



WHISTLER

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF FOREST & WILDLAND ADVISORY
COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, November 9, 2016, STARTING AT 3:00 P.M.
In the Flute Room
4325 Blackcomb Way, Whistler, BC V0N 1B4

File: 8221.03

Name	Meetings to Date: 9
Present:	
Member at Large, Arthur DeJong	9
Member at Large, Derek Bonin	8
WORCA, Todd Hellinga	1
AWARE, Claire Ruddy (since March)	6
Member at Large, Johnny Mikes	8
Councillor Steve Anderson	5
Member at Large, Trevor Burton (since June)	3
Mac Lowry (since November)	1
Colin Rankin (since November)	1
Kathi Bridge (since November)	1
Regrets:	
Member at Large, Candace Rose- Taylor	4
Heather Beresford	8
Recording Secretary	
Tina Symko	1
Guests: Tom Cole (presenter), Councillor Sue Maxwell	

Adoption of Agenda

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by J. Mikes
Seconded by C. Ruddy

That the agenda be amended to include review of steps regarding agenda item "FWAC priorities and tasks" to support introduction of new FWAC members. CARRIED

Moved by T. Hellinga

Seconded by D. Bonin

That the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee agenda for November 9, 2016.

CARRIED

Adoption of Minutes

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by D. Bonin
Seconded by T. Hellinga

That the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee minutes for October 12, 2016.

CARRIED

Welcome to new members

New members include: Colin Rankin, Kathi Bridge, Mac Lowry and Todd Hellinga.

Roundtable introductions by all FWAC members.

Verbal Reports

Council:

- Council received FWAC minutes at the last Council meeting with no discussion.
- Short discussion around improvements to reporting process between FWAC and Council.

AWARE:

- Observed Trails Planning Working Group meeting which included discussion of the following items of interest to FWAC:
 - Proposed camping site at Camp Lake – needs more discussion/review from FWAC
 - Long-term planning for trail network – the opportunity for FWAC to review and comment on a long-term comprehensive plan will be more effective than responding to short-term, one-off proposals
 - Different groups responsible for managing different trails; concern that this may result in lack of cohesive and comprehensive vision. Collaboration is needed. Discussion around how FWAC may be able to urge a more collaborative approach to trail development among all groups?
 - AWARE is a member of the Coast to Cascades Grizzly Bear Initiative and attended a symposium on November 8 around grizzly bear recovery in the Sea to Sky Corridor.

WORCA:

- Most of the WORCA update may be found in the Trails Planning Working Group report.
- Most trail development goals have been met for the year.

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- Success with recreational trail development through RMWO fee for service agreement.
- Proposal to build a trail connecting the Whistler Interpretive Forest and Cheakamus Lake, in support of enhancing trails between key destination areas.
- Discussion around how FWAC can encourage collaborative efforts regarding trail planning/development and other relevant land use initiatives.

RMOW:

- Trail Planning Working Group newsletter was circulated by email.
- Brio fuel thinning project will be resumed in spring 2017.
- RMOW applied to Forest Enhancement Society for funding to complete the Callaghan FSR and Wedge 08 landscape fuel break project. It was returned with a request for more information and resubmitted on November 4. It is unknown when an announcement will be made if our application is successful. RMOW has funding to continue the work on the Callaghan FSR regardless and is working with the CCF to carry that on this fall.
- Blackwell & Associates will have a draft Comprehensive Wildfire Strategy ready by end of November. The strategy combines the Community Wildfire Protection Plan and the landscape fuel break plan into one plan with a 10-year time line. Will be presented to Council in the new year. FWAC will have opportunity to review likely in January or February.

Cheakamus Community Forest:

- Tom Cole here today to discuss the 2017 harvesting plans and the draft Access Management Plan
- Next Board meeting on November 23
- Open house on December 7 at conference centre. 4:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. to address Access Management Plan and 2017 harvest plans.

K. Bridge arrived at 3:25 p.m.

T. Cole arrived at 3:27 p.m.

Presentation by Tom Cole – CCF 2017 harvesting plans

T. Cole reviewed CCF 2017 harvest plans with the group (summary sheet handout).

- Discussion re: R-02 and R-04 – will build road shortly at Wedge 02 area. First time attempting winter harvest operations.
- Discussion re: AWARE spotted some flagging tape that appeared to cross the Comfortably Numb trail.

ACTION: T. Cole will follow up to ensure harvest area is flagged correctly (i.e. not across trail and respecting specific no harvest zones).

- FWAC requested access to review all relevant maps.

