



WHISTLER

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING OF WHISTLER BEAR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

JANUARY 11, 2017, STARTING AT 8:30 A.M.

**At Decker Room
RMOW Public Works Yard**

PRESENT:

Co-Chair, RMOW, H. Beresford
Conservation Officer Service, S. Gravel
RMOW Bylaw Services, T. Lunn
RMOW Councillor J. Ford
Carney's Waste Systems, P. Kindree

Public:

Whistler Wildlife Protection Group, I. Minic-Lukac
Ellie Archer
Wind River Bear Institute, Lori Homstol

REGRETS:

Co-Chair, Get Bear Smart, S. Dolson
RCMP. Sgt. R. Knapton
AWARE/C2C Grizzly Bear Initiative, C. Ruddy
Whistler Blackcomb, A. DeJong
Member at Large, C. Hedderson

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by J. Ford
Seconded by L. Homstol

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee agenda of January 11, 2017.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by J. Ford
Seconded by T. Lunn

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Regular Whistler Bear Advisory Committee minutes of December 14, 2016.

CARRIED

Conservation
Officer Service

A discussion led by Sgt. S. Gravel regarding COS activities.

- S. Gravel has returned as sergeant for Sea to Sky District

- B. Mueller still on light duty, but anticipate being back to full staffing levels by March.
- Bears quiet but numerous bobcat reports.
- Some media outreach concerning securing attractants against all wildlife.
- COS role with large special events (Ironman, Pemberton Festival). COS works with organizer and SLRD to ensure provincial regulations are followed. May be hired by organizer to provide extra service where organizer cannot do so with its own resources. Pemberton Festival also used Wind River Bear Institute team to patrol site. The use of dogs raises issues with the Wildlife Act regarding harassing wildlife. Needs strict conditions applied. Discussed possibility of adjusting Ironman route to avoid bear habitat but likely not possible.

Bylaw Services A discussion led by T. Lunn regarding RMOW Bylaw Services activities.

- No calls since last meeting

Carney's Update A discussion led by P. Kindree regarding Carney's Waste Services activities.

- Nesters compactor site was overwhelmed at times during Christmas holidays. Recommending to RMOW that service be increased to daily in future. Entire valley experienced increased demand for waste management services. Traffic and snow slowed down service.
- A bobcat has been sighted inside Callaghan transfer station grounds. Will report to COS if spotted again.

RMOW Update A discussion led by H. Beresford regarding RMOW activities.

- Advertised for Community Member-at-Large. Council will make decision January 24.
- H. Beresford and A. Tucker, Solid Waste and Transportation Manager, developing system for improving efficiency and tracking contractors who bring residential waste to compactor sites.
- WBAC reviewed document tracking how its comments on the draft Garbage Disposal and Wildlife Attractants bylaw have been incorporated so far. See Appendix A.
- Bear Response Plan – RMOW and COS committed to completing as soon as possible in 2017.
- Bear Smart Program Assistant – A. Paris is returning in April.
- Rainbow Plaza waste storage room – emails circulating between Carney's, AWARE and RMOW in regard to inadequacy of the storage room. AWARE will connect with site manager to search for solutions.

ACTION: P. Kindree to provide example(s) of effective solid waste facility planning from other communities.

ACTION: H. Beresford will follow up with Solid Waste Manager, Building department and Planning department for discussion regarding process for solid waste facility planning.

Previous Action Updates

- H. Beresford connect with Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council (SSISC) to ensure that it is not promoting bear attractant plants as alternatives to invasives.
 - Action taken: SSISC agrees to not promote bear attractant plants in its outreach material.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by J. Ford

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adjourn the January 11, 2017 meeting at 10:59 a.m.

CARRIED

CO-CHAIR: H. Beresford

RECORDING SECRETARY: H. Beresford

APPENDIX A

January 6, 2017: This is Appendix C from the updated Human-Bear Conflict Management Plan. I compared the relevant sections of the current draft of the Garbage Disposal Bylaw to determine how it was incorporating the bear management comments from Appendix C.

WBAC Comments from January 11 meeting: Still concern that we need to have a way to avoid stock piling garbage in a garage, for example, that attracts bears. COS would issue DWPO/ticket if bear tries to access or if garage is obviously not secure. Are there other communities that manage this issue? Perhaps Ottawa....pick up every 3 weeks and only allowed 1 garbage can. Really pushes people to divert streams.

Appendix C: WBAC Recommended Amendments to Garbage Disposal and Wildlife Attractants Bylaw, No. 1861

- Change wildlife resistant container to wildlife-proof in the definition and throughout the sections > “wildlife-proof container” means a fully enclosed container with a sealed lid and a self-latching mechanism of sufficient design and strength to prevent access by dangerous wildlife, that is securely affixed to the ground or to an immovable object or fixture, and that is described in Bylaw Appendix A;

Draft Bylaw:

"Wildlife Proof Container" means a fully enclosed container of sufficient design and strength to prevent access by dangerous wildlife that is securely affixed to the ground or to an immovable object or fixture;

WBAC Comments from January 11 meeting: Include reference of approved products that have been tested and certified.

