

PENDER ISLAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION (PIPRC)
Minutes of Regular Meeting
09 September 2024 3:00 pm
Zoom/Pender Community Hall

Commissioners: George Leroux (Chair/Treasurer), Erin O'Brien, Andrea Mills, Sandra Tretick, Cecilia Suh, Paul Brent, Lisa Baile (EP)

Regrets: Richard Sullivan, Melody Pender (CRD Liaison)

Guests: Anne Burdett. Annie Smith. Bob Coulson - Magic Lake Property Owners Association. Jill Robinson-CRD Regional Parks.

Staff: Lori Seay-Potter (Recorder), Rob Fawcett (Project Coordinator), Ben Symons (Maintenance)

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

MOTION to approve the 09 September 2024 PIPRC agenda.
M-Commissioner Brent, S-Commissioner Mills. **CARRIED.**

3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

MOTION to approve the 22 July 2024 PIPRC minutes as presented.
M-Commissioner Brent, S-Commissioner Suh. **CARRIED.**

4. **CORRESPONDENCE and BUSINESS ARISING**

4.1 **Garbage and Dogs:** Anne Burdett, on behalf of Pender Island Waste Management, outlined issues of overflowing dog waste containers as well as household and camper littering. The problems are greatest from May to October. Galiano, Mayne, and Saturna do not provide dog waste stations or garbage receptacles for their parks and trails. Annie Smith spoke to the dog and littering issues at Thieves Bay and provided (by correspondence) suggestions accumulated from a Facebook survey. As an immediate action arising from the discussion, the Commission agreed to prepare an educational brief for circulation on social media and possibly the November issue of the Pender Post.

4.2 **Fall Fair:** Rob and Cecilia reported generally positive engagement from the community but no specific requests for maintenance or facilities.

4.3 **Found Road Signage:** complete and ready for installation.

5. **DELEGATIONS:** Bob Coulson - Magic Lake Property Owners Society joined the meeting to support the need for more playgrounds for Pender families. Bob requested time on the October meeting agenda to discuss playground equipment and how MLPOS and PIPRC might cooperate in this regard.

6. **OPERATION REPORTS**

6.1 **Maintenance:** Report circulated prior to the meeting. Continued vandalism and fire setting in parks has been reported to RCMP. Ben reported completion of the Magic Lake dock, mentioned further work at the Magic Lake boat launch, and

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Rogers installation of a cable at Panda Bay / Harpoon Rd beach access could result in improved access infrastructure. Ben will initiate work at Shingle Bay first by installing a fence to protect the restoration area on both sides of the Creek.

6.2 Capital Projects: Report circulated prior to the meeting. Rob Fawcett joined the meeting.

- **Schooner Way - School Trail:** Final License of Occupation permitting with MOTI is near completion. Project tendering is expected to take place in October. \$115,000 in pledges have been received to August 31/24 while \$30,000 of pledges remain outstanding. An additional 50k in donations are targeted to reach the \$200,000 PIPRC contribution.
- The Schooner Trail budget for Phase 1 is \$1,100,000 to be funded \$500,000 from Active Transportation Grants, \$200,000 community donations, \$200,000 from CRD, and \$200,000 from PIPRC Capital reserves.

MOTION to allocate \$169,000 from Capital Reserves and \$31,000 from Capital Land Reserve to the Schooner Trail Project in accordance with the 2024 PIPRC budget.
M-Commissioner Brent, S-Commissioner Mills. **CARRIED.**
Commissioner Baille abstained.

- **Magic Lake Dock:** Ben is getting very close to the installation stage for the kayak storage rack.
- **Pumptrack:** Bike use on adjacent ball field will be addressed with signage. Opening event planning is underway.
- **New Projects:** Rob requested direction on projects PIPRC would like to advance in 2025.

6.3 Restoration: Erin reported that restoration work will be initiated at Shingle Bay after fence installation and that further planting is required at the Pump Track this Fall.

7. TOPICAL ISSUES

7.1 2025 Budget: A preliminary draft budget was circulated prior to the meeting. The Treasurer reviewed the preliminary f25 estimates based on f23 actual, f24 YTD and current cost trends for services and supplies. The Commissioners discussed existing programs and initiatives together with Capital Reserve targets and the tax requisition for f25. A 2nd draft budget will be presented at the October meeting for approval to submit to CRD-HQ by October 31st, 2024.

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7.2 Commissioner Vacancy: Chair is meeting with interested community members. Lisa advised that she was discussing with a possible candidate from South Pender. Outreach continues.

7.3 Fishing at Magic Lake swimming hole: Signage has been erected prohibiting fishing when swimmers are present.

8. PROJECTS

8.1 Trail Inventory & Map Update: Park and Trail inventory is ongoing. Map project is paused until fall. In the meantime, additional copies of the existing map have been printed for distribution to the public.

9. REPORTS

9.1 CRD Director: No updates.

9.2 Chair: No written report. Verbal report of correspondence during past month.

9.3 Treasurer: Circulated prior to the meeting with the focus on f25 budget estimates.

9.4 Communications: The Pender Post October article will focus on Restoration prepared by Erin. The November article may focus on garbage and vandalism in the parks.

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 CRD Regional Parks Invasive Species Program: Jill Robinson from the Invasive Species program at CRD Regional Parks joined the meeting. Jill reviewed a summary of invasive species management projects (report circulated prior to the meeting). CRD has 2 full time staff and 4 full permanent part-time staff working on invasive management programs across the region. Programs include identifying priority target area, and assembling and coordinating volunteer groups to rehabilitate invaded areas, and providing support for funding / grant applications by local groups. CRD's invasive management budget is entirely dedicated to staff costs with limited (no) funds available to provide financial support to other groups for the works.

At Brooks Point on South Pender CRD staff are planning restoration efforts this fall or early spring to address invasive species in collaboration with PICA staff, and representatives of the conservation covenant holders, Habitat Acquisition Trust (HAT) and Islands Trust Conservancy (ITC).

Chair Leroux thanked Jill for joining the meeting.

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10.2 In **Camera Session**: Chair Leroux left the meeting. Commissioner Tretick assumed Chair.

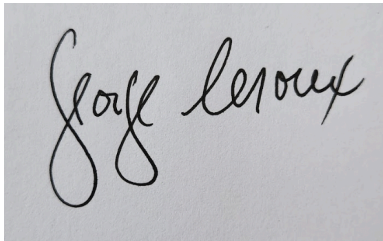
MOTION to close the meeting in accordance with the *Community Charter, Par 4, Div. 3, Section 90(1)*. M-Commissioner Brent, S-Commissioner Tretick. Commission moved to the closed session at 4:35 p.m.

Commission rose and reported the following from the closed session at 5:10 p.m.: The Commission deferred decision on the land acquisition opportunity to the October 2024 meeting.

11. **MOTION TO ADJOURN** The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

12. **NEXT MEETING**: October 21, 2024 at 3 p.m.

Approved at the 21 Oct 2024 PIPRC Meeting:

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "Geoff Leroux".

Chair-PIPRC