

WHISTLER

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF WHISTLER BEAR ADVISORY COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2022, STARTING AT 8:30 A.M.

ZOOM

PRESENT	Mtgs. YTD (2)
Co-Chair, Claire Ruddy, Coast to Cascades Grizzly Bear Initiative/AWARE	2
Arthur DeJong, Council	2
Adrian Collum sitting in for Juan Pineda, RMOW Bylaw Services	2
Ivana Minic-Lukac, Whistler Wildlife Protection Group	2
Taylor Green, Member at Large	1
Recording Secretary, Hillary Williamson sitting in for Tara Schaufele	2
REGRETS	
Brittany Mueller, BC Conservation Officer Service	1
Adrien Baudouin, Member at Large	
Denise Imbeau, Carney's Waste Systems	
Simon Gravel, BC Conservation Officer Service	
Sgt. Rob Knapton, RCMP	

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by A. DeJong Seconded by I. Minic-Lukac

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee Agenda of March 9, 2022.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by A. DeJong Seconded by I. Minic-Lukac

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Regular Whistler Bear Advisory Committee Minutes of February 9, 2022.

MINUTES
Regular Whistler Bear Advisory Committee Meeting
March 9, 2022
Page 2

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Updates

RMOW Bylaw Services

A presentation by A. Collum was given regarding RMOW Bylaw Services activities and a discussion was held.

- 3 calls for service regarding unsecured garbage. Education was provided and warning notices were issued.
- Expecting a busy spring, bylaw will focus on early season education.

Whistler Blackcomb

A presentation by A. DeJong was given regarding Whistler Blackcomb activities and a discussion was held.

- No bear movement has been reported on Whistler or Blackcomb mountains
- Whistler Blackcomb is thinking of starting up bear viewing tours for summer of 2022. Bear viewing tours provides great information on bear movement in the area.

AWARE/C2C

A presentation by C. Ruddy was given regarding AWARE activities and a discussion was held.

- AWARE recently hired two new core team members, currently in the process of training and re-structuring in preparation for the 2022 season.
- AWARE Zero Waste Stations will be back in Whistler parks for 2022.
 Good opportunity to include active bear education.
 - RMOW has interpretive posters with bear-related information and tips, investigate how these could be placed around zero waste stations.
- No update for Coast to Cascades Grizzly Bear Initiative.

RMOW Environmental Stewardship

A presentation by H. Williamson was given regarding RMOW Environmental Stewardship activities and a discussion was held.

- Bear Smart Program Assistant position will be posted at the end of March, position will start at the end of April.
- Conversations have continued between COS, RMOW and Riverside Campground Manager. Riverside management is moving forward with several strategies suggested in 2021. An additional meeting will be held on March 24 to discuss additional strategies to reduce human-bear conflict at the site.

Whistler Wildlife Protection Group

A presentation by I. Minic-Lukac was given regarding Whistler Wildlife Protection Group activities and a discussion was held.

- Received report of bear sighting just below Blackcomb base 2.
- Good time to start thinking about issuing communications alerting the public to the start of bear season. Recommend including an advertisement in the Pique in order to reach a broader audience.

MINUTES
Regular Whistler Bear Advisory Committee Meeting
March 9, 2022
Page 3

ACTION ITEMS

- Add review of RMOW Bear Smart Communications plan to April WBAC Agenda
- RMOW to consider putting an advertisement in the Pique to alert the public to the start of bear season.
- RMOW to investigate how interpretive posters could be added to Zero Waste stations.

OTHER BUSINESS

Taylor Green- New Member at Large

Introduction of newly elected Member at Large, Taylor Green. Taylor has extensive experience working in bear conservation and management. She has worked as a Bear viewing guide since 2014. She also works with the Grizzly Bear Foundation which is a non-profit focused on encouraging human-bear coexistence.

MOTION TO TERMINATE

Moved by A. DeJong Seconded by T. Green

That the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee Meeting of March 9, 2022 be terminated at 8:57 a.m.

Chair, Claire Ruddy

Recording Secretary, Hillary Williamson