



WHISTLER

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF WHISTLER BEAR ADVISORY COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 8, 2017, STARTING AT 8:30 A.M.

**In the Decker Room
RMOW Public Works Yard**

PRESENT:

Co-Chair, RMOW, H. Beresford
AWARE/C2C Grizzly Bear Initiative, C. Ruddy
Carney's Waste Systems, P. Kindree
Conservation Officer Service, S. Gravel
RCMP, R. Knapton
RMOW Council, S. Maxwell
RMOW Bylaw Services, T. Lunn
Whistler Blackcomb, A. DeJong
Recording Secretary, A. Paris

PUBLIC:

Whistler Wildlife Protection Group, I. Minic-Lukac
M. Toom

REGRETS:

Member at Large, N. Dudley

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by S. Maxwell
Seconded by K. Popjes

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

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by S. Maxwell
Seconded by A. DeJong

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Regular Whistler Bear
Advisory Committee minutes of October 11, 2017.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Conservation Officer Services

A presentation by S. Gravel was given regarding Conservation Officer Service's activities and a discussion was held.

- Conducting audits and providing education to new residents in historic problem areas: Creekside and staff housing
- Positive media cover in the Question: "Successful bear season for COS"

P. Kindree entered at 8:34 a.m.

I. Minic-Lukac entered at 8:36 a.m.

RMOW - Bylaw Services

A presentation by T. Lunn was given regarding RMOW Bylaw Service's activities and a discussion was held.

- 9 garbage calls, last year around 8 calls
- Construction bins: Solid Waste bylaw passed without the requested change to wildlife proof construction bins. Potential for increased monitoring and auditing to ensure that construction bins are not attracting wildlife. Further discussion regarding who is responsible for the bins, education and signage.
- Largest issue is with bins from Vancouver suppliers, zero education regarding bears
- Look at options for signage, preparing an information flat sheet for Bylaw Services to distribute

ACTION: T. Lunn and RMOW environmental coordinator to develop education piece for construction bins by spring 2018.

RCMP

A presentation by R. Knapton was given regarding RCMP activities and a discussion was held.

- 2 calls October 10th and 12th: Evolution hotel; Cascade Lodge: bear hazed and left the area

Carney's Waste Services

A presentation by P. Kindree was given regarding Carney's Waste Services' activities and a discussion was held.

- Callaghan Transfer Station cattle guard turned off due to snow, water shorts it out. As snow rises, perimeter fencing will be turned on.

Whistler Blackcomb

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

- Some low elevation movement, berry crop is finished and they are heading straight into denning
- Population has dropped

AWARE and
Coast to
Cascades

A presentation by C. Ruddy was given regarding AWARE and Coast to Cascades Grizzly Bear Initiative activities and a discussion was held.

- Organizing a spring 2018 grizzly bear information session with Steve Rochetta, FLNRO Ecosystem Biologist.

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.

- Working with Whistler Blackcomb Waste Reduction Specialist, T. Hamilton
- Real estate agencies are interested in having information in their new owner packages
- Fairmont is slowly working through the Bear Smart Restaurant Program, difficulties with shoulder season vacations
- RMOW Food Truck Program vendors will receive the Bear Smart Restaurant Program training in Spring 2018
- Critter Gitters and Scarecrows will be made available on loan at the Whistler Library in 2018. Option to provide electric fences will be investigated by P. Kindree
- Recommendation by WBAC members to re-install bear information signs in day lots. COS reviewing potential locations according to bear encounter frequencies. Will need to match RMOW wayfinding sign template and program.
- T. Lunn raised idea to install digital screens in day lot stairwells. Opportunity for collaboration and an efficient way to convey multiple messages quickly: bears, highway status, lift line status

R. Knapton left at 9:29am

- Discussed potential for Village Host program to expand to parking lots in summer to assist tourists
- Whistler Transit pilot program for transporting compost, recyclables and waste on buses was launched November 18. RMOW will support with communications and follow up with Lisa Trotter on program. Problems will be monitored, not successes.

ACTION: S. Gravel and T. Lunn provide day lot bear information sign location recommendations and rationale.

ACTION: A. Paris contact RMOW Communications about transit changes end of November.

ACTION PLAN 2018

- Parking lot signs program
- Construction bin program
- Re-engage with bear viewing companies and provide education for guides.

- Callaghan road hunting regulation change
- Plan for reaching hotel concierge more effectively with bear information, more than the bi-weekly village host updates
- Communications focus on message for locals to call early

S. Gravel and A. DeJong left at 10:06 am

- Environmental Coordinator will be taking over as WBAC co-chair for H. Beresford in 2018
- RMOW organizing a local government bear management symposium for spring 2018.
- T. Lunn suggested making a bear management presentation at 2018 Licence Inspectors' and Bylaw Officers' Association of BC zone meeting or annual conference

ACTIONS:

- H. Beresford contact Get Bear Smart Society to determine gaps in program delivery now that GBS not active in Whistler.
- Update BSPA work plan and bear management communications plan for 2018. Add to December agenda.
- Review draft local government bear management symposium agenda at December meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by S. Gravel

That the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adjourn the November 8, 2017 Council meeting at 10:30 a.m.

CARRIED



CO-CHAIR: H. Beresford