



# WHISTLER

## MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING OF WHISTLER BEAR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 8, 2017, STARTING AT 8:30 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.

At Decker Room  
RMOW Public Works Yard

#### **PRESENT:**

Co-Chair, RMOW, H. Beresford  
RMOW Council, Jen Ford  
Conservation Officer Service, S. Gravel  
Conservation Officer Service, B. Mueller  
RMOW Bylaw Services, T. Lunn  
Carney's Waste Systems, P. Kindree  
Member at Large, C. Hedderson  
Ministry of Environment, M. Badry  
Recording Secretary, T. Schaufele

#### **Public:**

Whistler Wildlife Protection Group, I. Minic-Lukac  
Wind River Bear Institute, Lori Homstol  
AWARE/C2C Grizzly Bear Initiative, C. Ruddy

#### **REGRETS:**

Co-Chair, Get Bear Smart, S. Dolson  
Member at Large, N. Dudley  
Whistler Blackcomb, A. DeJong

#### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved by C. Ruddy  
Seconded by L. Homstol

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee agenda of March 8, 2017.

CARRIED

#### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved by C. Ruddy  
Seconded by C. Hedderson

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Regular Whistler Bear Advisory Committee minutes of February 8, 2017.

CARRIED

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

- Very quiet—no calls
- Preparing for spring
- Plan to meet with Bear Smart Program Assistant upon her return

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

- New manager for Ironman.

*Action:* H. Beresford will check in with C. Vandeberg to ensure new manager is aware of bear management.

A discussion led by C. Ruddy regarding C2C Grizzly Bear Initiative activities.

- Working with WOP re: signage on trails
- Potentially, help with educational videos or biking in bear country

Bear Smart  
Community  
Status Review

A discussion led by M. Badry regarding Ministry of Environment, Bear Smart Community Program activities.

- Review is part of an integrity and effectiveness check on all Bear Smart status communities. Will be done every 5 years.
- In general, Whistler is on track with commitments.
- Noted that the Bear Hazard Assessment hasn't been updated, but questioned necessity of updating since Whistler has good understanding of hazards.

**ACTION:** WBAC review Bear Hazard Assessment at April meeting.

*J. Ford arrived at 9:00 a.m.*

- Discussion re: Challenges with enforcement and transient population; ability to track issues and problem locations. Suggestion to link RMOW Bylaw Services and COS databases so that officers can determine history of a location that will inform enforcement action.
- Garbage bylaw update – suggested adding ability to ticket restaurant management as well as restaurant space owner to avoid previous problem of strata receiving ticket but not informing the restaurant manager.

**ACTION:** H. Beresford and Bylaw Services review garbage bylaw update wording.

*B. Mueller and S. Gravel arrived at 9:13 a.m.*

- Discussion regarding:
  - Municipal waste collection system and private homes.
  - Transportation Management Advisory Committee meeting will be discussing allowing garbage on buses at next meeting. RMOW will support with public education.
  - Public education, garbage bylaw update, complacency among locals, communications between players and public, timely updates possibly using Wildlife Advisory Reporting Program.

Updates cont'd

A discussion led by Sgt. S. Gravel regarding Conservation Officer Service activities.

- Working with RMOW and consultant on Bear Response Plan.
- Reviewing RCMP training:
  - Going to offer multiple sessions, more time, and practical component.
  - Going to request input and include N. Fitzgerald's 2016 review.
  - Going to clarify RCMP role and responsibility.
- Bobcat and cougar activity has been higher this winter.
- COS Squamish will not receive auxiliary position. There will be 3 full time positions managed by Sgt. S. Gravel.

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

- Bear Response Plan draft will be ready for review for April's meeting.
- Communication: RMOW to develop a plan in conjunction with the Communications department and COS. RMOW will coordinate with WWPG. This allows COS to extend reach with proactive info, updates and factual accounts when incidents happen. Also, to promote what bear stakeholders are doing. Celebrate successes, and build public trust.

ACTION: Communication plan and timeline to be developed with Bear Smart Program Assistant, COS and Communications department.

Meeting date change—discussed changing meeting date. Not much uptake.

ACTION: H.Beresford will discuss further with J. Ford.

Get Bear  
Smart Society  
Update

Get Bear Smart is applying to Community Foundation of Whistler Environmental Legacy Fund to assist with making events more bear smart.

Review  
Previous  
Actions

Callaghan Road discussion around bear jams and how to solve them.

ACTION: P. Kindree to send costing for replanting road margins. L. Homstol to follow-up with MOTI.

Special events guidelines: S. Dolson, C. Ruddy and H. Beresford to meet and coordinate before April meeting

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by S. Gravel

That the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adjourn the March 8, 2017 meeting at 10:27 a.m.

CARRIED

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CO-CHAIR: S. Dolson

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RECORDING SECRETARY: T. Schaufele