

Government Administration Building, Box 202 133 Elgin Avenue Grand Cayman KY1-9000 **CAYMAN ISLANDS** 

t. (345) 244 2467 f. (345) 949 9343

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## Minutes for the meeting held on Thursday 2nd December 2021 Venue: PLC Conference Rm

MEMBERS PRESENT	
Woody DaCosta (WD)	Chairperson
Teddie Ebanks (TE)	Deputy Chair
Elsie Kynes (EK)	Member
Ezmie Smith (ES)	Member
Shane Edwards (SE)	Member
Shanna Myles (SM)	Member
Perry Powery	DCO T&T
Kathryn Dinspel-Powell (KDP)	DCO FSC
Sharon Roberts (SR)	Secretary PLC
Jon Hall (JH)	HOD L&SD

ABSENT	
Wilbur Welcome (WW)	ACO DAL
David Fawcitt (DF)	SPO DAL

INVITED	

KEY:	
ACO	Acting Chief Officer
AG	Attorney General
AGC	Attorney General's Chambers
CI	Chief Inspector
CIG	Cayman Islands Government
СО	Chief Officer
CPA	Central Planning Authority
DCI	Department of Commerce and Investment
DCO	Deputy Chief Officer
HOD	Head of Department
DoP	Department of Planning
L&SD	Lands and Survey Department
FSC	Ministry of Financial Services &Commerce
т&т	Ministry of Tourism& Transport
MOE	Ministry of Education
МОН	Ministry of Health and Wellness
PresL	The Prescription Law (2018 Revision)
PLC	Public Lands Commission
PLA	Public Lands Act (2021)
PLR	Public Lands Regulations (2021)
SPO	Senior Policy Officer

#### Meeting called to order.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:15am with a quorum of nine (9) members present.

#### 1.1 Welcome / Apologies & Nonattendances

- Chair thanked the members for attending and a warm welcome to all in attendance.

#### 2. Revision and confirmation of PLC meeting Minutes.

2.1 Minutes for the meeting of 11th November 2021. On motion made by TE and seconded by **EK** the minutes were accepted as presented.

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- 2.2 Minutes for the meeting of 18th November 2021. SE requested that the following amendment be reflected in the revised minutes Matters Arising
- SE expressed that in his opinion the PLC should do our endeavour best to maintain access on either end of the property.
  - o On motion made by **TE** and seconded by **EK** the revised minutes were accepted as presented.

#### 2.3 Minutes for the meeting of 25th November 2021.

Action Point -TE confirmed that further to KDP suggestions that the Archive be contacted to determine how paper and electronic recordings are to be handled and the length of retention. In addition it was suggested that the Chair reach out to the ACO on his recommendation on minutes keeping.

- The Chair mentioned for the PLC's consideration, the option of the 'United States Sunshine Law' be implemented as a method of allowing for public access and transparency during the meetings. The style of meeting would then allow for the minutes to be discarded.
- SE requested that the minutes be revisited as he wanted to reflect what he mentioned at the beginning at the meeting, which would give clarity as to why he resigned from the Commission later during that meeting.
- **PP** suggested that in light of the *FOI Act* the recordings of the meeting be made available for each member to access.
- The Chair mentioned that further to comments from SM on the matter, if there was a Portal in place it would allow for better electronic communication. ES drew to the Chair's attention the FIO Law. He further noted that all emails in regards to the business of the PLC was subject to the FOI Act.
- SE noted that he was concerned that there was no security caveat at the end of the emails being circulated amongst the Commissioners from the PLC email account. He suggested that the board consider implementing a security caveat for electronic correspondence in regards to confidentiality.
- SM ask that ACO WW be contacted and ask for an update on the communication platform previously discussed, to allow resolve the issue regarding a central point for the PLC to sharing electronic files and correspondence.
- **PP** noted his suggestion that the Ministry of Lands set the standards for the PLC and ensure they are in compliance with the Records and FOI Act.
- The Chair confirmed with the members that The Secretary would have the electronic recording file available at the end of each meeting for the commissioners to have a copy.
- ES referred to 3.1 and asked that her corrections be noted when making the necessary amendments of the meeting minutes.
- On motion made by **TE** and seconded by **EK** the minutes were deferred to the next meeting.



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#### 3 Matters Arising.

#### 3.1 West Bay Beach South - Royal Palms Summons

- Chair noted that the correspondence received from the CC Nigel Gayle should have been sent to the members prior to the meeting and he apologised for his over-sight on the matter. Upon his request, the secretary agreed to forward the email to all members. The Chair then outlined the contents of the correspondence.

