

Peaks Island Council Meeting
November 18, 2015
6:30 PM, MacVane Community Center

In Attendance: Mary Anne Mitchell, Timmi Sellers, Kathleen Hayward, Lisa Penalver, Howard Pedlikin, Sid Gerard. Timothy Wyant, excused absence. Mike Murray, Island Liaison, absent.

I. Call to Order: Chair Mitchell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

Public in Attendance at Start of Meeting: 10

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Penalver moved to approve the minutes from the October 28th meeting, Pedlikin seconded, motion passed unanimously.

IV. Police Report: Officer Danny Rose

Officer Rose stated how successful he felt the cadet was this summer with directing traffic and believes that she made a difference in moving cars to and from the ferry.

Police are working to remove abandoned cars from the Island and are targeting abandoned cars on the roadway first. They had identified 40 cars initially but, after talking with the owners and with many of them taking care of the vehicles, they are now down to about 20 abandoned cars that need to be removed. Officer Rose had researched and had offered options like vehicle donation to a charity (posted on Next Door) but nobody responded. The City will be drafting a letter to the owners of the identified abandoned vehicles to give them notice that their cars will be towed off the Island at the owner's expense. He is also working with the City to have wrecking companies be on a response list to remove cars with tow trucks, however, some companies require titles to do this because lots won't take them for scrap without them and not all owners have titles. On private property, City code allows one nonregistered vehicle per household.

Cars are also being tagged at parking lot down front if they are left in the lot for more than 72 hours. It costs approximately \$80 to remove cars via barge.

Audience member (AM) commented that the laser speed sign left by the school last week was very effective. Officer Rose said that there might be a possibility to have it on the Island again next summer.

Fire trucks are still having issues to locate houses on the Island during emergencies. The Police are working with CERT to address this issue. It was noted by the officer That many houses lack numbers and many roads are not marked with the street names. The PIC could help by urging City to add street signs.

V. Election of New Chair and Vice Chair.

Sellers nominated Penalver for Chair, Mitchell seconded, Floor opened to public comment:

AM nominated Gerard as Chair.

Gerard believes the City does not provide resources to the island compared to the financial benefits the Island provides to the City. He brought up issues like the need for adequate police service, adequate hydrants, and he would like to for the Council to work better with the City via the new manager, for example, to receive sufficient City resources.

Mitchell suggested more use of the nonemergency line (874-8575) that will record the number of concerned calls received by the local Police to show the need for increased police service. (Such calls also require follow-up within the police department).

Hayward nominated Sid Gerard, no second.

Motion for Penalver as Chair: 4 approved, 1 opposed, 1 abstained, motion passed.

Mitchell directed Penalver to take over the meeting as the new chair.

Mitchell nominated Sellers as Vice Chair, Pedlikin seconded, with unanimous approval.

No public input.

Sellers nominated Hayward as Treasurer, Penalver seconded, motion passed unanimously.

VI. Old Business

Committee Reports -

Safety

Penalver discussed the November 9th City public meeting held on the Island. Issues discussed included: A concern about speeding and enforcement, cadet was successful but financial burden should not be on Peaks, take out better energy efficiency on the

Island, fires on the backshore and need for citations for illegal fires, need for golf cart safety ordinance and regulations, restricting the size and/or uses of oversize buses via a City ordinance and the need for a traffic study during the busy summer season.

AM brought up, at the November 9th meeting, that golf carts are being borrowed by renters or visitors with no contract or set of rules which is causing bigger safety issues than the golf cart rental businesses. Golf cart education is needed for residents also, especially those who loan out their golf cart to renters or visitors.

Another AM feels that the problem is also the rental agencies because they are increasing the number of golf carts on the Island. Officer Rose made the point that golf cart rentals limit the number of cars that are coming over on the Island.

Zoning

Penalver reminded that the ordinance passed by the City Council to allow for auxiliary units is now in place and it will be important to make sure that, any units created on the Island, are managed as year-round, affordable rentals.

Sellers is progressing with the study of paper roads and how to keep open access to beaches. She would like to set up a community meeting with representatives from City Planning in March to discuss this issue further.

Environmental Committee

Mitchell reviewed some of the work that was done this summer by the committee which include: Set up of an additional Big Belly trashcan, work to help keep the Island clean, especially at the ferry terminal, and making doggie bags available down front. New issues for the committee include: Creating a compost facility on the Island, providing a sheltered area at the transfer station where people can leave things that may be useful to other people, and the need for signage at the Portland ferry terminal to let people know the Island rules and regulations and promote respect of the Island before they come over on the ferry.

Skate Board Park

Chris Hoppin had no new information. He is waiting to hear back from the City about the selection of a fiscal sponsor to accept donations and provide tax incentives to people who would like to donate to the Skate Board Park development.

