



WHISTLER

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF LIQUOR LICENSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2014, STARTING AT 8:45 A.M.

In the Flute Room at Whistler Municipal Hall
4325 Blackcomb Way, Whistler, BC V0N 1B4

PRESENT:

Accommodation Sector Representative, Colin Hedderson
Food & Beverage Sector Representative – Nightclubs, Terry Clark
Food & Beverage Sector Representative – Pubs/Bars, Chair, Mike Varrin
Food & Beverage Sector Representative – Restaurants, Vice-chair, Brenton
Smith
Public Safety Representative, RCMP, Rob Knapton
Whistler Community Services Society Representative, Jackie Dickinson
Whistler Fire Rescue Service (WFRS) Representative, Chris Nelson
Councillor, John Grills
RMOW Staff Representative, Secretary, Frank Savage
RMOW Senior Planner, Jake Belobaba
Recording Secretary, Kay Chow
Administrative Assistant, Shannon Perry

REGRETS:

Liquor Control and Licensing Branch (LCLB) Inspector, Holly Glenn

Call to Order

Mike Varrin called the meeting to order 8:48 a.m.

Round table introductions.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by R. Knapton

Seconded by C. Hedderson

That the Liquor License Advisory Committee adopt the Liquor License
Advisory Committee agenda of June 5, 2014.

CARRIED.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by B. Smith

Seconded by T. Clark

That the Liquor License Advisory Committee adopt the Regular Liquor
License Advisory Committee minutes of May 1, 2014.

CARRIED.

COUNCIL UPDATE

Councillor Grills extended condolences to the RCMP regarding the loss of

three of their members who died in the line of duty and a speedy recovery to the two members injured in the line of duty in Moncton, NB. Council update: Longhorn patio application approved; consider a pre-approval process for future development permit applications involving increased license capacities; GLC application approved; SOL for Tough Mudder Expo & Beer Garden approved; OCP litigation, B.C. Supreme Court ruled in favour of the petitioner, First Nations; Mayor Wilhelm-Morden announced that she will be seeking another term as mayor of Whistler.

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Retail Liquor Sales at
Festivals and Special
Events
File No. RZ1090

Frank Savage advised on the following.

1. Recommendation # 31 from the 2013 BC Liquor Policy Review would permit BC liquor manufacturers to offer products for sample and sale at temporary offsite locations; e.g. farmers' markets.
2. Recommendation # 32 would allow patrons to purchase liquor showcased at festivals or competitions.
3. March 2014 Provincial Government indicated that these two recommendations (among several others) are high priority for implementation; LCLB policy preparation under way.
4. Enabling legislation Bill 15 has received Royal Assent.
5. Recommendation # 31 & 32 will require further LCLB regulations and policy implementation. They are not currently in force, although this may happen in the near future.
6. The Upper Village Farmers Market have indicated that they are interested in providing sampling and sales of BC liquor product as soon as it is permitted.
7. The Whistler Beer Festival have not requested offsite sales. Retail sales may be a future consideration; recommendation # 32 would enable this.

Mike Kirkegaard, Director of Planning, RMOW entered the meeting at 8:56 a.m.

8. Current municipal zoning bylaw restricts sale of packaged liquor for offsite consumption to nine locations within Whistler.
9. To enable these two recommendations the municipal Planning Dept. introduced amendments on May 20, 2014 to the Zoning Bylaw and the Business Regulation Bylaw to permit retail sale of packaged liquor at the Upper Village Stroll and Whistler Olympic Plaza as part of a festival or special event.
10. Public Hearing scheduled July 2, 2014.
11. Municipal Council requests LLAC comments.

Jake Belobaba advised on the following.

12. The review recommendations are very specific, must be BC liquor product, events such as farmers markets.
13. The Whistler Zoning Bylaw and Business Regulation Bylaw require amendments because retail liquor sales are currently spot zoned to nine sites. The Business Regulation Bylaw prohibits retail sales and soliciting of sales in any public place. Core event areas are currently zoned for

different permitted land uses.

14. Proposed Zoning Bylaw amendments:
 - i. Create a definition for “outdoor assembly”.
 - ii. Allow retail sales of packaged liquor as an auxiliary use to approved outdoor assembly uses in Whistler Olympic Plaza and the Upper Village Stroll.
15. Proposed Business Regulation Bylaw amendments:
 - i. Allow limited sale of any retail good when done in conjunction with a special event.
 - ii. Restrict packaged liquor sales to the Upper Village Stroll and Whistler Olympic Plaza.
16. Colour map of designated core commercial area, with two highlighted sites for special events permitting retail liquor sales, Whistler Olympic Plaza and Upper Village Stroll.
17. Proposed amendments are supportive of existing policy as outlined in OCP and Whistler 2020. This type of use does not conflict with the goals for promotion of festivals and events such as farmers’ markets.
18. Community benefits; enhances promotion of festivals and events.
19. Council consideration given May 20, 2014.
20. The July 2, 2014 Public Hearing date may change pending other issues.
21. Staff will review further when regulation changes are implemented by the Province.

