



MINUTES

WHISTLER

ZERO WASTE SELECT COMMITTEE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2020, STARTING AT 1:00 P.M.

Flute Room at Municipal Hall
4325 Blackcomb Way, Whistler, BC V8E 0X5

PRESENT:

Cathy Jewett, RMOW Council
Arthur De Jong, RMOW Council
Anita Auer, Crystal Lodge
Tom McColm, Canadian Home Builders Association
Sue Maxwell, Resident at large
Claire Ruddy, AWARE
Lori Pyne, Whistler Community Services Society
Allana Williams, Whistler Blackcomb/Vail Resorts
Thea Zerbe, Whistler Blackcomb/Vail Resorts
Andrew Tucker, RMOW
Lauren Harrison, RMOW
Ambre Marquie, RMOW
Cheeying Ho, Facilitator

REGRETS

Kerren Bottay, Whistler Restaurant Association
Marie-Lou LeBlanc, SLRD

Cathy Jewett recognized that the Meeting is being held on the traditional territories of the Lil'wat Nation and the Squamish Nation.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as circulated. Motion approved by Arthur DeJong and seconded by Claire Ruddy.

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the December 13, 2019 were approved as circulated. Motion approved by Lori Pyne and seconded by Sue Maxwell.

AGENDA

- Welcome
- Review of agenda and objectives
- Review the Action Plan framework

- Review and identify all desired outcomes
- Presentation on existing work on zero waste actions
- Review all previously identified actions; identify any missing actions
- Discuss new / revised actions
- Next steps

MEETING OBJECTIVES

- Agree upon framework of action plan
- Identify set of desired outcomes for each focus area
- Review all previously identified actions
- Identify missing actions

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Councilor C. Jewett, Committee Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their participation on the Committee.

C. Ho reviewed the agenda and objectives and led a round of introductions.

C. Ho led the discussion advising that the committee will be meeting in April, June, and September for a total of 5 meetings. However, a subcommittee meeting with stakeholders may be required in between these meetings to review proposed actions. It was agreed that subcommittee meetings will be held between Committee meetings #3 and #4.

Public engagement will be proposed at some stage.

ACTION PLAN FRAMEWORK

One of the guiding principles is to use the zero waste hierarchy in the creation of the action plan.

Focus areas used will be construction and demolition, food and packaging, consumer products and packaging and large consumer products and packaging.

Each focus area will have actions organized by strategies: education, programs, infrastructures and policies / bylaws.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

C. Ho explained that, before jumping into actions, it is important to know 'where we want to go,' i.e. the "what" we want to achieve, not the "how" yet. Desired outcomes are the descriptions of success if we've achieved our zero waste goal.

The committee members worked in groups of 3 to review the refined desired outcome statements from the last meeting. Additional desired outcomes identified included:

Construction and Demolition

- Less material leftover
- Minimal use of toxins in materials
- Less packaging
- Maximized recycled and reclaimed materials
- Materials are recyclable, separable and reusable

Food

- No organics in landfill
- No packaging for food products/naked food
- Minimal food waste – all pre and post consumer
- Zero contamination in food leftovers and packaging
- People are consuming in place (at cafes/restaurants) – Euro style
- All community members are aware/engaged

Consumer products and packaging

- Producers are responsible for full life span of products
- Need for ownership of products is reduced
- Products have a longer useful longevity/lifecycle

Large consumer products and packaging

- Reduced packaging
- Extended useful longevity of products
- Producers are responsible for all products
- Robust collection system for re-use and recycling
- All packaging has high value and is easily reusable or recyclable
- Product design helps reduce need for packaging

PRESENTATION ON EXISTING WORK ON ZERO WASTE ACTIONS

Andrew Tucker provided an overview of the current depots and what waste is being managed:

Residential Nesters:

- This location has regional recycling and is involved in Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs for bulk metal, print and packaging
- Landfill waste
- Food scraps
- Yard waste
- Whistler Community Services Society (WCSS) - the Reuse It Centre

Residential Function Junction:

- This location has Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs for print and packaging
- Landfill waste
- Food scraps
- Yard waste
- Whistler Community Services Society (WCSS) - the Re-Built Centre

Transfer Station Callaghan:

- Industrial Commercial and Institutional (ICI), and Material Recovery Facility (MFR) for commercial hauling contracts
 - Landfill Waste
 - Plastic Containers
 - MFR EPR cardboard and mixed paper
- General Drop off
 - Gypsum (Drywall)
 - Landfill waste
 - Yard waste
 - Bulky appliances and furniture
 - Metal
 - Construction and demolition

Compost Facility:

- Processes bio-solids and sometimes food scrapes

Attendants in all facilities are able to help, advice and educate the residents. Policies are in place to help toward a zero waste community.

- A consolidated Business license Bylaw Outreach has been implemented.
- A new solid waste bylaw was introduced and replaced the garbage disposal and wildlife attractant bylaw.
- Municipal ticketing information Bylaw Zoning Amendment Bylaw

Some actions are also taking place throughout the community:

- ICI and MFR workshops held to educate stakeholders
- Ongoing promotion of EPR in the community
- Solid waste educational sessions held in local schools
- Ongoing social media communication – targets policy announcements and seasonal events
- Ongoing material development to post on Whistler.ca
- Full time yard waste collection at the depots
- Christmas tree collection at the depots
- Region wide branding
- SLRD –SWRMP Monitoring Advisory Committee
- SLRD Residual Waste Management Working Group
- Mayor's letter to lobby for policy change
- Streetscape pilot
- AWARE - zero waste station farmers' market and events
- Repair cafés

Committee members shared new zero waste initiatives their organizations are taking on:

- True zero waste certification of all Whistler Blackcomb restaurants (February 2021)
- Implementation of bulk amenities (eliminating of single use amenities) – Crystal Lodge
- Separating recyclable materials on site – TM Builders
- Zero Waste Committee – RMOW
- Grocery store food/packaging workshops – AWARE
- HD Ebikes to replace MT trucks – Whistler Blackcomb

- Climate Caucus Zero Waste/Circular Economy working group – Sue Maxwell
- Composting in parks/streetscape project – RMOW
- Greeter at Re-Use it Centre – education around rethinking; clean garbage room - WCSS

REVIEW ALL PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED ACTIONS; IDENTIFY ANY MISSING ACTIONS

Committee members were asked to individually, then in small groups, identify action ideas and potential initiatives for each focus area: Construction and demolition, food and packaging, consumer products and packaging, large consumer products, and a general category. C. Ho indicated that she would compile all of the action ideas from the meeting and send to the Committee members to review and add any additional ideas for the next meeting.

A motion was passed and carried to support the grant application for the regional food recovery and distribution project with all members in favor. *Moved by Arthur DeJong and seconded by Sue Maxwell.*

NEXT STEPS

- Submit UBCM grant application for regional food recovery and distribution project
- Review and refine all actions ideas in preparation to the next meeting
- Develop criteria for prioritizing
- Start drafting action plan
- Next meeting in April

C. Jewett, A. Tucker and C. Ho thanked everyone for their participation and input at the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4pm. *Motion to adjourn the meeting moved by Arthur DeJong and seconded by Andrew Tucker.*

Chair, Cathy Jewett