



# WHISTLER

## MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING OF FOREST & WILDLAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2017, STARTING AT 3:00 P.M.

In the Flute Room

4325 Blackcomb Way, Whistler, BC V0N 1B4

File: 8221.03

Name	Meetings to Date: 7
<b>Present:</b>	
AWARE, Claire Ruddy, Chair	5
Member at Large, Derek Bonin	7
Member at Large, Arthur DeJong	6
Member at Large, Mac Lowry	3
Member at Large, Candace Rose-Taylor	3
Member at Large, Trevor Burton	5
Member at Large, Colin Rankin	5
WORCA, Todd Hellinga	4
<b>Regrets:</b>	
Member at Large, Johnny Mikes	5
Member at Large, Kathi Bridge	4
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	
Heather Beresford	7

#### Adoption of Agenda

#### ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by T. Hellinga  
Seconded by T. Burton

**That** the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee agenda for July 12, 2017.

CARRIED

#### Adoption of Minutes

#### ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by T. Hellinga  
Seconded by C. Rose-Taylor

**That** the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee minutes for June 14, 2017.

CARRIED

## Verbal Reports

### Council:

- FWAC extends its condolences to the Janyk family at the passing of Councillor Andree Janyk.

### AWARE

- Step Into Nature program underway

### WORCA:

- Maintenance program ongoing and processing outstanding authorizations
- Jane Lakes needs cooperative planning with a focus on protecting the environment. RMOW 3 year fee-for-service agreement includes improving trails around Jane Lakes.
- Wedge logging and Comfortably Numb trail – MTB riders not commenting negatively to WORCA
- Recent MTB report pointed to significant economic impact of the sport in Whistler. Additional funding to WORCA would help with increasing administration and planning duties.

### RMOW:

- Brio site completed
- Callaghan FSR, Wedge, Alpine Meadows and CCF#5 fuel thinning projects scheduled for autumn 2017
- Firesmart public program progressing.
- Blackcomb wildfire on July 2 – quick response controlled it quickly. Started by a squatter. More people are squatting around the valley due to housing and affordability challenges.

### MOTION

Moved by T. Hellinga

Seconded by C. Ruddy

**That** the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee recommends the RMOW investigate establishing a temporary camping or housing area to reduce uncontrolled camping that is a wildfire risk to the community.

CARRIED

## CCF Annual Report

Presentation by H. Beresford regarding the 2016 CCF Annual Report.

FWAC reviewed the draft previously circulated.  
Comments made within draft document.

**ACTION:** Circulate revised draft by email, finalize and send to CCF Board.

Other Business

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Presentation by C. Ruddy on behalf of Coast to Cascades Grizzly Bear Initiative (GBI) regarding proposed camping on Sproatt alpine trails.

- GBI met with RMOW Parks Operations to discuss concerns regarding proposal to provide alpine camping on Sproatt trails within known grizzly bear habitat.
- GBI sent email letter with recommendations to RMOW Parks Operations and copied FWAC and Whistler Bear Advisory Committee (WBAC).
- Grizzly bear populations near Whistler continue to be considered as threatened so it is important that their recovery not be compromised so the location of recreation infrastructure is important.
- Management aspects to consider if camping is provided in the alpine:
  - Seek advice from bear experts regarding location of camping sites that considers bear food sources and movements
  - Best practices will be required both in terms of infrastructure (eg. food caches, possible solar-powered electric bear fencing) and management of grey water, garbage and toilets.
  - Bear education will be necessary and provided through partners, social media and trail signs.
  - Recommend that RMOW and partners seek expert advice regarding potential wildlife issues at the initial planning stage
- Trail Planning Working Group (TPWG) meets twice yearly with stakeholders to discuss trails, but coordinated planning is not as strong a focus as it was.
- Discussed opportunity for a FWAC member to sit on the TPWG. The WBAC made such a motion at its July 12 meeting.

**MOTION**

Moved by T. Hellinga

Seconded by C. Rose-Taylor

**That** the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee recommends that if camping is developed on the Sproatt alpine trails, the RMOW include the recommendations in the Coast to Cascades Grizzly Bear Initiative letter.

CARRIED

**MOTION**

Moved by T. Hellinga

Seconded by C. Ruddy

**That** the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee recommends that a FWAC member participate on the Trail Planning Working Group.

CARRIED

**Future Agenda Items:**

- Schedule presentation by Bob Cunneyworth, FLNRO Compliance and Enforcement Officer for September

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by D. Bonin

**That** the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adjourn the July 12, 2017 meeting at 5:10 p.m.

CARRIED

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CHAIR: C. Ruddy

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RECORDING SECRETARY: H. Beresford