



WHISTLER

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF FOREST & WILDLAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, November 12, 2014, STARTING AT 3:00 P.M.
In the Piccolo Room
4325 Blackcomb Way, Whistler, BC V0N 1B4

PRESENT:

Meetings to Date: 10

Gordon McKeever, Chair	8
Ken Melamed, WORCA	9
John Hammons, M-A-L	8
Councillor Jayson Faulkner	4
Rob Davis, M-A-L	7
Kurt Mueller, M-A-L	4

REGRETS:

Candace Rose-Taylor, M-A-L	6
Bob Brett, M-A-L	2
Johnny Mikes, M-A-L	3
Peter Ackhurst, M-A-L	7
Bryce Leigh, AWARE	7

Recording Secretary, Heather Beresford	10
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ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Kurt Mueller
Seconded by Ken Melamed

That the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee agenda of November 12, 2014.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Ken Melamed
Seconded by Kurt Mueller

That the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Regular Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee minutes of October 8, 2014.

CARRIED

VERBAL REPORTS

3. Updates

AWARE:

- N/A

Council:

- Council held its last meeting on November 4. Jayson gave highlights of FWAC work over the term. Discussed concern that mountain bike trail planning needs more clarity on overall plan before further funds are distributed, and that hiking trails should receive more funds. Concerns about amount of use on WIF trails and conflicts between bikers and hikers.

WORCA:

- Discussed need for respect between users, and communicating rules to the public.
- In regard to hiking trails funding, suggested that ACC apply to RMOW in same way as WORCA. Perhaps RMI funds would be available.

RMOW:

- Wildfire Management:
 - Horstman Thinning – work scheduled for completion by end of November
 - Callaghan FSR fuel management project scheduled to start next week
 - Millar's Pond fuel thinning scheduled for 2015.
- Trail Planning Working Group – September 2014 update document circulated.

Cheakamus Community Forest:

- OGMA maps still being finalized by CCF subcommittee
- Integrated Mapping project: draft EBM reserves identified; next step is to use constraints/opportunities identified to develop a longer range harvesting plan for the CCF.
- Carbon project waiting approval from Treasury Board
- Harvesting to continue through autumn.

4. Spearhead Huts Project

Presentation and discussion led by Jayson Faulkner

Park Use Permit now in process and may be complete by end of December. If so, pouring concrete for foundations will happen next summer. Permit given for all three huts as a system.

Spearhead Traverse: ~35 km, 3 days, 3 huts (Pattison, MacBeth, Russett)
Objectives: high quality; low cost year round recreation opportunity; reduce adverse environmental impacts of increasing backcountry use.

35-40 ppl for each hut. \$35-40/person/night. Reservation system only. Guides and commercial use will be restricted. Tent platforms provided for free camping.

Huts will be owned and managed by ACC Whistler. Caretaker on site during busy times. ACC has enough money to build the first hut – Russett. Won't start other huts until all funds in place. All huts will use passive heating technology.

Phase I – hut on Russett will replace current hut. Scheduled to open July 2016. New trail from MacBeth.

Phase II – Mount MacBeth hut. New trail from Pattison.

Phase III – Pattison hut. New trail from Decker.

Future: new trail head at Fitz IPP site. New trails from Decker, Singing Pass.

Pattison hut has a Whistler Heli-Ski landing about 0.5 km away. Mountain goat range also nearby but no negative effects anticipated.

Total hut costs: \$1.7 – 2 million. Trail costs extra. Spearhead group not responsible for summer trails. Routes may be cairned by BC parks and let users wear them in.

FWAC thanks Jayson Faulkner for his service on the committee. Good luck in your future projects.

5. CCF Annual Report

FWAC reviewed the draft report onscreen and made further refinements, particularly to the conclusion/recommendations section. Final draft will be circulated to FWAC one more time before submission to CCF Board.

OTHER BUSINESS

Future Agenda Items:

- Alpine Trail Program (January – John's memo)
- Elect chair; approve annual meeting schedule (January)
- Get Bear Smart Society (January)
- Review 2014 harvesting summary & 2015 proposed harvesting (Feb)
- Approve final harvest plan and forward to CCF Board (March)

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Jayson Faulkner
Seconded by Ken Melamed

That the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adjourn the November 12, 2014 meeting at 5:00 p.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR: Gordon McKeever