



Peaks Island Council

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 22, 2020

6:15 p.m., Peaks Island Community Room

NEXT Regular Monthly PIC Meeting—February 26, 2020

PRE-MEETING ITEMS

Swearing in of new councilors:

Bill Patnaude swore in SE Rafferty and Peter Eckel as councilors of the Peaks Island Council.

Peaks Island Elementary School Children's Chorus opened the meeting with two songs. They did a wonderful job!!

CALL TO ORDER: 6:24 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Randy Schaeffer, Steve Anderson, SE Rafferty, Andrea Kelly-Rosenberg, Peter Eckel
Absent: Devon Draft, Michelle Winchester

Number of Audience Members (AM) in attendance: 6

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kelly-Rosenberg made the motion to approve the December 18th meeting minutes. Anderson seconded. Unanimous vote to approve. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Schaeffer stated that the total remaining budget is \$6990.17 as of January 14, 2020. Needs based tickets and bike tickets have larger balances than in prior years. Schaeffer commented that Lisa Penalver will assist in getting word out about tickets.

Eckel made the motion to accept the budget report. Kelly-Rosenberg seconded. Budget report unanimously accepted by all councilors.

COMMITTEE REPORTS & UPDATES

Parking Committee

Schaeffer provided an update from the parking committee in Winchester's absence. Peter Eckel is going to take over the chairmanship of the Parking Committee. As a current member of the Parking Committee, Eckel will continue to work with the city and local garages to advocate for increased islander parking in the city.

Ferry Service Committee

Chuck Radis provided an update on priority boarding work being done by the Peaks Island Council Ferry Service committee. The PIC Ferry Service committee has proposed a priority boarding system to Casco Bay Lines Operations Committee. Nothing can be implemented

without a majority vote by the entire CBL Board of Directors. CBL has stipulated that any priority boarding system has to be easy and inexpensive to implement, it cannot require CBL to hire extra people to execute, and it cannot take any extra time to get people on and off the boats.

Nick Mavadones (CBL Operations Committee) created a list of ten operational challenges that any proposed priority boarding system would have to meet. The Ferry Service committee has developed a priority boarding solution called Lifeline Pass System to meet those requirements.

The proposed Lifeline Pass System will require people to get a Lifeline Pass from CBL, using a photo ID and some proof of residency (as yet to be determined). CBL will determine who can apply for a Lifeline Pass. Pass holders will still need a ticket to ride the boat, however, Lifeline Pass holders will form a separate line. Two lines (pass holders in one line, all other passengers in the other line) will board simultaneously, but the Lifeline Pass would move more quickly. It is an opt-in system, no one is required to get a Lifeline Pass.

On the Peaks Island side, police would help manage the two lines of people boarding the boat. Two lines would reduce the mass of people in the holding pen at the side of the transfer bridge.

The Ferry Service Committee has delivered their proposal to CBL. Nick Mavadones is fleshing it out with crew and CBL Operations Committee members, making changes, and bringing it to the full CBL board. The Ferry Service Committee hopes a pilot program will be ready to implement by June 2020.

Schaeffer thanked the committee for their work in developing a Lifeline Pass System, but stated that actual implementation of the program will be up to Casco Bay Lines. PIC does not have any influence on the details of execution.

Golf Cart Committee

No update. Committee will resume regular meetings when members return from off-season travels.

Noise Survey Committee

The Noise Survey Committee is getting ready to launch the noise study. The study will collect data 24/7 during the third week of February and third week of July. The committee is now finalizing locations for sensors.

Schaeffer stated that the noise survey committee is aware of the work going on with the Jetport Noise Advisory Committee and intends to pass on any useful information discovered during the noise survey.

OLD BUSINESS

Election of officers

Schaeffer outlined the methodology for selecting officers – Chair, Vice Chair, Executive Committee member.

Eckel nominated Schaeffer for Chair, Anderson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Schaeffer nominated Anderson for Vice Chair, Eckel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Schaeffer nominated Devon Kraft for Executive Committee member. Eckel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

2021 Budget request

Schaeffer stated that application materials have been distributed via island lists. Applications are due February 14th. The budget workshop for next fiscal year will be held on February 19th. The Peaks Island Council will vote on the budget at the February 26th meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Portland leash law

Schaeffer stated that community members have expressed concerns regarding dogs running off leash on Peaks Island. When residents reached out to City of Portland officials and other Peaks Island residents it became apparent that there was a need for clarification of the City's leash law.

