

**Peaks Island Council
August 2013 Meeting Minutes (Approved)**

**Wednesday, August 28, 2013 at 6:30pm
MacVane Community Center**

Present: Eric Eaton, Cheryl Miner (Vice-Chair), Mary Anne Mitchell, Marjorie Phyfe, Mike Sylvester (Chair)

Absent: Ted Kelleher (Treasurer), Jimal Thundershield

Others Present: Elizabeth Capone-Henriquez (Secretary)

I. Call to Order

Chair Sylvester called the meeting to order at 6:40pm.

II. Roll Call

Sylvester moved to excuse the absence of Councilor Kelleher. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Sylvester moved to excuse the absence of Councilor Thundershield. The motion was seconded and failed 1-3-1 (Sylvester abstained).

III. Review of Minutes

Councilor Phyfe moved that the PIC accept the July minutes. Vice Chair Miner seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The length of time PIC members have to submit changes and the secretary has to incorporate changes was clarified. Details of where notices, draft minutes, and accepted minutes will be posted and stored were agreed upon.

IV. Police Report

Police officer Cindy Taylor gave a report and answered the questions of PIC members and the public. Topics covered included: training level of island police; recent assault of an officer at Battery Steele; pigs in Tolman Heights; golf cart safety; unleashed dogs; speeding; public urination by people on bikes; parking prohibition in front of ice cream store; recent street cleaning; need for painting crosswalks; need for pruning to ensure driver visibility; car ferry line blockage of entry to grocery store.

V. Afterschool Program on Peaks: Update

Sylvester reported that the City's Parks and Rec Department will be running an afterschool program at the PI Elementary School, beginning when school begins, with two staff. The program will include fee waivers for low-income islanders.

VI. Chairperson's Reports

A. Committee Updates/Appointments

Neighborhood Advisory Committee – Joe Kane

Joe Kane reported that there was no meeting in summer. He reported that in past meetings the issues of homelessness and drug use were the main topic of concern.

Councilor Phyfe commented on Mayor Brennan's initiative to address homelessness by increasing the availability of permanent housing and case management services.

Maine Island Coalition/Island Institute – Mary Anne Mitchell

Councilors Miner and Mitchell attended the end of August meeting, which included a review of the Island Institute's new mission, vision and values and information about their programming which will be included as an addendum to these minutes. Highlights included: six island fellow positions will open up next year; **ISLE is a free leadership program** to help independent contractors and nonprofits develop a business plan; an **energy conference is held annually (this year in Belfast, Oct. 18-19, \$15 per person)**. Meeting announcement: There will be a **meeting on Monday, September 16 about the weatherization** program on Peaks. Sylvester suggested that 2013-14 PIC might consider including money in its budget for those islanders who cannot afford to participate in the program.

All Island Advisory Committee – Chris Hoppin

No report was offered in Hoppin's absence.

Neighborhood Video Group – Cheryl Miner (on behalf of Chris Hoppin)

Miner reported for Hoppin: The Peaks video group has made one documentary; progress is slow because the station requires everyone who makes a video to first take classes on using their equipment. The group hopes to be done this fall.

Airport Noise Advisory Committee – Cheryl Miner

The **next meeting of the Airport Noise Advisory Committee is October 24 at 5:30pm** in conference room A at the airport: all are welcome.

Chief of Police Advisory Board – Marjorie Phyfe (on behalf of John Kiely)

Phyfe spoke to Kiely, who reported that he had been attending these meetings until the Chief of Police temporarily disbanded the group. The Chief is actively looking for other models to structure the group's work. Kiely will let the PIC know when the group begins meeting again under the new guidelines. He also offered to work with the PIC to develop a good working relationship with the Chief and the Police Department.

Skate Park Committee – Cheryl Miner (on behalf of Chris Hoppin)

Miner reported for Hoppin: informal discussions are continuing on the project. There is no firm committee yet and no definite information to pass out.

B. Budget-Related Items

Summer Ferry Pass Extension for Middle and High School Students:

The school year ferry pass will be extended to cover the summer months in 2014, as funded within the PIC budget. Sylvester will speak to Nick Mavadones at Casco Bay Lines about how this will be done.

Bike Tickets – Cheryl Miner (on behalf of Betsey Ramage-Healey)

Miner reported how many bike tickets have been given out through the library. Mitchell will bring expiring tickets to Casco Bay Lines to be exchanged.

Need-Based Ferry Ticket Program

Mitchell provided an update of how many and what type of tickets had been given out by each organization as of mid-August. Mitchell will bring expiring tickets to Casco Bay Lines to be exchanged.

VIII. Follow Through from Past Meetings**A. Formation of Zoning Committee**

Kelleher expressed an interest in prior meetings in forming a committee to look into zoning issues.

B. Formation of Senior Needs Committee

Kelleher expressed an interest in prior meetings in forming a committee to look into needs of PI seniors.

IX. New Business/Announcements/Public Comment**A. Tolman Heights Farm Animal Issue**

Two residents of Tolman Heights reported safety and quality of life issues due to 8 or more pigs living on a neighbor's property. The residents reported that the pigs are very large and have been seen running around loose, creating a danger for humans and pets. PIC members reported that the City is in the process of filing a formal complaint; they encouraged the residents to contact the Police immediately if they see something that is a danger to the public.

B. International Ocean Clean-up Week

Mitchell reported on plans for Peaks clean-up scheduled for the 3rd week in September.

C. Island Transportation System

Judy Piawlock thanked the PIC for its role in bringing a new taxi vehicle to Peaks.

D. Sewer Construction Project

Construction will resume after Labor Day.

E. Public Restrooms

The suggestion was made that port o potties be placed at transfer station next summer.

F. Loss of Valuable Driftwood

A concerned resident spoke of how a piece of driftwood containing valuable rocks was removed from the island and sold.

X. Next Meeting – September 25, 2013 at 6:30pm, MacVane Community Center**XI. Adjournment**

Mitchell moved that the meeting be adjourned. Miner seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07pm.

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ACTION ITEMS:

Kelleher: Follow-up on formation of zoning and senior needs committees.

Mitchell: Exchange expiring bike and ferry tickets for new ones.

Sylvester: Speak to Nick Mavadones at Casco Bay Lines about summer extension of student ferry passes.