



Islands Trust

# ADOPTED

## North Pender Island Local Trust Committee Minutes of Special Meeting

**Date:** October 26, 2015  
**Location:** Pender Island Community Hall  
4418 Bedwell Harbour Road, North Pender Island, BC

**Members Present:** Dianne Barber, Local Trustee  
Derek Masselink, Local Trustee

**Staff Present:** Justine Starke, Island Planner  
Shannon McConchie, Recorder

**Regrets:** George Grams, Chair

**Public Present:** There were eleven (11) invited representatives and two (2) members of the public

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Masselink, acting as Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:01 am. It was acknowledged that the meeting was being held in traditional territory of the Coast Salish First Nations.

### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**By general consent** the agenda was approved as presented.

### 3. AGE FRIENDLY PENDER PRELIMINARY PARTNERSHIP MEETING

Planner Starke welcomed the participants and gave an overview of the meeting's goals and the project's overall position. She invited the participants to introduce themselves in turn.

#### 3.1 Presentation of Highlights of the Draft Age Friendly Plan

##### 3.1.1 James van Hemert - Consultant for the Age Friendly Plan

A document was provided to the participants and, with reference to this document, Mr. van Hemert gave the following overview of the project:

- Highlights of the meetings and workshops that had been held to date;
- Acknowledging the interviews conducted with key community members and agency representatives to explore needs and opportunities for partnership;
- Reviewing the action items and their relation to the World Health Organization's Guidelines for Age Friendly Communities;

- Opportunities for keeping this plan alive and relevant.

Mr. van Hemert also acknowledged the limited mandate of the Local Trust Committee (LTC) and the importance of partnerships in light of this challenge.

### **3.2 Mobility**

#### Community Bus

Andrea Mills, community support worker, provided an overview of the community bus initiative and the progress of that project. During her presentation she addressed the following:

- The project's benefits for seniors, the environment, the tourism industry, and the community as a whole;
- Proposed funding opportunities, bus routes, and schedule;
- The purpose of the pilot phase of the project and the ongoing expectations beyond that phase.

Niall Parker, Moving Around Pender provided an overview of community transportation solutions that are being used on other Gulf Islands and spoke about the opportunities for the Southern Gulf Islands to work together.

A discussion was held among participants regarding evidence of community support for this initiative, suggestions for funding sources, and practical solutions for an on-demand pick-up structure.

Ms. Mills noted that coordination with the transit authority becomes most efficient if the bus is under the authority of a municipal organization.

Planner Starke noted that while the LTC has a narrow mandate, the Trust Council has a broader reach and has, in the past, delegated parts of that to LTCs on request.

#### Priority Walk Ways

Peter Pare and Niall Parker provided an overview of the project including prospective routes and ongoing discussions with private land owners, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI), and Parks Canada.

#### Pender Island Parks and Recreation Commission (PIPRC)

Speaking on behalf of PIPRC, Michael Symons noted that the Commission's capital improvements list has included mobility access improvements and that there is optimism that future resources will allow the commission to address these needs.

### Rights of Way

Chair Masselink offered an overview of the project and shared its current status. He noted that the current road alignment does not follow the statutory rights of way, and do not allow for additional travel space on the sides.

A discussion was held regarding land expropriation in order to bring the statutory rights of way into alignment with the actual road beds, and to give space for pedestrians and cyclists. Representatives from MOTI commented on the gravity of the topic and noted that it would only be considered as a last resort. There was general consent that land expropriation would be a last resort, but also that most avenues had already been exhausted.

Trustee Masselink made a formal request of the MOTI representatives to receive information on land expropriation.

Note: The MOTI representatives left at 11:17 am.

## **3.3 Housing**

### Capital Regional District (CRD) Regional Housing

Christine Culham spoke on behalf of the CRD's regional housing program and provided an overview of the operation and the services provided. She also offered to provide a workshop on affordable housing on Pender Island.

### Market Driven Affordable Housing

Al Bloomenthal spoke to the housing related challenges of aging on Pender Island. He provided an overview of the history of affordable housing initiatives on the island and the possible reasons that those initiatives were not successful. Mr. Bloomenthal suggested that a new initiative could have greater success and recommended a needs assessment as the first step.

### Public Comment Re: Suggested OCP and LUB Revisions

Community member Michael Sketch was acknowledged and invited to speak. Mr. Sketch noted his concern that the document distributed by Mr. van Hemert included suggested extensive revisions to the Official Community Plan (OCP) and Land Use Bylaw (LUB). Mr. Sketch suggested that the OCP already provides for the land use decisions that would be required.

### Plum Tree Court

Wendy MacDonald spoke on behalf of Plum Tree Court and noted the following:

- The board is having to look for partnerships in order to remain financially viable.
- There are water issues that should be considered for future developments.

Trustee Masselink noted that housing is an item on the LTC work plan.

Note: Michael Symons left at 11:44 am.

### **3.4 Community Support**

Andrea Mills provided an overview of the services and resources that are available on the island to help seniors to age in place. She specifically addressed the Better at Home project and the challenges it is facing. Points of discussion included:

- Challenges for volunteers and workers to meet the training regulations when the cost of training is not equitable to economic return;
- Need for palliative and respite care beds;
- Opportunities for accessing off-island health care via telecommunications;
- Need for day-time care programs.

Shannon Clarke spoke on behalf of the CRD's program to address senior's social isolation. She provided an overview of the project and discussed the project's mapping initiative.

### **3.5 Health Services**

none

### **3.6 Closing Remarks**

Mr. van Hemert commended Pender Island on the resources and initiatives that the island offers. He thanked everyone for their contributions to this meeting.

Trustees Barber and Masselink thanked participants and also thanked James van Hemert for his work.

## **4. ADJOURNMENT**

**By general consent** the meeting was adjourned at 12:08 pm.

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Derek Masselink, Acting Chair

Certified Correct:

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Shannon Brayford, Recorded