



WHISTLER

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF WHISTLER BEAR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AUGUST 9, 2017, STARTING AT 8:30 A.M.

In the Decker Room
RMOW Public Works Yard

PRESENT:

Co-Chair, RMOW, H. Beresford
Co-Chair, Get Bear Smart, S. Dolson
AWARE/C2C Grizzly Bear Initiative, C. Ruddy
Conservation Officer Service, B. Mueller
Member at Large, N. Dudley
Whistler Blackcomb, A. DeJong
RCMP, R. Knapton
RMOW Bylaw Services, T. Lunn
RMOW Council, S. Maxwell
Recording Secretary, A. Paris

PUBLIC:

B. Webster
M. Toom

REGRETS:

Carney's Waste Systems, P. Kindree
Conservation Officer Service, S. Gravel
Wind River Bear Institute, L. Homstol
RMOW, T. Schaufele

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by A. DeJong
Seconded by T. Lunn

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Whistler Bear Advisory
Committee agenda of August 9, 2017.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by T. Lunn
Seconded by R. Knapton

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Regular Whistler Bear
Advisory Committee minutes of July 12, 2017.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

- Whistler Blackcomb A presentation by A. DeJong was given regarding Whistler Blackcomb activities and a discussion was held.
- No bear incidents in the last month
 - Bear activity 1100- 1450 meters, mid mountain
 - Berry production is sparse
 - Bear at Roundhouse has not returned
- B. Webster arrived at 8:35am*
- Conservation Officer Services A presentation by B. Mueller was given regarding Conservation Officer Service's activities and a discussion was held.
- July 14th Nordic bear damage to garbage shed roof, persistent and trap set but no capture. Non-tagged bear.
 - Bear accessing garbage in Cheakamus, was reported to Bylaw
 - Bluff charge at Florence Peterson park, the municipality removed the berry tree
 - Grizzly sighting, just south of Function Junction at the Train Wreck
 - IRONMAN relocation to the Wedge area of a previously untagged bear on course
 - COS zone changed in the Lower Mainland to include North Vancouver, Vancouver and Burnaby, added on two more officers
 - Conversation on high number of bear calls. Low snow pack this year could have made bears stay low in elevation
 - Coyotes in Cut Your Bars
 - Follow up from COS, S. Dolson will send out Wind River Institute report about IRONMAN
- RMOW Bylaw Services A presentation by T. Lunn was given regarding RMOW Bylaw Services' activities and a discussion was held.
- Calls and tickets issues are up from last year this time
 - Large camps in Cal-Cheak have been discouraged by blocking the pull outs. Less camps has led to a reduced number of outdoor kitchens and bear conflicts
 - Issues with day lot 5 campers, including human waste between day lots.
 - Discussion regarding staff training for food truck staff and disposal of food waste
- ACTION: Bear Smart Program Assistant will follow up with food trucks
ACTION: RMOW Bylaw Services will discuss day lot issues at Parking Lot committee meeting
- RCMP A presentation by R. Knapton was given regarding RCMP activities and a discussion was held.

- 6 calls since July 1. 2-3 occurred because COS unable to attend.
- Sites: Crabapple Drive; Whistler Way; Lorimer and Nancy Green; Myrtle Philip school playground; Riverside campground

R. Knapton and A. DeJong left at 9:08am

RMOW- Bear Smart
Program Assistant

A presentation by A. Paris was given regarding the Bear Smart Program Assistant's activities and a discussion was held.

- Attending Discover Nature weekly at Lost Lake
- Neighbourhood parties and bear education throughout the community
- Bear Alerts system are being posted consistently even if activity is low so that the webpage stays current
- Bear Smart Restaurant Program is being created in a way that is under RMOW control, as opposed to a subscription model
- BC Transit and garbage program – need to figure out who has authority to approve communications
- Solid waste contractor program - documents and contracts have been prepared but as of yet there are no participants

ACTION: A. Paris will arrange a meeting with S. Maxwell, H. Beresford, E. Dal Santo and Whistler Transit

RMOW- Solid Waste
Bylaw

A presentation by H. Beresford was given regarding the solid waste bylaw and a discussion was held.

- Council gave first readings to Solid Waste Bylaw, No. 2139 on August 15th
- Public hearing scheduled for September council meeting, last opportunity for public comments
- Food establishments and special events will be required to create solid waste management plans.
- Planning department is updating guidelines and zoning bylaw to accommodate changes
- Carney's is producing guidelines for solid waste services.

ACTION: P. Kindree to share the guidelines at a future meeting

RMOW- Construction
Bins

A presentation by T. Lunn was given regarding construction bins and attractants a discussion was held.

- Food waste going into construction bins and causing bear conflicts. Signs on bins inconsistent and are ignored. Site supervisors not taking responsibility. Bylaw wording makes it hard to enforce.
- Residents', workers' and visitors' garbage goes into bin
- bins do not have that same requirement
- Discussion on how Bylaw can get garbage bins removed once food waste is discovered in a construction bin. Ticket amounts need to be high enough to encourage companies to clean up site, rather than just taking the ticket

- Conversation about solid waste bylaw language and attractants and site responsibility and accountability
- Consensus is that it would be beneficial to have more specifics regarding construction sites in bylaw

ACTION: Bylaw Services will discuss adding construction bins section to the bylaw regarding food waste and attractants

B. Mueller left at 9:53am

Get Bear Smart Society

A presentation by S. Dolson was given regarding Get Bear Smart Society activities and a discussion was held.

- Ironman hired bear dogs and handlers; pre-race inspection identified numerous locations frequented by bears; one bear near high school relocated by COS to Wedge area; communications between COS and Wind River could be improved; final report being submitted by Wind River Bear Institute. Recommend making it part of events operation procedures and funding.
- Digitizing the Bear Smart Restaurant Program
- Grizzly bear cards and funding from Lush
- Grizzly education kits prepared for School District 8 particularly in Nelson

Actions reviewed from last meeting, all complete.

- The Bear Response Plan is complete and will be distributed to COS, RCMP and Bylaw Services staff.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by S. Dolson

That the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adjourn the August 9, 2017 Council meeting at 10:22 a.m.

CARRIED

CO-CHAIR: H. Beresford

RECORDING SECRETARY: A. Paris