



WHISTLER

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING OF WHISTLER BEAR ADVISORY COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2018 STARTING AT 8:30 A.M.

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

PRESENT:

Co-Chair, RMOW, H. Beresford
Co-Chair, AWARE/C2C Grizzly Bear Initiative, C. Ruddy
RMOW Bear Smart Program Assistant, L. Harrison
RMOW Environmental Coordinator, A. Sefton
RMOW Council, S. Maxwell
Get Bear Smart Society, N. Fitzgerald
Get Bear Smart Society, S. Dolson
Whistler Blackcomb, A. DeJong
Member at Large/Whistler Wildlife Protection Group, I. Minic-Lukac
Conservation Officer Service, S. Gravel

MISSING:

Carney's Waste Systems, D. Imbeau
Member at Large, M. Toom
RMOW Bylaw Services, C. Baker
RCMP, R. Knapton

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by S. Maxwell
Seconded by C. Ruddy

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee agenda of October 10, 2018.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by S. Maxwell
Seconded C. Ruddy

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee minutes of September 12, 2018.

CARRIED

Updates

Get Bear Smart Society

- Biking for Bears ambassador program starts this Thursday (October 11, 2018). There are currently 6 volunteers that will bike around Whistler Golf Course educating people about bears.

AWARE/C2C

- Currently planning a grizzly bear education session with S. Rochetta for next spring.

ACTION: Email companies that deliver food to Whistler and leave the food outside a letter asking them not to since it is a bear attractant.

Whistler Wildlife Protection Group

- Fairly quiet. Could use the volunteer list to recruit people for the Biking for Bears program.

S. Gravel arrived 9:14 a.m.

Conservation Officer Service

- Very busy in the Sea to Sky zone but Whistler is not as busy. Mostly doing proactive patrols in Whistler.
- There have been a few issues with bear accessing mountain ash berries in Creekside area. One sow with 3 COY was tranquilized with the intent to relocate however the bear climbed high up a tree, fell out and died. The COY were released as it was determined that they will be able to survive on their own. The COS is purchasing a capture net that CO's can set up around a tree for bears to fall into after being tranquilized.

ACTION: L. Harrison to coordinate with COS for door-to-door outreach in this area.

A. Dejong arrived 9:26 a.m.

Whistler Blackcomb

- Bears are quiet on the mountain and mostly feeding mid mountain.

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Bear Smart
 Program
 Assistant

Currently creating 2019 work plan and writing 2018 yearend review. Doing a presentation at La Passerelle on October 17, 2018.

NEW BUSINESS

Reviewed status of past actions

Action	Meeting Date	Status
L. McIvor/H. Beresford to touch base with	January	Adding parking lot signs to the new

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Parking Lot Committee and RMOW Communications Department.		RMOW Interpretive Panels Project. Will look into moving bear cut outs from playground to parking lot.
Bears 1-pager for rental properties and new home owners.	February	L. Harrison has created this. Currently have the contact list to send out to rental properties but need to figure out how to reach new homeowners.
Look into permitting for bear viewing tours and removing permits if operators are not operating under a set of guidelines that keeps bears and people safe.	May	Business License Bylaw is currently being rewritten and the change will allow RMOW to revoke business licenses to people who are not following laws. Complete for now but will look into actually revoking licenses once the bylaw is rewritten.
Talk to Tourism Whistler and all of the golf courses about promoting safe bear viewing practices.	June	L. Harrison will work on this.
WBAC members to review and provide guidance on design, content and location for 12 bear-specific interpretive panels developed by John Rae (RMOW), Kristina Swerhun and Brad Nichols (Whistler Museum and Archives) as part of RMOW's Interpretive Panels Project.	July	Underway. WBAC providing input. L. Harrison to distribute locations map for this project and request feedback. B. Mueller, N. Fitzgerald and C. Ruddy contacting golf courses.
Create protocol for trail closures	September	L. Harrison will create a draft of this and B. Mueller and the RMOW Environmental Coordinator will complete this during the winter.
Look into where bikers are being heli-dropped	September	L. Harrison will contact Blackcomb

and what information regarding bear safety they are receiving.		Helicopters about its heli-bike service and provide them with information to give their clients.
Look into food cache options for people camping in the valley.	September	C. Baker is working with WCSS on this.
Email companies that deliver food to Whistler and leave the food outside a letter asking them not to since it is a bear attractant.	October	L. Harrison will work on this.
L. Harison to coordinate with COS for door-to-door outreach in Creekside.	October	L. Harrison will work on this.

TERMINATION

Moved by S. Maxwell
 Seconded by S. Dolson

That the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee terminate the October 10, 2018 Whistler Bear Advisory Committee meeting at 10:25 a.m.

CARRIED

 CO-CHAIR: C. Ruddy

 RECORDING SECRETARY: L. Harrison