



**Peaks Island Council
Minutes (Final Draft)
April 23, 2014
MacVane Community Center**

In Attendance: Jean Martens, Cheryl Miner (Chair), Mary Anne Mitchell, Marjorie Phyfe (Vice Chair), Timothy Wyant

Others Present: Mike Murray (Island Liaison), Elizabeth Capone-Henriquez (Secretary)

I. Call to Order: Chair Miner called the meeting to order at 6:33pm.

II. Roll Call: Martens moved to excuse the absences of Alves and Penalver; Mitchell seconded; the motion passed 5-0.

III. Approval of Minutes: Phyfe moved that the PIC approve the March 26 meeting minutes; Martens seconded; the motion passed 5-0.

IV. Recognition: The PIC recognized and thanked all of the Island Services employees for their tireless efforts this winter in keeping our streets and roads clear and safe during a very challenging cold and snowy winter. Marty Mulkern accepted the certificate on behalf of Island Services.

V. Chairman's Report

Portland City Council Budget Meeting— April 17th the City Council conducted a preliminary review of the proposed PIC budget. If any changes are made they will be reported to islanders. Islanders will also be sent an email when the budget is passed.

Committee Updates

Neighborhood Advisory Committee— Mitchell reported that they reviewed the FY15 city budget. Also the FY14 budget is posted on the library bulletin board and has the dates that meetings will be taking place in City Hall regarding the budget.

Maine Island Coalition/Island Institute— Mitchell reported that the May meeting will focus on emergency medical care on the islands. Mitchell believes the challenges on Peaks include lack of street signs and lack of numbers on houses. Also the public should call 911 in an emergency (they should not call local police number).

All Island Advisory Committee and Airport Noise Advisory Committee— No April meeting.

Peaks Island Skate Park Committee— Chris Hoppin reported that the project is ongoing and that nothing can be done until the sewer project is completed. He also mentioned that the skateboard park is a result of the initiative of young citizens.

Island Brochure— There was discussion of the revisions made to the PEAT brochure by Penalver, and whether a separate PIC brochure should be created since PEAT is ready to proceed

with printing their brochure unchanged from last year. Phyfe moved that the topic be tabled until next month's meeting; Wyant seconded; public comment was received; the motion passed 5-0.

Bike Passes– Miner reported that the program has resumed and is being utilized.

Committee for Safety Down Front– Miner reported that she, Penalver, and John Kiley met. They will be meeting with City Police Chief Sauschuck on 4/29.

VI. City Services Speaker: David Margolis-Pineo, Deputy City Engineer for Portland, outlined an incentive plan for Peaks Island homeowners to disconnect their sump pumps and roof drains from the City sanitation and sewer system. The issue is that during heavy rain, the sanitation system on the island gets overloaded, resulting in discharge of untreated waste into Casco Bay, at levels which lead to fines from the State. An initial survey of the island indicates there are about 12 homes that the City would like to have participate in the incentive program this summer, which involves homeowners receiving about \$100 per down spout and about \$500 per sump pump. (Note that this only affects and applies to people on the city sewer system.) Questions and comments from PIC members and the public were received. The public is encouraged to contact Margolis-Pineo with their questions: Office 874-8850; Cell 400-6695; Email dmp@portlandmaine.gov.

VII. New Items:

Disbursement of ferry tickets for those in need– Mitchell reported on the process of how need is determined and how tickets are distributed. Miner volunteered to set up a spreadsheet to be used for tracking tickets. Judy Spiawlock of the Island Transportation System shared data on how many free or low cost tickets the taxi currently gives out to seniors in need. Community resident Caron Chess volunteered to interview seniors about their needs on behalf of the PIC; Wyant moved the same; Martens seconded; the motion passed 5-0.

Earth Day– Mitchell announced that Saturday, April 26th an Earth Day Celebration will be held at the Community Center 9am to 1pm.

VIII. Public Comment:

Post-Meeting Updates– Sam Saltonstall suggested the PIC send out bullet points after each meeting to let the public know what took place at the meeting.

Numbering Houses to Improve Emergency Response– Wyant moved that the PIC explore the option giving out numbers to be displayed on homes; Miner seconded; the motion passed 5-0. Caron Chess volunteered to talk to CERT about participating in the number campaign during Peaks Fest.

IX. Next Meeting: To be held May 28, 2014 at 6:30pm in the MacVane Community Center.

X. Adjournment: Martens moved to adjourn at 7:54pm; Mitchell seconded; the motion passed 5-0.

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ACTION ITEMS:

Miner: Meet with Mitchell to set up spreadsheet for tracking needs-based ferry tickets.

Mitchell: Ask police to send an email to the public about emergency response issues.