

PENDER ISLAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION (PIPRC)

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Monday, April 17, 2023 @ 3:00 PM

CRD Community Center Meeting Room & Zoom Video Conference

Present:

Commissioners: Lisa Baile, Paul Brent (CRD Director), Larry Colcy, Rob Fawcett (Vice Chair), George Leroux (Chair), Barry Mathias, Andrea Mills, Erin O'Brien, Sandra Tretrick

Guests – Ben Symons (Maintenance Contractor), Melody Pender (CRD staff), Kat Ferneyhough (CRD liaison), Bob Tippitt, Mia Sampson, Charles Baker, Liis Graham, Don Peden (CRD bylaw officer)

1) Call to Order

Chair Leroux called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM
Chair Leroux recognized Barry Mathias for his service as this is his last meeting.

2) Approval of Agenda

The Agenda is approved.
Moved – Baile, Seconded - Mathias Carried

3) Approval of Minutes

The March 13, 2023 draft Minutes, circulated in advance, are approved with amendments. Moved - Brent, Seconded - Tretrick. Carried

4) Business Arising

1. Outhouse Maintenance Contract – Ben Symons reported that the new contractor had started, including an orientation tour with the previous contractor.

2. Conery Cres. Easement Request – Justine Starke provided (by email) communication with the landowner indicating CRD-HQ would take the file forward. Commissioner O'Brien expressed the need for any consideration involving saving the trees and vegetation be accompanied with a covenant.

5) Delegations

1. Liis Graham, representing Three on the Tree Productions, presented a request to place hearts along the Heart Trail. This program ran previously in 2022. Operated in conjunction with the School, children make and place small hearts along the trail with messages promoting physical and mental health. Liis also presented the opportunity for three (3) murals from the grad that could be used to adorn a public facility.

The Commission approves the “hearts” program on the CRD portion of the Heart Trail.

Moved – Mills, Seconded – Baile

Carried

6) Correspondence

1. Bob Tippet – a letter reporting an incident of off leash dogs at Thieves Bay rushing toward him and his partner in an unsafe and uncontrolled manner, and supporting enforcement of the dogs on leash bylaw.

2. Annie Smith – a letter in support of dogs being able to run off leash in the Parks.

3. Patricia Callendar – a letter in support of dogs being able to run off leash in the Parks and the need for a fenced area.

4. Miles Smith – a letter supporting the need for a dog park.

5. Bob Coulsen – representing MLPOS, a letter requesting action on the boat yard at Magic Lake.

6. Patrick Smith – a letter outlining the history of his family’s property and the surprise finding of the recent boundary line survey.

7) Discussion – Dogs in Parks

Community Members comments:

1. Bob Tippet and Mia Sampson described an incident of dogs not being under control and how it impacted them. They spoke of the need for dogs to be on leash at all times.

2. Charles Baker spoke of the need for a dog park, the past use of the closed dog park, and the needs and interests of dog owners.

The Commissioners discussed the current dog bylaw requiring all dogs to on leash in the Parks and the dog bylaws in Juan de Fuca, Salt Spring, and other Gulf Islands requiring dogs be “under control”. Opinions expressed ranged from “open the old dog park” to “there will never be a dog park on Pender”.

Commissioners requested that community members form a group and help advance a dog park solution. Charles Baker agreed to bring forward a Delegation of dog owners at the next meeting.

The Chair advised that the “dog bylaw” and “open the dog park” will be on the agenda at the May 8th meeting.

8) Activities

8.1 Director’s Report – Director Brent advised of ongoing work to raise infrastructure funds for the islands.

8.2. Chair’s Report – Chair Leroux noted the matters in his report were covered in other areas of the agenda.

8.3. Maintenance Report – Ben Symons provided a brief overview of his report, circulated in advance. Ben reported that Irene Bay access had been repaired, next on the list is Peter Cove North, and seasonal vegetation control will engage him shortly. Ben responded to question about timing for the Thieves Bay outhouse project and signage at Magic Lake.

Ben left the meeting at 3:50 PM

8.4. Volunteers Report – no update.

8.5 Recreation Grants Report– Commissioner Tretick reported that grant application forms are updated and posted, and advertising is set for April, May and June Pender Posts.

8.6. Native Species Report – a. Commissioner Mathias remains hopeful that the \$7000 grant application made to support invasive removal and replanting, and involving the School, will be granted and the work carried forward.

1. b. Commissioner O’Brien agreed to pick up the lead for invasive species and replanting work.
2. c. Broom Bash (May 7-22) would like to use the Danny Martin parking lot for the drop off as has been the case in prior years. Chair Leroux said he would talk with Ben and advise if there were any problems foreseen. Commissioner O’Brien agreed to inform all Commissioners of broom bash activities, including a work party planned for George Hill.

8.7. Treasurer's Report – Chair Leroux provided a review of Jan-Feb YTD revenue and expenses as outlined in the report, circulated in advance.

8.8. Communications – Commissioners agreed the May Pender Post would focus on Dogs in the Parks. Commissioners agreed to the Pender Post article schedule as follows: a. May issue – Leroux

9. Magic Lake Park

a. Boats - Commissioners Colcy reported of work ongoing to isolate, highlight and remove twenty (20+) unused, abandoned boats at Magic Lake. Charles Baker asked if the Commission would consider a boat storage facility as well as a new picnic table at the west end of the lake. Commissioners advised that a boat storage facility is a zoning matter, and Chair Leroux agreed to mention the picnic table request to Ben.

b. Swimming Hole – The matter of a commercial business (Dog Mermaid) operating in the Park was discussed, noting impacts, positive and negative, on the site and visitors. Commissioner Mills agreed to look into the Swimming Hole further and frame the discussion for the next meeting.

10. Schooner Trail

a. Commissioner Fawcett reported that the route survey was ongoing week of April 17. This work is hoped to be completed in the next 4 weeks. The next step is to contact all landowners along the route to present the 30% design. After these meetings various stakeholder groups will be approached.

b. Commissioner Tretick had prepared a draft communication plan and expressed the need for resources to get it implemented.

c. Chair Leroux advised that Katie Dentry, CRD Liaison on Saturna, has agreed to help support (facilitate, coordinate, and administer) the communication plan work.

11. Other

a. Meeting Logistics – Melody Pender advised that CRC equipment could be rented for meetings. Treasurer Leroux told Melody to send the bill for each meeting's rental.

b. Administrative Assistant – Kelly Friesen resigned as Admin Asst. Chair Leroux introduced Kat Ferneyhough – CRD Mayne Liaison - who will be filling in on an

interim basis to support agenda preparation, meeting minutes, and PIPRC administration.

c. Recruiting a New Admin Asst – Chair Leroux agreed to write up an advertisement then it send along to Melody and Kat who will fix it up and get it into the proper channels.

d. Commonality Meeting – There is a commonality meeting with all SGI parks commissions scheduled for June 20 on Galiano. Commissioners are encouraged to attend.

12) In Camera

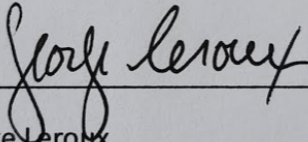
Motion to go in Camera, requesting staff to stay. Commissioner Brent / Commissioner Mathias Carried

Rise and Report: The Commission discussed the boundary encroachment at the Enchanted Forest Park and the Commissioner vacancy.

Next Meeting

Monday May 8th – 1500 hrs – Community Hall / Zoom Video Conference

MINUTES approved at the May 8, 2023 PIPRC Meeting:



George Leroux

Pender Parks and Recreation Commission Chair

