

Peaks Island Council Meeting

July 22, 2015

6:30 PM, MacVane Community Center

In Attendance: Mary Anne Mitchell, Timmi Sellers, Kathleen Hayward, Lisa Penalver, Howard Pedlikin. Amory Baker. Excused: Timothy Wyant and Mike Murray, Island Liaison, absent.

I. Call to Order: Chair Mitchell called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

II. Roll Call: Mary Anne Mitchell, Timmi Sellers, Kathleen Hayward, Lisa Penalver, Howard Pedlikin. Amory Baker.

Public in Attendance at Start of Meeting: 7

Motion made to excuse Timothy Wyant from meeting since he had informed members that he would be absent, Sellers seconded, approved unanimously.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Hayward moved to approve the minutes from the June 4, 2015 meeting, Sellers seconded, motion passed unanimously.

The minutes from the public meeting held by the Safety Committee focussing on down front traffic issues has been reviewed by the Safety Committee and publically posted. Michelle Brown, recorder, will send the July 15 Draft Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes to all of the members of PIC for their review and subsequent approval at the next PIC full meeting under the Safety Committee report. They will be summarized by the Safety Committee members at that meeting and added to that regular PIC meeting minutes as an addendum.

IV. Old Business

Cynthia Pedlikin thanked the Peaks Island Councilors because she has received \$3,000 in funding for PITEA from the City of Portland, which was approved by the City Council and allocated to PITEA with the support of PIC

Status of 2016 Budget - Treasurer's Report

Mitchell informed that basically what she wanted to review was the bike tickets (see below). So far, \$98.00 has been spent on free CBL bike tickets. PIC has spent \$116 on Needs-based Tickets although the Health Center has just requested tickets for their patients in need of medical travel off-Island.

CBL Bike Tickets

Free CBL Bike tickets are available from the Library via PIC. Anybody can qualify at this time and there are no formal criteria on who should have access to the bike tickets. Discussion regarding the need for criteria to make them available only to summer and year-round residents of Peaks Island. Priscilla, at the library, has been using the possession of a library card to determine if someone is eligible since a home address comes up with the library information that she can check for Island residency.

Sellers made the motion to recommend limiting the free CBL bike tickets to summer and full-time residents of Peaks Island verified by the possession of a local library card with a Peaks Island residence, Penalver seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Sellers and Hayward will go talk to Priscilla about the motion.

V. Committee Reports

Zoning Committee

No new report regarding Home Start at this time.

The Open Access and Roads Special Committee members are designing goals and doing research focusing first on maintaining beach access and what can PIC do towards making recommendations to the City to maintain access. This will be at least a two-year process.

Mitchell brought up a concern regarding a situation in the past where City Zoning was changed so that the height of buildings were increased but Peaks Island residents were not made aware of this change until buildings started blocking views. Her concern is to find out how Peaks Island residents can be informed of such zoning changes that affect Peaks residents.

AM (Audience Member) brought up the fact that any zoning changes or decisions are posted in the Portland newspaper and suggested that one person be assigned to review the zoning updates. Mitchell will follow through with Mike Murray to find out how PIC and Island residents can be made aware of relevant zoning changes.

Discussion regarding the sewage smell in the vicinity of the Island House and the Sewage Treatment Plant. Sellers will check with the City to determine if it is a problem with the sewage plant or a failed leach field of the Peaks Island House.

Safety Committee

Penalver provided an overview of the July 15th Safety Committee public meeting. She explained the general consensus of the meeting is that the traffic situation on Welch and

Island is improving with the Cadet and there are more spaces available for parking with increased enforcement of the 72-hour parking limit. The most difficult situation is still the traffic circle and people parking in the circle holding up traffic. Penalver explained that the Safety Committee members intend to meet with the local Police Officers to inform them of the public input they received regarding traffic issues.

Tim Murphy, a member of the Safety Committee, located a regulation on the City website that instructs on the legal use of golf carts and which is still valid today. It has stipulations that state that golf carts need to have lights for night-driving, safety triangles, flags, rear-view mirrors, etc.

AM brought up an idea that there needs to be a Police Officer paid by the City whose main job is traffic control instead of expecting local businesses and PIC to financially support a Cadet. Hayward voiced her support of this idea. AM suggested that the City Council be petitioned to financially support a Cadet since it is proving to be a successful program for the Island. Mitchell believes that it should first go through the Portland Police Department since they would be asking for that item in their budget.

It is important for citizens to call the Nonemergency Number connecting to Dispatch and **NOT** the "Barn" when reporting traffic concerns so that they are recorded keeping the attention of the Portland Police Department, justifying Police resources to Peaks Island, and helping to provide backup to officers in dangerous situations via Dispatch.

That Nonemergency Number is: 207-874-8575.

Sellers will post the Nonemergency Number around the Island.