Maine Island Coalition

Last Friday, Mitchell and Sellers attended the Coalition meeting along with representatives from all the other Islands. The Coalition is hosted by the Island Institute who provided an update on the Energy Conference in Portland that was held earlier this month and discussed the Broadband conference that is being held November 19th and

the 20th. Mitchell and Sellers will attend this meeting. Other issues of interest included: A weatherization program for Long Island and Cliff is going very well, possibly having an Island Fellow on Peaks next year, and having someone come from the Island Institute to talk about the Island Fellow Program. The Nonprofit Leadership Program, that the Island Institute is hosting, will happen in January and Briana Warner, Island Institute Economic Development Director, offered to provide support on how to start a business and become more financially literate.

The next meeting will be held in January in Augusta.

Island Advisory

Sellers attended the meeting held at Casco Bay Lines. The biggest issue is how to address brush waste compiled for fire suppression on Islands, especially on Cushing. The next meeting will be held on December 16th. Sellers will bring up signage to work on at ferry terminal and see what other Island reps think about it.

Portland City Manager's Meeting

The new City Manager could not attend, so Mike Murray ran the meeting which reviewed the status of the See-Click-Fix Program, website: <https://seeclickfix.com>. Joanne Lester (757-8725) at the City gets all the reports and sends them to appropriate city departments. She has received about 2,700 complaints or concerns since the program was created. The website can be used to report abandoned cars, garbage, golf cart issues, street conditions, etc. and you can leave name or not. Mitchell encouraged people to use it and take pictures to download onto the website to illustrate what they are reporting. One note brought up the new City Manager at an earlier meeting was that there currently is no funding available to fix sidewalks so these type of issues may not be addressed immediately.

VII. Budget Update (See Budget Addendum)

Hayward did not have anything to report regarding the budget.

To date, no full-time resident college students have made use of available passes.
Needed: Advertising ferry tickets for Needs-based and year-round full-time island
College and Technical School Students

There is \$2,000 allocated for these ferry tickets. Their availability will be advertised in the Star and on the email lists.

All students need to do to qualify to take out these monthly ferry passes is to bring their school registration to Mike Murry who will supply the voucher.

Gerard feels that private school kids should also get free ferry tickets to go to school as the public school kids do. Sellers said this could be brought up in next year's budget.

VIII. New Business

Vote to send recommendation for ordinance to City regarding storing of commercial fishing boats on City owned beach down front

Sellers explained that working fishing commercial vessels should be allowed to be stored on the beach over winter via permit and removed during a certain date at owner's expense. Owners of the current boats that have been left on the beach for approximately 12 years have been identified and talked with by City to remove their boats.

Penalver suggested putting out a question on the Island listservs to get input from fishermen on what the ordinance should include, such as that permits should only be provided to year-round residents.

AM voiced concern about asking fishermen to have to go through one more "hoop" with the City or the State to continue their livelihood.

AM did not feel that the boats that are currently on the beach are that big a safety issue.

AM feels that there is a liability issue if there is an accident, who would be responsible? City or owner?

Sellers will write up something (compatible with the previous PIC discussions and vote on this matter) to be reviewed by the City as a recommendation.

Goals for PIC and Individual Councilors for the Coming Year

Mitchell: Promote quality of life issues particularly in summer thru in-depth survey of what is bothering people, and have a plan to address them, continue to support ways to help people who need financial support to stay on the Island, continue to pursue environmental concern and conserving open spaces, develop a community compost station and develop an enclosure at the transfer station where people can leave useful items for other Islanders.

Penalver: Will run meetings with Robert's Rules of Order and keep meeting contained so they don't go too long, proceed with developing relationship with Chief Sauschuck, continue on environmental issues, and promoting energy efficiency at school.

Pedlikin: Key issue is affordability on the Island, taxes are extraordinary and need to be addressed with the City via a possible PIC committee, roads and street

improvements and requesting more funding from the State to help with road maintenance, and exploring the creation of a teen center on the Island.

Sellers: Continue with the Zoning Subcommittee to research how to maintain access to beaches, keep up with the Environmental Committee progress, continue to make sure that the water front is kept clean, and creating a composting station on the Island and the develop an enclosure at the transfer station where people can leave useful items for other Islanders. She would also to request an Island Fellow from the Island Institute to help with updating the comprehensive neighborhood plan.

Hayward: Continue to be a good Peaks Island Counselor and member of subcommittees. She would like to return to the Safety Committee.

Gerard: Believes that PIC needs to be more aggressive with the City Council to request adequate City services, such as better police protection, as we are probably the biggest tourist attraction for the City bringing in many dollars. He voiced the need to elect somebody (to City Council) who can accurately represent Peaks adequately.

December Meeting with Mike Murray in Attendance to be Scheduled

Mitchell brought up the date of December 8th, but will need to double check with Mike Murray before announcing that date as the next PIC meeting. Mitchell suggested inviting Belinda Ray, the storm water person from the Portland Water District, to talk about the upcoming storm water credit and how funds will be used.

