notified of the meeting and no report was available.

f) Communications

Hans Tammemagi will submit an article to the upcoming Pender Post edition.

7. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS

a. Thieves Bay Open Air Concerts:

MOTION: It was moved and seconded, that the Pender Islands Parks and Recreation Commission approve one small music event to be held on a Thursday in July, subject to compliance with the COVID19 Public Health Orders and proof of adequate liability insurance.

A discussion of the motion was held, including the following points:

- Importance of providing appropriate portable bathrooms.
- Challenges of controlling the number of participants.
- The importance of the noise levels being maintained to
- The importance of PIPRC confirming adequate insurance is in place.
- Requirements to be placed on the applicant for ensuring the park is left in the appropriate condition following the event.

CARRIED

b. Dog Park, extension of closure date:

MOTION: It was moved and seconded, that the current dog park stay open from 9 am to 5 pm on Mondays to Fridays until such time as a new dog park can be opened.

A discussion was held regarding the motion which included the following points:

- CRD staff recommendation that process be carefully considered when a Commission overturns past motions.
- Concerns of safety for users of the ball diamonds and concerns heard from the neighbours.
- Benefits of keeping the park open.
- Consideration of whether a dog park is necessary on the island.

DEFEATED

There was general consensus that discussion of disassembly the park would be held to the next meeting.

c. Clear Cutting on Pender Island

By general consent this matter was deferred to the next meeting.

d. CRD's Statement of Reconciliation

It was noted that several members of the Commission attended a workshop with the CRD regarding their Statement of Reconciliation and the impact that this would have on operations moving forward.

A discussion of the impact was held and it was reported that a document outlining areas of archeological significance had been created, but needed to be verified and completed with local knowledge of the Parks. There was general consensus that Ben Symons and Shannon Brayford shall complete the project.

e. Alice Church Trail

It was noted that the grant approval for this project has not yet been announced. Further discussion of the trail was deferred until the grant application is confirmed to be accepted or denied.

f. Broom Bash

MOTION: It was moved and seconded, that the Pender Islands Parks and Recreation Commission approve the use of the Danny Martin Park parking lot for storage and chipping of materials from the Broom Bash.

CARRIED

It was note that the baseball teams are currently active and that due to compliance with COVID19 regulations the parking lot, which is historically underused, is being used heavily by parents dropping their children off for practice.

Chair McConchie volunteered to coordinate with the baseball team's coach and manager to ensure ample notice of the disruption to their use of the parking lot.

8. OLD BUSINESSS

a. Mortimer Spit

Chair McConchie noted that MOTI had graded the site, contrary to PIPRC's understanding that no work was to be done.

He further noted that he has discussed the matter with CRD Staff and is hoping for greater communication with MOTI.

b. Ainslie Point

Hans Tammemagi provided an overview of the trail and the concerns expressed by neighbours. He offered a rationale for moving forward with the trail and noted that the next step would be installation the stairs.

Hans Tammemagi reported that he consulted with CRD staff and confirmed that the construction site for the stairs is not within a site of archeological importance.

It was noted that consultation with the WASANEC Leadership Council would still be required for the work to move forward and that the Commission would need to await further progress on that consultation process.

It was noted that communication with the public on matters requiring delayed construction and maintenance in order to ensure appropriate consultation is completed should be carefully considered. Alternate Director Paul Brent reported that he has requested direction from Director Howe and staff on the matter.

c. Dog Park, New Site:

Tim Frick reported that further consideration of the Ketch Road site as a potential location for a new dog park has been impeded by concern for an exposed water supply line.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded, that the Pender Islands Parks and Recreation Commission request a staff report regarding how the Capital Regional District can protect the Ketch water supply line and also a report of proposals for alternative dog park sites.
CARRIED

MOTION: It was moved and seconded, that the Pender Islands Parks and Recreation Commission solicit public suggestions for a dog park location by June 10, 2021
CARRIED

It was noted that this request will be publicized through social media and the upcoming Pender Post document.

d. Memorial Benches

Tim Frick reported that there has been a request for a memorial at a trail head. It was noted that discussion of memorials has been postponed several times in consideration of developing a formal policy.

There was general consensus that Tim Frick shall return to the next meeting with a proposed policy.

9. IN CAMERA

None

10. NEXT MEETING

Regular Business Meeting Friday, July 9, 2021 at 9:30 am via zoom

11. ADJOURNMENT

By general consensus, the meeting was closed at 12:35 pm.