

**PENDER ISLAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION (PIPRC)**

**Minutes of Regular Meeting**

**Monday, August 14, 2023 3:30pm**

**Zoom/Pender Community Hall**

**Commissioners:** George Leroux (Chair/Treasurer), Erin O'Brien, Lisa Baile, Sandra Tretick, Richard Sullivan, Rob Fawcett

**Staff:** Ben Symons (Maintenance Contractor), Lori Seay-Potter (Recorder)

**Also present:** Anne Burdett

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CALL TO ORDER - Chair Leroux called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm

1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION to approve the 14 August 2023 PIPRC agenda as amended.  
M-Commissioner Tretick, S-Commissioner Fawcett. CARRIED.

2. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

MOTION to approve the 10 July 2023 PIPRC minutes.  
Commissioner Fawcett, S-Commissioner O'Brien. CARRIED.

3. **CORRESPONDENCE AND BUSINESS ARISING**

- 3.1 **William Walker Trail:** Signage in development. Logos pending.
- 3.2 **Ainslie Trail:** Tree work done and trail has re-opened.
- 3.3 **Parks Canada Whale Monitoring request:** Permit approved.
- 3.4 **Canal Channel Buoys:** Deferred.
- 3.5 **Ursula Poepel Park:** Correspondence received regarding impact of recent work nearby. Clean up is completed and planting is slated for Fall.
- 3.6 **Mortimer Spit:** Potholes cannot be addressed currently as it is a sensitive site.
- 3.7 **Ellena Road Trail:** Commission supported Ben's recommendation to decommission the trail.

4. **DELEGATIONS**

**Pender Island Waste Management:** Anne Burdett joined the meeting to discuss the challenging seasonal accumulation of garbage at dog station sites.

5. **TOPICAL ISSUES**

- 5.1 **Shingle Bay Park:** Commissioners Leroux and O'Brien visited the site. Next step is creek rehabilitation and a restoration plan that would map the area, identify fencing and planting needs, and provide a species list. Drainage planning would need to include a hydrology report.
- 5.2 **Pump Track/Skate Park:** Former dog park has been identified as a possible site for the proposed pump track. Insurance would be held by CRD. Proponents will be asked to develop a rough cost estimate and proposal for the Commission before proceeding further.

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**6. PROJECTS**

- 6.1 **Schooner Way Trail:** Commissioner Fawcett circulated a draft fundraising document and reported on positive meetings with Magic Lake Property Owners Association and SD64 Trustee regarding fundraising partnerships. Project is estimated at \$2.1 million (incl. contingency) with the CRD collaborating on an application for an Active Transportation Grant and other funding. PIPRC needs to raise approximately \$500 000. The Commission provided feedback on sponsorship levels. MOTI is on board for using some blast rock from other on-island work to build up the trail bed, reducing trail costs. More public engagement on the Trail is planned for the Fall Fair.
- 6.2 **TD Project Plan:** Planting and daphne/blackberry removal are next steps. Project can expand from Disc Park to include invasives removal at the Ball Park and Shingle Bay.
- 6.3 **Magic Lake and Thieves Bay Projects:** Ben acknowledged that he still needed to get the outhouse updated at Thieves Bay. George agreed to follow-up with Director Brent and MLPOS regarding the boat launch ramp at Thieves Bay and the proposed dock installation at Magic Lake.

ACTION: George will follow up with Director Brent and MLPOS about projects.

**7. REPORTS**

- 7.1 **Chair Report:** Report circulated prior to the meeting.
- 7.2 **Maintenance :** Ben provided a report on his activities, primarily picnic tables, repairs and dealing with smoking materials at a Magic Lake bench. A reported danger tree was assessed and removed at Ainslie viewpoint and Gardom Pond. A mature tree has been discovered to be taken down inside the Schooner Reef park boundary at Magic Lake. Future work plans include additional signage at Bridge trail at exit and entrance, and improvements to Thieves Bay outhouse. Boardwalks at Capstan trail are in poor condition. Ben is exploring re-routing options.

ACTION: Commissioner Tretick will include public education on smoking in parks for the next Pender Post article.  
Chair/Ben will follow up on downed tree at Schooner.

- 7.3 **Stewardship:** Ongoing watering and planting underway.

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**7.4 Communications:** Focus on trail fundraising and smoking in parks.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Fawcett will write content for trail article and forward to Commissioner Tretick.

**7.5 Treasurer:** Commissioner Leroux presented a report outlining YTD\ operating expenditures and balance of the Reserve accounts at June-23 (mid-year). Leroux reported that expenditures were within budget in most areas and projected that year end would come in below budget on expenditures and capital projects.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

**8.1 2024 Budget Priorities:** Commission struck an ad-hoc group (Commissioners Leroux, O'Brien and Sullivan) to review budget priorities for next fiscal year.

**8.2 PIPRC / PICA Cooperation:** Chair Leroux outlined the need for restoration work in the parks that is beyond the scope of day to day park and trail maintenance. Leroux proposed that PIPRC could enter into a contractual agreement with Pender Island Conservancy Association (PICA) whereby PICA agreed to lead parkland restoration work on targeted sites. Commissioners expressed support in principle for the concept. George agreed to develop this further for the next meeting.

**8.3 PIPRC Logo - Healthy Forests Brochure:** Commission approved the inclusion of PIPRC logo on the brochure.

**8.4 VIHA Smoking Complaint:** Correspondence received from VIHA regarding smoking signage and receptacles at Disc park. Contract with Disc Park host agency will include a new non-smoking provision when it is renewed. Public education will be used as well.

**ACTION:** Chair will follow up with VIHA regarding smoking at Disc Park.

**8.5 Trail Maps:** Commission has run out of print maps. Commission agreed to a small reprint and planned to update the map to include park/trail changes and enhanced fire safety language,

**ACTION:** Lori will work with Chair to reprint trail maps.

**8.6 WSÁNEĆ meeting:** Commissioners Baile and O'Brien will attend

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9. **RECREATION GRANTS**

Commissioner O'Brien recused herself from the meeting.

MOVED Commission Baile, SECONDED by Commissioner Fawcett to close the meeting in accordance with the *Community Charter, Par 4, Div. 3, Section 90(1)*

Commission moved to the closed session at 5:00 p.m. Commission rose and reported from the closed session at 5:20 p.m.:

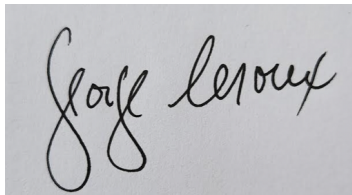
PIPRC approved the expenditure of \$ 67,796 for community recreation grants to the following applicants:

PIRAHA /Community Hall	\$27,500
SGINH / Epicentre	\$ 5 000
PI School	\$ 2 600
PI Soccer	\$ 835
PI Youth Sports	\$ 3 378
Pender Skate	\$ 2 336
Pender Tee-Ball	\$ 1 400
PI Health Care	\$ 6 000
PI Otters Swim Club	\$ 2 500
PI School Basketball	\$ 3 200
PI Library	\$ 2 000
PI Child Care /Dragonfly	\$ 4 200
PI Junior Sailing	\$ 1 000
PI Art Society	\$ 750
Arts PI Jazz Band	\$ 1 000
Arts PI Choral Society	\$ 2 000
Arts Ptarmigan Arts	\$ 2 000

ADJOURNMENT: 5:35 p.m. NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 at 3 p.m.

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Minutes approved at the 11 September 2023 PIPRC Meeting:



George Leroux

Chair-PIPRC