Penalver suggested inviting Kristin Duffy from the United Way to come to a meeting to discuss their survey on Portland fiscal stability since they are requesting input from Peaks Island residents. Mike Murray posted a letter from Ms. Duffy on Next Door requesting this input:

Mike,

This year United Way of Greater Portland is working with the community to gather input that we will use to establish 10-year community-wide goals in education, financial stability, and health in Greater Portland. I'm reaching out to ask if you would be willing to share our online survey with the Peaks Island Council. We are asking for input from as many people as possible so that we can best explore and identify critical community needs and issues that affect us all. You don't need to be an expert to participate, just someone who cares about our community and willing to share your thoughts on what kind of community you want to see.

Also, if anyone is interested in being part of an upcoming community conversation, please just sign up here.

Thank you in advance for helping us gather input!

Kristin

Kristin Chase Duffy | Director of Marketing and Communications

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IX. Public Comment

Penalver would like to keep comments to 5 minutes and alternative between those who feel positive about an issue and those who feel negative about it.

AM suggested redistricting District One to create a representative on the City Council specifically for Island representation. Sellers will ask Mike how this process my work and bring up the idea with the Island Advisory Committee. AM noted that Peaks Island is not just another neighborhood of Portland since we have different needs as an Island Community. Cliff, Diamonds, Cushing and Peaks Island are all under the jurisdiction of the City of Portland.

AM suggested that Islanders attend the upcoming final Franklin Street Planning Meeting which will be in a couple of weeks. Peaks Islanders should attend because people in the mainland area are ignoring that it is the Peaks Island "driveway" as they leave the ferry terminal and are not addressing that need in the plans. Chris Hoppin will advertise the next meeting date on Next Door.

AM suggested that PIC should work with the City of Portland to let us benefit from all these tourists that visit the Island and create a local option tourist taxes. PIC should lobby the State for a local option tourist tax that will allow for sales tax on hotels and restaurants in Portland which could substantially impact our tax rates. This has been attempted over the years but no change as occurred in this direction at this time.

Sam Saltonstall thanked PIC for its support letter for the City of Portland school boiler fund.

AM offered an idea to PIC to host a workshop to inform on storm water credit paperwork take out and taxes. PIC will help set it up with Mike Murray.

X. Adjournment:

Mitchell adjourned the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

INDIVIDUAL COUNCILOR ACTION ITEMS (Other than what was listed in Committees and Individual Goals)

- Sellers will bring up the idea for signage at the Portland ferry terminal to provide information on Island rules and regulations at the next Island Advisory Meeting.
- Penalver and Sellers will create an announcement regarding the availability of student tickets and will put the announcement on the Island email lists. They will also provide a copy to Michelle Brown who will make sure it gets in the Star.
- Sellers will draft up an ordinance to require permitting to leave boats on the beach down front to be reviewed by the City as a recommendation from PIC.
- Mitchell will check with Mike Murray to see he can be available for a December 8th PIC meeting.

- Sellers will ask Mike how this the redistricting process would work to designate an Island representative on the City Council and bring up the idea with the Island Advisory Committee
- PIC will help set it up a workshop to review the new storm water paperwork credit take out and taxes with the help of Mike Murray. (online, see: <http://portlandmaine.gov/1564/Stormwater-Credits>)

BUDGET ADDENDUM:

PIC FY 16 Budget Summary

November 18, 2015

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Balance
Bike Tickets	500.00		
2015-07-02; 15 A		97.50	
2015-08-18; 20 A		130.00	
			272.50
College Student			
Transport Assistance	2,000.00		2,000.00
Police Cadet	1,500.00		
2015-07-07 Transfer			
To PD Payroll		1,500.00	0.00
Needs Based Tickets	5000.00		
2015-07-07; 10 A 10 S		115.50	
2015-07-23; 8A;4C;5S;2 Auto		261.55	
2015-08-11; 4 Auto		330.60	
2015-08-18; 20 A; 10 C		192.50	
2015-08-24; 8 A; 5 S		80.85	
2015-09-18; 10 S		38.50	
2015-09-29; 10 A; 10 C		115.50	

2015-10-08; 10 A	77.00	
2015-10-21; 10 A	41.00	
2015-11-19; 20A; 10 C	102.00	
		3,838.00

ITS	15,000.00	
2015-07-07 Check Processed	15,000.00	
		0.00

Middle/High School	4,400.00	
2015-09-30	4,204.95	
		195.05

Age Gap Subsidy	3,000.00	
		3,000.00

Admin. Budget	3,150.00	
2015-08-05 July Transcription	200.00	
2015-09-30 Creative Portland	250.00	
2015-11-05 October Transcription	100.00	
		2,600.00

PI Skate Park	1,000.00	
2015-07-07 Transfer to PI		
Skate Park Fund	1,000.00	
		0.00

PITEA	3,000.00		
2015-07-07 Check Processed		3,000.00	
			0.00
PI Food Pantry	1,000.00		
2015-07-07 Check Processed		1,000.00	
			0.00
Private Middle/High School	450.00		
2015-07-20; issued to A. Byrne		84.00	
2015-07-20; issued to G. Byrne		84.00	
			<u>282.00</u>
BALANCE			11,995.55