



Making a difference...together

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE Southern Gulf Islands Harbours Commission, held Thursday, September 26, 2024 at 9:30 a.m., Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Treatment Plant Meeting Room, 9055 Mainwaring Road, North Saanich, BC

PRESENT: Commissioners: B. Dearden (Chair), Mayne Island; B. Mabberley (Vice Chair) (EP), Galiano Island; R. Fenton, South Pender Island; M. Davis, Saturna Island; P. Brent, Electoral Area Director; R. Schnurr, Piers Island/Swartz Bay

Staff: Stephen Henderson, Senior Manager, Real Estate, SGI Administration and SSI LCC; Dan Robson, Manager, Saanich Peninsula and Gulf Islands Operations; Jared Kelly, Manager, Capital Projects, IWS CRD (EP); Lani O'Dwyer, Technical Services Technician 3, Infrastructure Engineering (EP); Aggie Chan, Senior Administrative Secretary (Recorder)

REGRETS: J. Deschenes, North Pender Island

GUEST: Robert Fitzgerald, Saturna Island

EP = Electronic Participation

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 am.

1. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by Director Brent, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Fenton,
That the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by Commissioner Mabberley, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Fenton,
That the minutes of the February 29, 2024 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

4. CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair made the following remarks:

- It is nice to be back. A few things need to be taken care of, but we are in good shape

5. SENIOR MANAGER'S REMARKS

No remarks.

6. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

MOVED by Commissioner Director Brent **SECONDED** by Commissioner Maberley,
That guest Robert Fitzgerald to attend and speak at this meeting.

CARRIED

- Bob Fitzgerald, owner-operator of Saturna Point Holdings:
 - On behalf and as a member of the liaison committee.
 - During a recent meeting, the RCMP (Royal Canadian Mounted Police) brought forward their concern about the lack of dedicated space for their vessel at the dock and at times, had to occupy the ambulance spot during their visits.
 - Request to re-assign some short-term moorage space for the RCMP's use.

Staff confirmed they have communicated with the RCMP and the WCMRC (Western Canada Marine Response Corporation). The WCMRC is coordinating with the RCMP to set aside a portion of their dock for RCMP-only use.

Mr. Fitzgerald left the meeting at 9:43 a.m.

7. COMMISSION BUSINESS

7.1. Southern Gulf Islands Harbours Projects and Operations Update September 2024

The Commission received the report for information. There is no recommendation.

Staff provided a summary of the project updates and noted the following additional information:

19-02 | Retreat Cove – Deferred to 2025. Funding will be reviewed in the November budget meeting. Invitation to tender is ready to go out. Contract will be awarded after budget approval.

19-03 | Horton Bay – Guarantee period ending in February 2025, any issues should be reported promptly.

23-01 | Miners Bay Upgrades –Contract to decommission the gas line has been awarded to Porter Petroleum. The remaining components (railings and decking) will need an engineer's approval. Works to be completed before the end of 2024.

21-01 | Port Washington – Guarantee period over.

21-03 | Annual Provision – Completed project: Piers Island and Swartz Bay gangway deck replacement with mini-mesh. Further discussion on other maintenance items that were observed during the deck replacement.

21-05 | Piers Island Additional Float – After resubmission of the application, the DFO (Department of Fisheries and Oceans) reapproved the project. Previous quote was from 2019. PIM (Pacific Industrial & Marine Ltd) is targeting to finish work within the winter fisheries window. A re-evaluation of the quote will be finalized shortly.

21-02 | SGIH Inspections – Draft report for anchor dock inspections was reviewed by the commission in February. Report was finalized in July. Top side inspections on docks without anchors (except those with recent repairs and renovation) were completed with the remaining funds. Detailed discussion to be held during the budget meeting.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

- Piers/Swartz: Request for proposals for wharfingers services closed on June 5th. Service contract awarded to G. Plant.
- Montague: A vessel left after a notice was given due to unpaid fees. A mooring buoy was installed as a temporary moor for any impounded vessel.
- Miners Bay: A derelict vessel was moved to the mooring buoy at Montague. The vessel has been registered on the Deadboat Society's list. Continuous monitoring of its condition as staff plans the steps of disposal.
- Piers Island: Power washing and gangway replacement are completed.
- Spanish Hills: Roller guides and anchor chain adjustment are completed.
- Horton Bay: Bolt rail tightening is completed.
- Sturdies Bay: Half of the BC ferry dock is condemned and closed. BC Ferries project date is expected to be amended.
- Port Washington: Railing, bolt rail, and structural bullets tightening on the airplane dock are completed.
- Lyall Harbour: Waves were observed coming over the dock. Repair to Float B is needed. To be completed and funded with provisional funds.

***Staff Jared Kelly left the meeting at 10:30 am**

7.2. Southern Gulf Islands Moorage Rates 2025

Discussion of moorage rate adjustment to account for inflation and keep pace with maintenance costs. The last moorage rate adjustment was in 2022. An increase of 10 – 20% to be brought forward in the budget for approval at the next meeting.

Discussion of reviewing the free moorage duration as set in the bylaw from 2 hours to 3 or 4 hours.

***Commissioner Davis left the meeting at 10:56 am**

8. COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

Commission membership vacancies will be advertised in community papers and online platforms for the communities to submit their nominations for consideration.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of concerns of moorage-user contracts not being signed and potential liability issues for the service.

Correspondence: Email from a community member requesting improvement to access for launching and retrieval of small boats and recreational water sports equipment at Barnacle Road, Swartz Bay Dock. The location is outside CRD's lease area. Staff to direct the community member to send the request to The District of North Saanich.

Request for movie copyright licence at Port Washington is being processed.

Discussion of the community's request for a covered bench to be installed at Piers Island.

10. MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING

MOVED by Director Brent, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Fenton,
That the meeting be closed in accordance with the Community Charter, Part 4, Division 3,
Personal Information Under Section 90 (1)(a) .

CARRIED

The Commission moved into closed session at 11:17 am.

11. RISE AND REPORT

The Commission rose from its closed session at 11:33 a.m. without report.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Director P. Brent, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Davis,
That the September 26, 2024 meeting be adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR

SECRETARY