

PENDER ISLAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION (PIPRC)

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Monday, May 8 2023 3:00pm

Zoom Conferencing/Pender Community Hall

Present: Paul Brent (Director, CRD SGI), George Leroux (Chair/Treasurer), Rob Fawcett (Vice Chair), Andrea Mills, Erin O'Brien, Lisa Baile, Sandra Tretick, Ben Symons (Maintenance Contractor), Melody Pender (CRD Staff), Kat Ferneyhough (CRD Staff, recorder)

Guests: Peter Pare (MAP), Shelagh Rinald (MAP), Doug Mutch (community member)

Regrets:

CALL TO ORDER - Chair Leroux called the meeting to order at 3:00pm

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion - The Agenda is approved as amended to move item 5.8 – Communications to 7.2.

Moved – Brent, Seconded – Baile

Carried

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES of April 18, 2023

Sandra's surname was misspelled – and is to be corrected.

Motion - The minutes of April 18, 2023 were adopted as amended.

Moved – Brent, Seconded – Fawcett

Carried

3. DELEGATIONS

3.1. Charles Baker – *Dogs in Parks* – Charles Baker did not attend, delegation skipped.

3.2. Moving About Pender (MAP) - *Ferry to Amies Rd Trail Concept* – MAP presented a trail concept to help improve the flow of bicycles and traffic leaving the ferry terminal. The trail, part of the larger regional trail network, would run from the terminal to the Amies Rd junction, or just past depending on visibility. Commissioners and Guests discussed the trail concept including potential costs and private land encroachment onto the road right

of way.

Motion – PIPRC supports the Ferry to Amies trail concept in principle and the need for a survey to provide a better sense of the potential impediments to building the trail.

Move – Tretick, Seconded – Mills

Carried

4. Topical Issues

- 4.1. Dogs in Parks - *Bylaw Amendment – Dogs on Leashes* – George circulated a proposal, prepared with assistance of CRD staff, outlining the Animal Control Bylaw in Electoral Areas Juan de Fuca and Salt Spring Island. The Commission discussed the current PIPRC bylaw requiring dogs be “on leash” in all parks while the other Areas required dogs be “under control at all times.”

Motion - Pender Island Parks and Recreation Commission requests the CRD Board to amend Bylaw 1578 – section 2, paragraph 9, by deleting this paragraph and replacing it with wording consistent with Section 8 of Salt Spring and Juan de Fuca Community Parks Bylaws.

Moved – Leroux, Seconded – Brent

Carried

- 4.2. Commercial Activity in Parks - *Discussion of Swimming Hole activity* - Andrea updated the Commission on the potential use of the Magic Lake Swimming Hole by a commercial venture, and need for proper liability insurance by the operator.

5. REPORTS

5.1. CRD Director's Report

Paul discussed potential infrastructure and trail funding, and [reminded] Commissioners that Justine and her team are willing to assist seek trail funding. Paul also expressed support for the Ferry – Amies trail concept and advised he would support a survey through a Grant in Aid.

5.2. Chair's Report

George's report was circulated in advance. Sandra asked about CRD Liaison and PIPRC administrative assistant role. George expressed that Melody assists as she can, and Kat Ferneyhough is assisting until a new administrative assistant is hired.

5.3. Maintenance

Ben's monthly maintenance report was circulated in advance of the meeting. The Commission discussed the abandoned vehicle at the Ball Park parking lot, and Ben agreed to contact someone he felt might be the owner.

The meeting discussed the Mortimer Spit access road, and the decision of CRD-HQ that the road may not be graded until a permit is received from the Heritage Branch. Commissioners expressed concerns that a lack of grading, and possible further restrictions on vehicle access, not only impacted people using the spit but effectively removed South Pender's only beach access for launching boats. Paul advised he would work on the matter further and George suggested the matter be tabled until the next meeting.

5.4. Volunteers

Andrea updated the Commission on activities to engage volunteers.

5.5. Recreation Grants

Sandra outlined efforts to ensure community groups are aware of the Recreation Grant Program deadlines. No applications have been received.

5.6. Native Species Stewardship

Erin outlined plans for the annual "broom bash", including coordinating work with students from the school removing broom from the George Hill trail and work with Parks Canada at Roesland. Pulled broom is being collected at the Ball Park parking lot before disposal.

5.7. Treasurer's Report

George spoke to the Treasurer's report, circulated in advance. Sandra asked if funds held in the Capital Reserve account could be used for land acquisition. Paul agreed to look into whether this was possible and the steps necessary. A question was raised concerning expenses for the "dip" project. George explained this was CRD real estate officer work on the Mirada beach access site where the MoTI intends to build a ramp for off island removal of trees and rock from the dip project.

6. Activities/Projects

6.1. Magic Lake Park

Sandra updated the Commission on the boat clean-up efforts, including contact made with the RCMP and CRD staff seeking advice on abandoned boat removal and signage posted on site. Any boats not removed by owners by June 1st will be taken to a CRD storage site for 90 days before being disposed.

Rezoning is still in process with Islands Trust. The commissioners discussed ideas for improving boat storage on site going forward.

6.2. Schooner Trail

Rob updated commissioners on meetings with property owners along Schooner Way where the trail is planned. A statutory easement will be required on several properties where the road right of way and planned trail encroach on private property. Work is underway with CRD staff for communication and community engagement work.

7. Communications Report

Sandra agreed to write the June Pender Post article and to include comments on dogs in parks, Mortimer Spit access road, trail development updates and a reminder of the Recreation Grants.

8. New Business

8.1. Grading at Mortimer Spit

Mortimer Spit access road grading was discussed under Maintenance (above), and will be discussed further at the next meeting upon receiving an update from Paul's enquiries.

9. In Camera

Motion – that the meeting go in camera, and staff be requested to remain.

Moved – Brent, Seconded – Leroux

Carried

Motion – that the “in camera” portion of the meeting end.

Moved – Brent, Seconded – Leroux

Carried

Rise & Report

Leroux reported that discussions concerning administrative support for the PIPRC are ongoing.

10. Next Meeting

Monday June 12th, 2023 – 1500 – 1700 hrs. At the Community Hall and by zoom.

11. Correspondence

11.1. Gulf Islands National Park - *Pender Island Liaison Committee*

11.2. C. Knowles - *Invasive Species – American Bullfrog*

The Commissioners discussed issues around controlling the invasive bullfrog, which has taken over several water bodies on North Pender, and whether Mayne Island's fallow deer management plan could provide useful ideas for invasive Bullfrog management.

11.3. D. Korbin - *Mortimer Spit grading*

11.4. L. Graham - *Boats at Magic Lake*

11.5. Dog Mermaid - *Boats at Magic Lake*

11.6. J. Lawrence - *Boats at Magic Lake*

11.7. J. Spaxman - *Dogs in Parks*

11.8. R. Watson - *Dogs in Parks*

11.9. M. Plant - *Boats at Magic Lake*

11.10. V. Dutton - *Dogs in Parks*

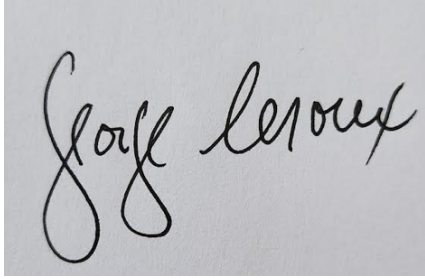
12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion – that the meeting be adjourned at 5:08 PM.

Moved – Brent, Seconded – Leroux

Carried

Approved at the June 12, 2023 PIPRC Meeting:

A photograph of a handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "Geoff Leroux".

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Chair-PIPRC