



WHISTLER

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF WHISTLER BEAR ADVISORY
COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2019, STARTING AT 8:30 A.M.

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

PRESENT:

Co-Chair, RMOW, H. Williamson
Co-Chair. AWARE/C2C Grizzly Bear Initiative, C. Ruddy
Get Bear Smart Society, E. Lamb
GFL Environmental, D. Imbeau
RMOW Council, A. DeJong
RMOW Bylaw Services, C. Harkins standing in for J. Pineda
Conservation Officer Services, S. Gravel standing in for B. Mueller

Recording Secretary, Lauren Harrison

REGRETS:

RCMP, R. Knapton
Member at Large, I. Minic-Lucak
Member at Large, M. Toom

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by D. Imbeau
Seconded by A. DeJong

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Whistler Bear Advisory
Committee Agenda of June 12, 2019.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by E. Lamb
Seconded by A. DeJong

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Regular Whistler Bear
Advisory Committee Minutes of May 8, 2019.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Updates

RMOW Bylaw Services

A presentation by C. Harkins was given regarding RMOW Bylaw activities and a discussion was held.

- 8 animal attractant calls to bylaw this month, 5 of those were for attractants around illegal camp sites.
- Ambassador program began last week. Ambassadors will focus on bylaw enforcement in parks and along the Valley Trail.

S. Gravel called in to meeting at 9:05 am.

Conservation Officer Service

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

- Ongoing issues with bears accessing garbage in Whistler.
- Sow with 2 cubs has been charging off leash dogs around the Nordic area.
- 2 bears recently hit on highway to the north and south of Whistler.
- Callaghan Road is experiencing ongoing issues with people, mostly visitors from abroad, getting out of cars to approach bears.
- Bears have been breaking into locked totes to access garbage in Squamish and Furry Creek. Totes are not bear-proof.

AWARE/C2C

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

- Coast to cascades requested that bear specialist, Dr. Lana Ciarniello, review the RMOW's Grizzly Bear Management Strategy
- Dr. Ciarniello reviewed both the Management Strategy and Wind River Hazard Assessment and presented recommendations to the committee of the whole

ACTION: H. Williamson to circulate link to committee of the whole meeting with Dr. Ciarniello to committee members

RMOW Environmental Stewardship

A presentation by H. Williamson was given regarding RMOW Environmental Stewardship activities and a discussion was held.

- Comments from AWARE and FWAC have been incorporated into RMOW's Grizzly Bear conflict mitigation strategy
- RMOW staff are currently reviewing recommendations made by Dr. Ciarniello to determine how they can be incorporated into the Grizzly Bear conflict mitigation strategy and alpine trail risk assessments
- Bear Smart Program Assistant, L. Harrison, will be delivering bear smart messaging at the Lost Lake Discover Nature Booth, Callaghan Camping Festival and two Wednesday Farmers Markets.

Council

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

- A. DeJong would like to see single use plastics banned in Whistler by the end of the summer

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

- Held fire training exercise with FLNRO, Whistler Fire Department and Whistler Blackcomb
- Cougar and bear signage is being updated for Whistler Blackcomb trails

ACTION: H. Williamson to send A. DeJong relevant RMOW Bear and Cougar messaging

ACTION: S. Gravel review signage sample from A. DeJong to ensure consistent messaging

MOTION TO TERMINATE

Moved by H. Williamson

Seconded by E. Lamb

That the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee Meeting of June 12, 2019 be terminated at 10:30 a.m.

CARRIED

Chair, Hillary Williamson

Recording Secretary, Lauren Harrison