



WHISTLER

MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING OF WHISTLER BEAR ADVISORY
COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2019, STARTING AT 8:30
A.M.**

**In the Decker Room
8020 Nesters Road, Whistler, BC V8E 0G4**

PRESENT:

Co-Chair, RMOW, H. Williamson
GFL Environmental, D. Imbeau
RMOW Council, A. DeJong
RMOW Bylaw Services, J. Pineda
Conservation Officer Services, B. Mueller
Member at Large, I. Minic-Lucak
RCMP, J. Witzke

Recording Secretary, L. Harrison
Member of the Public, B. Webster

REGRETS:

RCMP, R. Knapton
Member at Large, M. Toom
Co-Chair. AWARE/C2C Grizzly Bear Initiative, C. Ruddy
Get Bear Smart Society, E. Lamb
GFL Environmental, D. Imbeau

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by A. DeJong
Seconded by I. Minic-Lucak

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee Agenda of September 11, 2019.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by B. Mueller
Seconded by I. Minic-Lucak

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Regular Whistler Bear Advisory Committee Minutes of July 10, 2019.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Updates

- Conservation Officer Service A presentation by B. Mueller was given regarding Conservation Officer Service activities and a discussion was held.
- Whistler has been quiet with 12 reports into RAPP from August 17th – September 16. 10 of these reports were sightings, 1 was a food conditioned bear and 1 was an injured/distressed bear.
 - The rest of the Sea to Sky zone is very busy.
- Whistler Blackcomb A presentation by A. DeJong was given regarding Whistler Blackcomb activities and a discussion was held.
- Berries are widespread on Whistler and Blackcomb mountains.
- RMOW Bylaw Services A presentation by J. Pineda was given regarding RMOW Bylaw activities and a discussion was held.
- 2 animal attractant calls to bylaw in August. 1 call was an illegal camp site which was removed and 1 call was a strawberry plant which was also removed.
 - There is less littering in the village than in previous years but there are the same number of tourists.
- WWPG A presentation by I. Minic-Lucak was given regarding WWPG activities and a discussion was held.
- The Biking 4 Bears program will resume in mid-October when the golf course closes.
 - WWPG volunteers will meet with B. Mueller in early October for a presentation on bears to ensure that our messaging is consistent.
- RMOW Environmental Stewardship A presentation by L. Harrison was given regarding RMOW Environmental Stewardship activities and a discussion was held.
- The parking lot signs are in the process of being approved by the Parking Lot Committee. These signs will likely go at the pedestrian exits to the parking lots and will have messaging about not leaving food in cars, not approaching bears and keeping dogs on leash.
 - Working on getting mountain ash trees removed that were an attractant problem last year along the Valley Trail and in strata buildings.
 - Exploring ideas for the pepper spray project that was first discussed at the December 2018 WBAC meeting. Looking at collecting bear spray from tourists and distributing it to residents.
 - Member at Large, M. Toom has announced her resignation from the WBAC.

OTHER BUSINESS/UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

Grizzly Bear Management Plan Update

H. Williamson gave an update on the Grizzly Bear Management Plan and a discussion was held.

- The Province has reviewed the updated Grizzly Bear Management Strategy and provided comments. Next step will be information sharing with First Nations.
- Grizzly bear habitat mapping of the Rainbow-Sproat regions will be starting in September with the final report due in December.
- Grant MacHutchon was selected to conduct the mapping.
- Beverly Lake trail extension is on hold until the grizzly bear habitat mapping is complete.

MOTION TO TERMINATE

Moved by J. Pineda
Seconded by A. DeJong

That the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee Meeting of September 11, 2019 be terminated at 9:22 a.m.

CARRIED

Chair, Hillary Williamson

Recording Secretary, Lauren Harrison