LLAC Member Questions and Comments

1. Restaurant Sector: what are the impacts or benefits to the Blackcomb Liquor Store? What are the benefits of the Sunday and Wednesday Farmers’ Market? Is there an offset because the BC Liquor Stores are closed on Sundays? Is there an opportunity for the Blackcomb Liquor Store to get involved? Staff responded that there is a working relationship between the Farmers’ Market manager and the Blackcomb Liquor Store.
2. Accommodation Sector: applaud proactive approach given the vague timeline; great to see the motion moving forward and municipal preparation.
3. Councillor: Consider including trade events and wine festivals such as Cornucopia and the Whistler/Blackcomb Foundation wine tasting fundraiser at this time. The word “sample” needs further definition. The Wednesday afternoon Upper Village Farmers Market is a very minor event compared to the Sunday event which is very busy and full, it’s not likely that there will be any liquor sampling occurring on Wednesday.
4. Nightclub Sector: if the Public Hearing for the bylaw amendments is scheduled for July 2, when will they be approved? Possibly that evening or at the next Council meeting pending Provincial approvals.
5. Pub Sector: recommendation # 31 specifies BC liquor product; does recommendation # 32 specify BC liquor product? Would it be open to any liquor product? It is not specified in # 32, this would allow liquor products from other jurisdictions to be part of festivals and competitions.
6. Pub Sector: is the entire Farmers’ Market area a red line area or is it a red line specific to the sample booth? For example can a patron obtain a sample from in front of the Chateau and then walk down the stroll while sipping the sample? The tasting will be subject to Provincial regulations, which may be similar to winery tastings, you cannot leave the premises. Since there really aren’t any premises, can you wander around the

market and not leave the property? The provincial regulations and policies will likely establish limitations and restrictions, sampling will most likely be confined to the booth.

7. RCMP: echo Councillor's comments to consider including the Conference Centre for Cornucopia event. Staff responded that future bylaw amendments could include spot zoning.
8. Restaurant Sector: wine manufacturers participating in Cornucopia have expressed excitement with these proposed changes as there has been general declining interest; the current regulations are quite stifling.
9. RMOW: Cornucopia organizers have commented that the new liquor regulations pertaining to festivals and competitions would enhance the value of the Cornucopia wine festival, if the wine manufacturers are permitted to sell their product at the event.
10. Pub Sector comment: Both these changes reflect the unique environment of the resort municipality; having local regional products tie into the experience will be a real benefit to the community; a great initiative.
11. There was further discussion regarding the merits of including other potential locations such as the Conference Centre in the proposed bylaw amendment, which could support events such as Cornucopia.

Moved by F. Savage
Seconded by B. Smith

That the Liquor License Advisory Committee endorse the bylaw changes as proposed with the expectation that RMOW regulations will be reviewed again after the Province has formally amended the liquor regulations.

CARRIED.

Mike Kirkegaard left the meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Update: Liquor Policy
Review Proposed
Changes

Frank Savage advised on the following.

1. Bill 15: The Liquor Control and Licensing Amendment Act, 2014 received Royal Assent on May 29, 2014.
2. Two minor changes took effect, only one applicable to Whistler resort regarding off-site liquor storage.
3. Other proposed changes requiring LCLB regulations before coming into force:
 - Allowing liquor sales in grocery stores.
 - Allowing happy hours.
 - Permitting sales of wine, beer and spirits at off-site retail locations such as farmers markets.
 - Allowing patrons to buy bottles of liquor to take home that are showcased at festivals or competitions.
 - Streamlining the process for facilities such as ski hills and golf courses to temporarily extend their licensed area to another part of their property.
 - Allowing wineries, breweries and distilleries to set up low risk tasting venues at their manufacturing site.
 - Permitting wineries, breweries and distilleries to offer patrons liquor products that they did not produce.

- Expanding Serving It Right.
- 4. Further updates can be obtained from the LCLB website
<http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/lclb/>.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 3, 2014.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by M. Varrin

That the Liquor License Advisory Committee adjourn the June 5, 2014 committee meeting at 9:28 a.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR: Mike Varrin

SECRETARY: Frank Savage