



Peaks Island Council MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 22, 2023, 6:15 p.m.

Hybrid ZOOM/in-person meeting in the Community Center

NEXT Regular Monthly PIC Meeting—March 22, 2023

February PIC meeting will be held in the Community Room/with a zoom option also available

CALL TO ORDER: 6:19 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Fred Somers, Peter McLaughlin, Jerzy Sylvester, Scott Mohler, Rhonda Berg and Jess Burton

Absent: Natasha Markov-Riss

Number of Audience Members (AM) in attendance: 4

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

McLaughlin made the motion to accept the January 25, 2022 meeting minutes. Sylvester seconded. Motion to accept minutes passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Bill Patnaude said that the current balance is \$6,975.64 as of February 22, 2023. Needs based tickets were purchased in the amount of \$293. McLaughlin mentioned that MailChimp will no longer allow PIC to have a free account because there are over 800 people on the PIC email distribution list. So that expense will be added to future budget reports under Administration Expenses.

McLaughlin made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Sylvester seconded. Treasurer's report approved unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS & UPDATES

- **Parking**

No update.

- **Golf Cart**

No update.

- **Ferry Service**

Somers said that CBL has hired a private security firm to provide additional terminal coverage starting a few weeks ago to address safety issues in the restrooms. Staff and passengers are responding positively. They plan to continue this coverage.

CBL is also engaged in a process to refine the down-the-bay schedule, gathering input from islanders, businesses, captains and crew.

- **Anti-racism Committee – update**

No update.

- **Environmental and Sustainability**

McLaughlin said that two environmental projects submitted applications for PIC funding – Friends of Trott Littlejohn and the island composting project, which will be located in Trott Littlejohn Park.

- **Housing – ReCode Zoning survey**

McLaughlin presented an update for the committee. There will be a community meeting to discuss new zoning on the island, look at the re-code process, and present the findings of the City's zoning survey. It will be held Saturday, March 4th at 10am at the New Brackett Church.

- **Jetport Flight Path**

No update.

- **Voter Education Committee**

No update.

- **Communication and outreach committee**

No update.

- **Executive Committee**

Update from Mohler:

Community member has asked Mohler if PIC can do anything about Spectrum internet outages. Mohler said he does not think PIC can really do anything about it. Patnaude confirmed that the city did not have the same outages, they are just on Peaks Island. Berg asked if PIC could make an official inquiry and ask for an explanation about why the weekly outages are happening.

Sylvester suggested that PIC should identify the correct person to contact at Spectrum.

McLaughlin said that the PIC inquiry would carry more weight than an inquiry from a typical customer. Patnaude said he may be able to find a contact and pass the information on to PIC.

Mohler said he would draft a letter, circulate to councilors, and send to Spectrum.

NEW BUSINESS

- Approving FY2024 budget request – public comment

McLaughlin presented the Draft PIC budget that resulted from the work that the Executive Committee did. He explained that the amount of money set aside in the budget for Needs-based tickets has been reduced from prior years to more accurately reflect usage.

McLaughlin said that the Executive Committee thinks the PIC should fund services that benefit the island that might be an extension of the work of the city and fill in gaps where city funding does not meet the entire need, and less for Arts and Culture projects.

McLaughlin made a motion to accept the draft budget. Sylvester seconded.

Budget Item	FY24 Request
Bike Tickets	\$250
Needs-based tickets	\$1,000
Middle/High school tickets	\$3,500
College student tickets	\$300
Private Middle/High school tickets	\$300
Administration	\$2,150
Island Transportation System	\$25,420
Fifth Maine Museum	\$1,500
Peaks Environmental Action Team/ Friends of Trott Littlejohn Park	\$2,000
Community Arts and Play	\$1,000
Illustration Institute	\$2,500
PI Children's Workshop	\$10,000
PI Elementary School	\$1,618
Umbrella Cover Museum	\$1,500
New Brackett Church	\$2,000
Island Compost Project	\$3,500
Peaks Island Info	\$7,500
Peaks Island Historical Society	\$2,000
TOTAL	\$61,538

A discussion ensued about Needs-based tickets. Amounts will remain as they were adjusted by the Executive Committee, knowing that money can be transferred between separate Needs-Based ticket line items.

Councilors agreed that budget requests by Peaks Island Info and Peaks Island Historical Society should not be funded because no member of those organizations attended the budget workshop to discuss their budget request applications with the council.

Councilors agreed not to fund the Umbrella Cover Museum or the elementary school project.

Councilors agreed that full funding of the taxi was important. Somers said that 70% of the budget goes towards transportation, as it should. Other requests are force multipliers because the requesting organizations do so much for the island.

McLaughlin said PIC could request \$45,000 in funding this year which is a 5.4% increase over last year's budget. That is not an unreasonable increase, but it is not guaranteed that the city will approve that level of funding. Mohler said all funding requests could be reduced by an equal amount -- whatever percentage the city reduced the \$45,000 budget request by.

Mohler made a motion to amend the draft budget:

ITT funding amount \$22,500

PICW funding amount \$3,500

Illustration Institute funding \$1,500

Berg seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

PIC approved budget to be submitted to City of Portland for City Council approval:

Budget Item	FY24 Request
Bike Tickets	\$250
Needs-based tickets	\$1,000
Middle/High school tickets	\$3,500
College student tickets	\$300
Private Middle/High school tickets	\$300
Administration	\$2,150
Island Transportation System	\$22,500
Fifth Maine Museum	\$1,500
Peaks Environmental Action Team/ Friends of Trott Littlejohn Park	\$2,000
Community Arts and Play	\$1,000
Illustration Institute	\$1,500
PI Children's Workshop	\$3,500
New Brackett Church	\$2,000
Island Compost Project	\$3,500
TOTAL	\$45,000

McLaughlin made a motion that in the event that the city does not approve the \$45,000 budget, and reduces the budget amount, the Peaks Island Council would reduce all funding requests equally exempting Administration costs, Needs-Based tickets, and Peaks Island Transportation System (taxi). Somers seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES

Next PIC Meeting: Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 6:15 pm in the community room and on Zoom.

McLaughlin made motion to adjourn. Somers seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjournment: 7:49 p.m.