Schaeffer made a motion –

It is moved that the Peaks Island Council convene a community meeting for the purpose of having the Portland City Animal Control Officer explain the City's leash law.

Eckel seconded the motion.

Public Comment

Audience member stated that the dog officer is very happy to come out to the island to answer questions. They suggested that police officers should also attend.

Councilor Discussion

Schaeffer stated that the Animal Control officer is a member of the police department, so police will be informed about the meeting.

Anderson stated that this issue does not rise to the level of a community meeting, and it is beyond the role of the Peaks Island Council. Anderson stated that this is a communication problem and enforcement issue that could be handled differently – by simply clarifying the rules.

Several councilors stated that it is a controversial issue and a community meeting about the leash law could devolve into shouting matches.

Schaeffer stated that clarifying the ambiguous law is a service that the PIC should provide.

Eckel made a motion to amend to ask the city to publicize and clarify the leash law ordinance instead of having a community meeting. Schaeffer seconded the amended motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Noise study committee

The Federal Aviation Authority is well into making changes to flight patterns in and out of Portland International Jet Port. Those changes will mean even more lower altitude air traffic over Peaks Island.

Schaeffer made a motion:

It is moved that the mission of the Peaks Island Council Noise Study Committee be expanded to include documenting and conveying community concerns about the noise caused by air traffic in and out of Portland International Jet Port.

Eckel seconded. No public comment. No Councilor discussion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Jetport Noise Advisory Committee

Schaeffer presented maps that describe two flight path changes that the FAA are considering and that the Jetport Noise Advisory Committee are providing input on. Both flight path changes affect Peaks Islanders.

Anderson made a motion to send a letter from the Peaks Island Council to the Jetport Noise Advisory Committee asking for flight path changes that reduce impact on Peaks Island as public comment at the January 30th meeting. Eckel seconded.

No public comment.

Councilor discussion. Eckel suggested that the motion not specify flying over Cushing and Ram Island and, instead, propose that approaches move "further south."

Anderson made a motion to amend per Eckels suggestion. Eckel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Golf Carts

Schaeffer made a motion to approve a letter to City Manager Jon Jennings, requesting an update on the setting of caps and the transition of carts from gasoline powered, and asking for more specifics and transparency on those topics. Eckel seconded.

Public comment

Audience member asked if anyone had called Jon Jennings to ask him?

Schaeffer stated that they have asked city councilors who were involved but they could not provide an answer about the number to be used as a cap.

Schaeffer said he would table the motion for now, call Jon Jennings and update the PIC at the next meeting.

Archiving PIC documents

The motion to allocate funds for scanning was postponed for a future meeting, pending additional information about costs.

Deer Culling

Bill Patnaude provided a report on the status of deer culling program. Patnaude stated that Peaks Island is about 1.1 square miles (720 acres) and about half of that is inhabited. There should be 18 deer per square mile. Based on that, Peaks Island should have 10-12 deer.

This year, no deer were culled from Peaks Island. There were 6 deer taken off Cushing Island, 4 off Great Diamond Island, and 8 off Cliff Island. Patnaude recommended that we continue the program since deer swim between islands.

Audience member asked about the type of bullets that are used because eagles feed off the deer carcasses and lead bullets have been tied to eagle deaths. Patnaude said he would check with the hunter to ask what type of bullets they are using.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Audience member asked if bike ticket program could allow more than one ticket per month. Rafferty stated that bike passes only cost \$10 if attached to a passenger ferry pass, and maybe the council could allow one bike pass per month. Schaeffer stated that Lisa Penalver is in charge of the program and he would pass on that suggestion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES

Mayor Kate Snyder will attend the February PIC meeting on February 26th.

Jetport Noise Advisory Committee is meeting on Thursday, January 30th at 6pm in the Jetport administration conference room on the second floor of the terminal building.

Pizza and salad will be available beginning at 5:30 pm. Members of the public are invited to comment on issues related to jetport noise.

Presentation on the Tom Glenn Community Impact Fund on Wednesday, January 29th at 6:15pm in the Community Room. The purpose of the Tom Glenn Fund is to promote small businesses in island communities.

Next PIC Meeting: Wednesday, February 26, 2020, at 6:15 pm in the Community Room.

Meeting Adjournment: 7:40 p.m.