#### 3.2 PLC Policy and Procedures

- The chair commented that the various documents were provided to all prior to the meeting and encourage that they be reviewed as time was of the essence noting that 3 vendor applications were already submitted pending the PLC's review and approval.
- SE noted that with regards to the application for Bonfire permits, he felt that the time-frame was unreasonable to expect that bonfire events could not be approved past 11pm.
- Further to discussion on the bonfire matter **Chief Inspector Prendergast** was invited to discuss the matter and provide clarity during the lengthy discussion.
- PP suggested that the commission consider designated areas for bonfires, which should help to contain the fire.
- The Chair read the PLC Regulations 2021. Section 16 subsections 1 through to 4.
- The CI gave an outline on Bonfire applications and the how the Regulation dealt with that item.
- The Chair raised the motion sub-section 12 of the PLC Regulation be removed, SE accepted the motion which was seconded by TE. The motion was carried by all present.
- Further to discussions The Chair suggested 2 licences be created which was unanimously agreed by all present.1) Barbequing and Fires Permit and 2) Bonfires Permit and include the guidelines as it relates to each subject.
- TE noted that 10 members made up the PLC, and asked it be reflected in the minutes going forward.
- Vendor and Non-Vendor Application the Chair asked that each person review for discussion. He noted that the Inspector had previously provided a report by email on how the facilities at the public beach was designed to prevent over-crowding by the vendors, and placement of the beach chairs available for rent.. The report also provided a list of approved vendors.
- JH indicated that he had to leave the meeting for another scheduled commitment at 11:55am
- SE raised the matter on Liability Insurance for Vendors he noted were requirement on the application form. He suggested maybe the Land and Sea Corp. may be an option for vendors, as they offer Liability and Indemnity Insurance for members, to operate their businesses.
- Further amendments were recommended with the wording of Section 3 by the **Chair** who asked for **PP** assistance with looking into the Land and Sea Corp. offerings.
- SE raised his concern regarding the Fees schedule of the PLC Regulations, which was acknowledged by the Chair, who then encouraged all to continue to consider the matter, and prepare suggestions for when the subject matter is presented for discussion.



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- The Chair concluded that as soon as the suggested changes are made that the amendments be forwarded to the Ministry for further review and acceptance. He noted that The Policy and Procedures document was a large document that needed time to review. It was agreed the matter be deferred to the next meeting.
- TE requested that the Commission consider scheduling an Island tour to visit all the beach accesses as a way of familiarizing themselves with the locations. It was agreed that the tour be schedule for early next year.
- **PP** noted the following with regards to the Vendor Non- Vendor Applications previously discussed:
  - o There was no reference for Email
  - o DOB should be spelt out to 'Date of Birth'
  - o Further to a meeting attended of the National Trust he wanted to advise the PLC, they were making a recommendation to the National Conservation Council to designate the Malportas Pond (Crown Land) in North Side as a protected area.
- PP noted that he advised the National Trust that in making such recommendation or any in the future, they should consult the PLC as a matter of process where Crown Land is concerned as there may be other considerations by the PLC taking place. Essentially, it is in everyone's best interest to consult and notify respective agencies when Crown Land is involved.

#### 4 Chief Inspector's update

- The CI confirmed that beach accesses clean-up project in conjunction with the NICE program was scheduled for registered access only, starting the next week.
- The new signs were produced with the incorrect colours. She confirmed the company had agreed to replace the signs with the correct ones.
- Various blocked accesses were raised by the commissioners for the CI to further investigate.
- The CI confirmed that the PLC Act dictates that the landowner is responsible for clearing any access that they have blocked.
- SE asked for confirmation that there were sufficient signs available for the Sister Islands. The CI confirm there were, and the clean-up program on the Sister Islands were also schedule to be carried out in the weeks to come. She agreed to contact Law enforcement in the Brac for assistance with resolving the matter previously raised by EK.
- PWD would be handing over Parks and Public Land agency to the Lands Ministry as planned, by the beginning of the New Year. She confirmed that the BOOK platform training for processing applications had begun and the portal should be accessible for the PLC to use as of Jan 2022.
- The CI mentioned that the Commission was being tasked with making the decision on how the public lands would be designated for the various public activities. In addition, what bookings were to be free for the public's use? The Chair asked that guidelines be made available to assist the commissioners with completing the task.
- Further to the discussion on infringements of beach accesses, the **Chair** agreed for the **CI** to send out warning letters to all land owners blocking registered accesses. **ES** suggested that the land register and index map be attached to each letter.



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- It was discussed that **CI** would prepare a draft letter and let the Commission see it before it was sent out for the comments from the commissioners prior to presenting to the land owners who may be in breach. She would include all the necessary proof of impediments in the event that the matter is submitted to the courts for enforcement.

#### 5 New Business

None

#### 6 Any other Business

#### 6.1 Red Spot Update -

- ES mentioned that she had circulated by email the drafted Memo regarding Red Spot for the commissioners to review and offer comments and or suggestions. TE confirmed that he read it and felt it was well written.

### 7 Scheduling of the next PLC meeting

The next PLC meeting tentatively set for the week of Dec 13<sup>th</sup>2021. If not, the next meeting would be January 13<sup>th</sup> 2022.

#### 8 Adjournment

The Chair extending warm wishes for the upcoming Cayman Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays and wished that all stay safe and well.

Meeting adjourned at 1pm.

Chairperson

Public Lands Commission