



WHISTLER

MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING OF WHISTLER BEAR ADVISORY
COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2018 STARTING AT 8:30 A.M.**

**In the Decker Room
8020 Nesters Road, Whistler, BC V0N 1B8**

PRESENT:

Co-Chair, RMOW, H. Beresford
RMOW Environmental Coordinator, L. McIvor
RMOW Bear Aware Program Assistant, L. Harrison
Carney's Waste Systems, P. Kindree
AWARE/C2C Grizzly Bear Initiative, C. Ruddy
Whistler Blackcomb, A. DeJong
Get Bear Smart Society, N. Fitzgerald
RMOW Bylaw Services, C. Baker
RCMP, P. Hayes
Conservation Officer Service, S. Gravel

PUBLIC:

Whistler Wildlife Protection Group, I. Minic-Lukac

REGRETS:

RMOW Council, S. Maxwell
Member at Large, N. Dudley
Member at Large, M. Toom

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by A. DeJong
Seconded by C. Baker

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee agenda of April 11, 2018.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by A. DeJong
Seconded by C. Baker

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Regular Whistler Bear Advisory Committee minutes of March 14, 2018

CARRIED

P. Kindree arrived at 8:38 am

Updates

RMOW Bylaw Service

- Brief update on bear that was destroyed in Alpine Meadows
- Bylaw Services went door-to-door in Bayshores on Monday, April 2nd following the bear attack that occurred on Sunday, April 1st. They provided information about securing attractants and who to contact if you see a bear.
- Bylaw Services will be doing proactive control on construction sites this year.
- Conversation was had surrounding how communication to the public goes out when there is a bear in the area.
- Bylaw Services will have a new adjudication system this year which allows them to mail tickets instead of having to deliver them in person. This will be beneficial for homes where the owner does not live here.

Carney's Waste Systems

- Electric fence surrounding Callaghan waste transfer station is back on.
- Noticing issues of restaurants leaving attractants on loading docks- particularly in regards to grease.

C2C Grizzly Bear Initiative

- Working on signs to go up around trails

Whistler Blackcomb

- No updates

Get Bear Smart Society

- Was contacted by the Pique to provide a comment on the bear that was destroyed.

ACTION: Meeting to clarify communication between COS, RMOW and GBS

Conservation Officer Service

- Described Bayshores bear attack and actions taken until bear was destroyed on April 6. There were multiple calls about this bear being aggressive preceding the attack.
- COS noticed significant amounts of attractants in all neighbourhoods visited especially by long term locals who say they should know better.

ACTION: Review communication surrounding attractants in the winter and promote messaging to make Whistler attractant free year round.

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

- Solid Waste Bylaw Reviewed final revisions to Solid Waste Bylaw, draft Special Events bylaw; and Solid Waste Management Plans.
- Consider switching out ‘Solid Waste’ with ‘wildlife attractant’ in Section D of the amendment to the Solid Waste Bylaw.
 - Revamped Solid Waste Management Plans to make it easier for organizers to recognize what they need to do while planning an event.
 - Updated sustainable event guidelines

- Signs Reviewed the draft RMOW forest and alpine trail signs’ bear content
- Conversation about emphasizing that dogs need to be kept on a leash as a large amount of bear attacks are caused by dogs being off-leash.
 - “10 Essentials” list should include bear spray
 - Conversation around whether or not the sign should be specific to black bears since that is the majority of bears in Whistler. Grizzlies could have a small section similar to cougars instead of being generally lumped in with black bears.
 - ‘Give Bears Space’ comment should be specific and should say to stay 100 m away
 - Consider adding additional signage that is more targeted in known grizzly areas in alpine.

ACTION: Staff to revise signs and provide to WBAC for review

- Bear Smart Program Assistant Reviewed 2018 work plan
- Getting trained on the Restaurant Program and hoping to have WB on board this spring
 - Has multiple events planned for outreach including Discover Nature at Lost Lake, WB Spring Carnival and Earth Day.

P. Hayes arrived at 10:30 am

NEW BUSINESS

Reviewed status of past actions

Action	Meeting Date	Status
L. McIvor to follow up with Emma DalSanto and Communications Department to offer assistance again on the garbage on buses initiative.	January	In progress. Lindsay met with Emma and Whistler Transit on Jan 31 st and Lindsay has created a high-level communications framework and shared this with Emma/Anyssa. Lindsay to continue pressing for engagement.

L. McIvor/H. Beresford to touch base with Parking Lot Committee and RMOW Communications Department.	January	In progress. Budget may allow for design of signs in 2018 and production in 2019.
T. Lunn discussed opportunity for RMOW to share bear management approach at upcoming License Inspectors and Bylaw Officers Association of BC zone meeting or annual conference in 2019. T. Lunn investigate how to get on zone meeting agenda.	February	Unknown. T. Lunn no longer working with RMOW after end of March. RMOW to follow up.
Bears 1-pager for rental properties	February	On hold until later date. Collaborate and coordinate messaging with AWARE's Eco-Citizen awareness initiative.
RMOW to consider existing and needed efforts to promote proper composting practices	March	Not started.
Follow up on suggestion to promote the Tourism Whistler Sustainable Events Guidelines and bears section within the Solid Waste Management Plan template	March	In discussion with Special Events team.

TERMINATION

Moved by P. Kindree

That the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee terminate the April 11, 2018 Whistler Bear Advisory Committee meeting at 10:34 a.m.

CARRIED

CO-CHAIR: C. Ruddy

RECORDING SECRETARY: L. Harrison