"Wildlife Proof Enclosure" means a structure of sufficient design and strength to prevent access by dangerous wildlife.

WBAC Comments from January 11 meeting: Could RMOW provide loaner bins? Or at a discount?

- Add Section: Landlords must ensure that tenants are provided with bear-proof garbage

and recycling disposal – either on site or provide a collection service to remove garbage and recycling from the property on a minimum weekly basis. Any on-site disposal must be bear-proof and emptied on a minimum weekly basis.

Draft Bylaw:

- (1) Parcel owners/ Agents are responsible for scheduling Solid Waste to be removed from the parcel as frequently as needed, such that the Solid Waste is not a Dangerous Wildlife Attractant.

HB is seeking clarity on this clause to see if it is meant to require landlords to provide service for their tenants.

WBAC Comments from January 11 meeting: Remove term “Dangerous”...too narrow. Focus on garbage being in bear-proof container, limit number of containers to 2 or can't have refuse

- Make bear-proof waste shed guidelines requirements mandatory. Change enclosure specs to add that exterior walls should not be made of wood. Delete page 2 that shows an open style shed with saloon style doors. Perhaps, in the interest of encouraging recycling, delete page 1 as well as it only shows a floor plan that includes a garbage bin with no options for recycling. By allowing this design w/o recycling options, we open up the possibility of storing the recycling outside of an enclosure.

Draft Bylaw:

Parcel owners/occupiers/agents are responsible for adhering to the Solid Waste storage guidelines for the dimension, content and layout of Solid Waste disposal and storage facilities as part of obtaining an RMOW Development Permit.

WBAC Comments from January 11 meeting: Review guidelines from other communities to find effective approach.

- Update Appendix A contact info. in Bylaw

Draft Bylaw:

That section is no longer in the bylaw. If contact info changes, then the Bylaw needs to be amended so they aren't including it.

- Amend Section 4 to read: Garbage and recycling containers required for temporary special events, such as sporting events, concerts, weekend ball tournaments, weddings, and outdoor conventions are subject to the requirement under section 3.

Draft Bylaw:

- (1) All event producers, in conjunction with the submission of a Whistler Village Event Permit Application, shall submit a Solid Waste Management Plan as outlined in the Application.
- (2) Event vendors shall be encouraged to use packaging/food ware that can be recycled or composted.

WBAC Comments from January 11 meeting: Can RMOW require only compostable?

- (3) Event producers are responsible for adhering to the Solid Waste storage guidelines in Sections 6 and 7.
 - (4) It is the Event producer's responsibility to ensure that event generated Solid Waste streams are appropriately separated prior to pick up by the Waste Hauler. Garbage to Landfill that is contaminated by more than 25% (assessed at the discretion of the Waste Hauler) materials or items not defined as Garbage to Landfill may be rejected for collection by the Waste Hauler or the load will be tipped at the Municipal Transfer Station at the fee set for Mixed Waste.
- Section 16 > change number of units from 12 to 6: Single family and multiple family residential development having six or more dwelling units shall provide a garbage storage site located inside a building or within a wildlife proof enclosure or within a wildlife resistant container.

Draft Bylaw:

Changed from 12 to 6 units.

Multi-Family Residential" means multiple separate Dwelling Units within one complex or building; any complex or building with greater than six (6) Dwelling Units requires a Wildlife Proof Enclosure for Solid Waste disposal;

- Add a section that deals with ICI waste > No person shall dispose of industrial, commercial and institutional waste or recyclable materials except into:
 - (a) a wildlife proof container;
 - (b) a container in a wildlife proof enclosure;
 - (c) a wildlife proof garbage compactor; or
 - (d) subject to section 6, a recycling facility.

Draft Bylaw:

Definition for Solid Waste now include ICI waste so it will be treated under the same requirements.

- Section 6: should include ICI waste as well as domestic garbage.

Draft Bylaw:

Definitions are changed to avoid the redundancies of previous definitions. Solid waste is defined as refuse originating within RMOW, then they break it out into the different streams.

- Section 17: No person shall store, handle or dispose of wildlife attractants in such a

way that they attract or are accessible to dangerous wildlife.

WBAC Comments from January 11 meeting: Remove word dangerous...but trying to match Wildlife Act. Does that make it too broad? E.g. Does feeding a bird becomes illegal?

Draft Bylaw:

This wording is included extensively in Section 6, Dangerous Wildlife Attractants.

- Clause 8 –does this include litter or just illegal dumping? Do we need to reference provincial law here?

Draft Bylaw:

I'm not sure what this referred to and can't find anything in the draft bylaw.

- Clause 14 – reword to be clearer – it now says if you have wildlife proof container, it must be closed as opposed to containers must be wildlife proof or in secure building/enclosure, also requires people to have enclosure as opposed to maintain enclosure if have it.

Draft Bylaw:

- (1) A person/parcel owner/occupier/agent must not leave, place or store outdoors any Solid Waste that is a dangerous wildlife attractant except if stored in:
1. A wildlife proof container which is located within;
 2. A wildlife proof enclosure.

WBAC Comments from January 11 meeting: Clause 1 is not clear. Add word "or" between 1 and 2. Don't need to have one inside the other.