Environmental Committee

Committee members met with Marty Mulkern of the Public Works Department and with Troy Moon of Portland Public Services to continue to discuss the placement of double garbage cans at high-use garbage areas during the summer season, doggie bag dispensers, placement of a garbage can at the bench near the Cockeyed Gull, and installation of the Big Belly which was paid for by the City and the Peaks Island Fund.

Mitchell encouraged citizens to document concerns like garbage overflowing to the SeeClickFix website for Portland (<https://seeclickfix.com>) to help document these issues so that more Public Works Department personnel are assigned to Peaks Island in the summer.

Skate Board Park Committee

Chris Hoppin reported that the Skate Board Park is progressing and are working though the necessary planning and zoning requirements. He was unable to obtain a 501©3 fiscal sponsor so the Committee will use the City's "Gift Catalog" where citizens can make a contribution to the City which is tax deductible. Hoppin is working to complete

the designation process for the "Gift Catalog." The website for the Skate Board Park is: www.peaksislandskatepark.org and the mail address is P.O. Box 22 where donation checks can be sent and made out to the City of Portland with memo line stating this donation is for a Skate Board Park Gift Catalog donation.

Broad Band Committee

The Island Institute is conducting research on the effectiveness of broad band availability on the Islands and Peaks is involved in the study since there are parts of Peaks where broad band is not availability.

External Committees:

Maine Island Coalition

Mitchell provided a description on this committee run by the Island Institute providing legislative updates and Island updates. Each meeting has a focus. For example, this next meeting will focus on open space on Islands. Mitchell has provided the Coalition with PILP information on how many acres that are under conservation on Peaks.

Island Advisory Committee

Sellers attended the meeting along with Mike Murray. There were also members from Cushing and Cliff Island that had concerns because they were not getting important public services like road maintenance and a transfer station. Fire is the major concern on Cushing who is asking help by the City to reduce fuels on that Island. The major concern from the Cliff Island citizens is that the public dock does not remain available for the Fire Boat since it is busy with private boats. Since Cushing and Cliff Islands are private Islands, Mike Murray had explained to those in attendance that they may have to pay for certain services themselves.

Mitchell asked Sellers if the Environmental Committee members could attend the Island Advisory Committee with their concerns for Peaks Island. Sellers thought this would be a good idea.

Portland City Manager's Neighborhood Meeting

Mitchell explained that there is currently no acting City Manager for Portland at this time so this Meeting has not been occurring.

VI. New Business

There is a general feeling that the PIC public process has improved with a formal recorder who posts the meeting minutes publically.

Penalver moved to compensate the recorder for each approved PIC meetings and run by PIC members where minutes are recorded and made public, Sellers seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Penalver informed that there are City regulations regarding the moving and taking rocks on Portland City beaches which include Peaks Island beaches. She will provide a copy of those regulations at a later date.

In November, there will be three open seats on PIC. Each interested person will need 50 signatures to qualify. Nomination papers are available in the Clerk's Office, Room 203, City Hall, 389 Congress Street. The earliest that signatures can be turned in is August 11, and the deadline is August 25. Michelle, recorder, will put this announcement in the Star.

VII. Public Input

Starting on August 1st, The Health Center and St. Christopher's are coordinating a medical lending equipment program for canes, crutches, walkers, wheel chairs, etc.

Sellers checked with Mike Murray about the two private boats being stored on City land and beach near the ferry terminal. Murray had explained that the City is very well protected although Sellers is concerned about kids playing around boats as she is about kids playing around the gravel piles at Trott-Littlejohn Park. For example, Sellers would like the City to put signs up at the gravel piles that warns people that they are a safety issue. Mitchell would like to talk to Troy Moon about this issue.

Sellers made a motion to recommend to the City that an investigation be done on the safety and removal of the two boats on City land/beach near the ferry terminal, Mitchell seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Mitchell asked the other Council members to discuss if there should be a regular August meeting or not? The September meeting will focus on open trails and zoning, and October's meeting will be kept open for PIC candidates to present themselves.

Penalver moved to not have an August meeting unless there is a need for an emergency meeting, Hayward seconded, motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Adjournment:

Hayward motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m., Sellers seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

INDIVIDUAL COUNCILOR ACTION ITEMS

- Sellers and Hayward will talk with Priscilla at the library regarding the continued use of the possession of library cards (to check home addresses) as a way to determine if they are eligible for a free CBL bike ticket.

- Mitchell will follow through with Mike Murray to find out how PIC and Island residents can be made aware of relevant zoning changes.
- Sellers will follow through with Mike Murray to determine what may be causing the sewage smell in the area between the Sewage Treatment Plant and the Peaks Island House.
- Sellers will post the Nonemergency Number around the Island.
- Penalver will provide the City regulations regarding moving and taking rocks from Peaks Island beaches.
- Michelle, recorder, will put an announcement regarding the three upcoming open seats in November on PIC in the Star.
- Mitchell will talk to Troy Moon about the gravel piles at Trott-Littlejohn.
- Sellers will pass on the information of the boat safety concern on the down front beach on to Mike Murray to bring to the attention of the City.