ACTION: H. Beresford to circulate harvest plan summary sheet and relevant maps to FWAC.

A. *Dejong arrived at 3:50 p.m.*

- Discussion re: Powder-07 – motorized vs. non-motorized zones, commercial vs. public. J. Mikes expressed concern to not create unintended consequences of recreational over-use. Potential for CCF to control access at Edna Creek bridge.
- Discussion re: approach to long-term road planning in certain areas and how this relates to recreation access. T. Cole confirmed that harvest plans, timing and related roads are considered in the draft Access Management Plan. The drivers for locations and types of road are primarily industrial (i.e. forestry). Access can be restricted after harvesting if desired.
- Discussion re: R-13 – Whistler Olympic Park, CWA areas. Harvesting planned for June 2017. Considering alternate access routes. CCF has yet to hear back from Whistler Olympic Park.
- Discussion re: Cheak-15 post-harvest access. Concerns about opening up too much access to Jane/Jake Lakes.
- Discussion re: Cheak-02 “Road Ahead” program. Questions around visible cuts from various sightlines and potential impacts around the Cheakamus Crossing neighbourhood. T. Cole explained that benched, small openings would limit such potential impacts.
- Discussion re: landscape level fuel reduction plans. New FWAC members would benefit from overview of how wildfire reduction plans related to CCF harvest plans. T. Cole referenced May 2016 presentation to FWAC on fuel reduction – technology failed.

ACTION: H. Beresford to circulate the fuel reduction PPT to FWAC.

ACTION: FWAC to review CCF 2017 harvest planning documents/maps and provide input at next meeting.

Presentation by Tom Cole – CCF draft Access Management Plan

Tom Cole introduced the draft CCF Access Management Plan.

- Draft plan will be finished within the next two weeks.
- Focused on the need to coordinate access. CCF’s objective with this plan is to take the lead on access coordination with respect to existing/new forestry road systems and which organization/group is responsible for which roads.
- The plan also aims to help increase efficiencies for all road managers (E.g. if machinery is operating around areas where quick road improvements are needed, could be helpful).
- Brief review of road tenure maps. Discussion around clarifying map legend and trail categories.
- Discussion re: FWAC wants to review and provide input on the plan prior to the December 7 open house. Timing is rushed. FWAC requested that the open house be delayed to provide more time. S. Maxwell responded as doubtful.

ACTION: H. Beresford will circulate the CCF 2016 Access Management Plan documents to FWAC for review.

ACTION: FWAC subcommittee will review and provide input on behalf of FWAC prior to the open house (with time for CCF to make revisions as appropriate).

ACTION: FWAC will also attend the open house and provide additional feedback after reviewing public feedback.

FWAC Priorities & Tasks

A short discussion led by C. Ruddy regarding the FWAC priorities and tasks for 2017 and future.

ACTION: H. Beresford will circulate the summary document to FWAC for detailed review and place this item on the agenda for the next meeting.

Tracking FWAC Recommendations to Council

C. Ruddy postponed this item to the next meeting, as time was limited.

ACTION: H. Beresford to add this item to the next meeting agenda.

October 27 Field Trip Debrief

A short discussion led by C. Ruddy on the notes from the October 27 FWAC field trip.

- D. Bonin commented that the report section on the road was too brief. A significant, expensive aspect of this project was not reflected adequately in the report.
- Discussion re: what was the community benefit associated with this project?
- FWAC requests that more detailed information on the road be included in this report (E.g. cost, length, access options, benefits, plans).

ACTION: FWAC members to review the debrief report and provide comments to H. Beresford by November 16.

Other Business

OTHER BUSINESS

- December FWAC meeting: TBD
- December: FWAC Holiday Cheer gathering – the group suggested a date/time: after the CCF open house on December 7.

ACTION: H. Beresford to send a Doodle Poll re: dates/times for Holiday Cheer gathering.

- **December 7, 2016: Cheakamus Community Forest Open House, 4:30 – 7:00 p.m at Whistler Conference Centre**

- January: Approve final harvest plan and forward to CCF Board.

Future Agenda Items:

- December: FWAC Recommendations Review
- December: Draft CCF 2017 harvesting plans
- December meeting to be confirmed based on need
- January: Bob Cunneyworth, Compliance & Enforcement
- January: Elect chair for 2017; approve final CCF harvest plan and send comments to Board

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by J. Mikes. Seconded by D. Bonin.

That the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adjourn the November 9, 2016 meeting at 5:02 p.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR: C. Ruddy

RECORDING SECRETARY: Tina Symko