



WHISTLER

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF FOREST & WILDLAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 8, 2014, STARTING AT 3:00 P.M.

In the Flute Room

4325 Blackcomb Way, Whistler, BC V0N 1B4

PRESENT:

Meetings to Date: 1

John Hammons	1
Kurt Mueller	1
Ken Melamed, WORCA	1
Bryce Leigh, AWARE	1
Johnny Mikes	1

Recording Secretary, Heather Beresford	1
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REGRETS:

Peter Ackhurst, CCF	0
Rob Davis	0
Chair, Gordon McKeever	0
Bob Brett	0
Candace Rose-Taylor	0
Councilor Jayson Faulkner	0

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: FWAC recommends that staff consider sending a letter to Recreation Sites & Trails BC requesting the RMOW receive referrals on future recreation projects.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: FWAC recommends that RMOW consider contacting BC Parks to discuss a winter opening of Brandywine Park parking lot.

Ken Melamed approved as Chair for the meeting.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by JH
Seconded by BL

That the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee agenda of January 8, 2014.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by JH
Seconded by KM

That the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Regular the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee minutes of October 9, 2013.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

3. Updates

Council:

- Councilor Faulkner absent but FWAC acknowledged Council's refusal to rezone the Whistler International Campus. Suggestion that a future meeting, FWAC consider recommending that a permanent protection be placed on the property.
- Garibaldi Park Management Plan amendment still not released.
- Garibaldi at Squamish – province closed comment period on January 7, 2014. Water source is an outstanding issue.

AWARE:

- Still concern over approval process and route of new trail from RV Park to main Brandywine snowmobile trail.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: FWAC recommends that staff consider sending a letter to Recreation Sites & Trails BC requesting the RMOW receive referrals on future recreation projects.

WORCA:

- No new activity.

RMOW:

- Trail Planning Working Group – working on trail signs, preparing for 2014 work season
- RMOW hired Cascade Environmental Resource Group to develop an integrated plan for the CCF
- Old Forest Plan workshop held December 5. Draft OGMA's and EBM reserves will see further refinement through Integrated Plan process.
- Elect new FWAC chair – unanimous vote for Gordon McKeever to continue.

Cheakamus Community Forest:

- Peter away.
- Carbon project in verification phase.
- 2014 proposed harvesting plan being developed. Tom to present at February FWAC meeting.

4. Brandywine Provincial Park Parking Lot

A discussion was led by John Hammons and Kurt Mueller regarding the Brandywine Provincial Park parking lot winter access.

Brandywine Provincial Park parking lot is closed in winter. Concern raised that it is a popular tourist destination and it would be beneficial to corridor tourism that it be opened in the winter. Would require snow clearing, toilet maintenance and possible raising barrier heights at certain locations due to

snow depth.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: FWAC recommends that RMOW consider contacting BC Parks to discuss a winter opening of Brandywine Park parking lot.

5. Coast to Cascades Grizzly Bear Initiative

A presentation by Johnny Mikes was given regarding the Coast to Cascades Grizzly Bear Initiative and a discussion was held.

The initiative includes a variety of provincial conservation groups and First Nations concerned about the extirpation of grizzly bears in BC. Initiative focuses on southern grizzly bear range: south Chilcotin, Squamish Lillooet, Stein Nahatlatch, North Cascades, and Garibaldi Pitt. Sea to Sky LRMP called for recovery of grizzlies in its area.

There are 50,000 grizzlies in North America, and 15,000 in BC. Habitat fragmentation and access are big issues.

What can be done?

- Control access
- Stronger partnerships and planning with forestry on how to harvest in a way that supports berry production
- Stop killing them by hunting
- Protect particularly important habitat areas

Goal is to prepare a long term plan, and create a self-sustaining population.

6. Other Business

New/Other Business & Upcoming Agenda Items:

- CCF Draft 2014 harvesting plans - February
- Edna Creek Bridge – concern raised that FWAC opposed this bridge prior to other information coming to light. Add as agenda item to future meeting for discussion. (John H.)
- Brandywine03 – needs further discussion (John H.)

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by KM

That the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adjourn the January 8, 2014 meeting at 4:43 p.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR: Ken Melamed

