



# WHISTLER

## MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING OF RECREATION LEISURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2017, STARTING AT 4:30 P.M.

**At Municipal Hall – Flute Room  
4325 Blackcomb Way, Whistler, BC V0N 1B4**

#### **PRESENT:**

Murray Lunn, Member at Large  
Bob Calladine, Member at Large  
John Konig, Member at Large  
Meredith Kunza, Tourism Whistler representative  
Roger Weetman, Manager, Recreation, RMOW  
Stephanie Sloan, Member at Large  
Josie Chuback, Member at Large  
Colin Pitt-Taylor, Member at Large  
Chris Kaipio, Member at Large  
Dave Clark, Member at Large  
Eric Wight, Member at Large  
Roger Soane, Member at Large  
Martin Pardoe, Manager, Resort Parks Planning, RMOW  
Councillor, Jen Ford  
Recording Secretary, Shannon Perry

#### **REGRETS:**

Ian Currie, Howe Sound School District 48 representative

#### **GUESTS:**

Heather Beresford, Environmental Stewardship Manager, RMOW and  
Cheakamus Community Forest Administrator

Meeting called to order at 4:30 p.m.

#### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Items added to the agenda; discussion of Whistler Golf Course, Meadow  
Park Sports Centre Ice Rink demands, Holborn update.

Moved by Bob Calladine  
Second by John Konig

**That** Recreation Leisure Advisory Committee adopt the Recreation Leisure  
Advisory Committee agenda of January 12, 2017

CARRIED

## **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved by Josie Chuback  
Seconded by Bob Calladine

**That** Recreation Leisure Advisory Committee adopt the Recreation Leisure Advisory Committee minutes of November 24, 2016

CARRIED

## **PRESENTATIONS**

- New Council Appointee      A brief introduction from Councilor Jen Ford, followed by a round the table introduction from Recreation Leisure Advisory Committee members.
- RLAC Meeting Dates, Start Time and Frequency      A discussion regarding Recreation Leisure Advisory Committee meeting dates, start times and frequency was held. It was decided that May to November meetings will have an early start of 3 pm and a 4pm start during winter season. Meetings to remain on a monthly basis.
- Cheakamus Community Forest Draft Access Management Plan      A Presentation from RMOW Environmental Stewardship Manager regarding the Cheakamus Community Forest Draft Access Management Plan
- Firstly a quick background on the Cheakamus Community Forest. Followed by a review and explanation of the Cheakamus Community Forest road tenure map, resource constraints map, recreation opportunities map.
- To review CCF website go to <http://www.cheakamuscommunityforest.com>  
For discussed harvesting maps [click here](#)

### **Comments:**

SLRD believe Cheakamus Community Forest are to control new trail maintenance on Sproatt Mountain. Correction, RMOW and WORCA worked together building the trails (also worked with Canadian Wilderness Adventures) and are responsible for maintenance.

Cheakamus Community Forest tenure is a legal obligation with the province to harvest trees.

Old growth continues to be harvested. Cheakamus Community Forest attempts to balance the second growth and old growth harvesting to minimize impacts to old growth.

- RLAC 2017 Priorities and Municipal Budget      A discussion regarding 2017 priorities and municipal budget process including an explanation from Parks Planning Manager and review of three priority submissions from RLAC members.

RLAC committee discussed such items as; Multi-use field, Lost Lake entrance at the Passiv Haus, dogs in Whistler parks, Meadow Park Sports

Centre infrastructure, Meadow Park drainage (included in the 5 year capital plan and also considered potentially through the artificial turf project), water (lake) access, what are the future plans, are locations being reserved for future options.

Agreed top priorities were artificial turf, water access, an integrated comprehensive dog management strategy, ongoing reinvestment in MPSC.

Artificial Turf Project  
Update

A presentation by Parks Planning Manager regarding an update on Artificial Turf Project.

Parks Planning Manager presented the Artificial Turf Field Needs Assessment to the Committee of a Whole at their December 5, 2016 meeting. The presentation was very similar to what was presented to RLAC at their November 2016 meeting. Staff have initiated the next phase of the project which is to further explore the feasibility of the five candidate sites and more detailed costing. Results will be shared with RLAC and Council and be considered via the larger municipal budget process. If supported, then a site selection process will be initiated.

Blue Community Initiative

A discussion about this program and Whistler's potential interest in participating in the initiative to make a declaration recognizing water as a human right and banning the sale of bottled water in public facilities and at municipal events.

Staff outlined:

- A ban on the sale of bottle water at municipal facilities was introduced via Council in 2009 and implemented in 2010; however there has been limited follow through.
- RLAC previously discussed a similar topic in June and July of 2015. At that time RLAC members reported that a large number of plastic bottles are still being sold in the parks (pop, juice); destination guests are upset that there is no bottled water available, do not wish to purchase a sugar filled beverage, have concerns about drinking out of a fountain, and have no interest in spending money on bottled tap water; and that any public water bottle filling station needs to be attractive to guests and look clean and hygienic.
- Parks Operations will replace current public drinking water fountains with ones that have ability for water bottle filling when the current fountains reach the end of their useful lifespan.

A discussion regarding the merits of the Blue Community program and the excellent quality yet lack of guest knowledge of Whistler's drinking water occurred.

Moved by Josie Chuback  
Second by Stephanie Sloan

**That** Recreation Leisure Advisory Committee recommends that the municipality play a leadership role in recognizing water as a human right and continue to ban the sale of bottled water, and review other opportunities to

complement the initiative to reduce plastic bottle waste and promote and protect our clean water.

CARRIED

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Whistler Golf Course

A Committee member questioned whether the existing Whistler Golf Course represents the highest and best use of the subject lands, and what the forum would be to have that discussion. Perhaps the golf course could be reduced to a nine-hole executive course or more family friendly pitch and putt, and a portion be used for a community center or employee housing or some other use.

Staff agreed to forward this topic to senior staff for feedback.

#### Meadow Park Sports Centre Ice Rink Demand

A Committee member enquired why adding a second sheet of arena ice was not being considered in the context of an artificial turf field discussion.

Staff responded on the following points:

- The community currently has a dedicated ice arena and tournament quality ball fields, and that the equivalent amenity does not exist for rectangular field users, and will not exist even with the provision of one artificial turf field;
- The existing ice arena is subsidized annually by Whistler taxpayers by approximately \$600,000;
- The capital cost to construct an ice arena is in the \$15 to \$20 million range;
- Most communities in BC with a population of less than 20,000 have only one sheet of ice; and
- The Recreation and Leisure Master Plan recommends protecting space for a potential future second ice sheet, and this will be considered in the artificial turf field site selection process.

#### Holborn Update

A Committee member enquired about the status of the Holborn property.

Staff responded by advising that the RMOW has not received a development or rezoning application.

A concern was raised that should a rezoning be applied for, that by the time a formal application was received the amenity associated with the rezoning may have already been directed at a higher level without RLAC input. RLAC would like the opportunity to share its perspective on what a rezoning amenity might be ahead of any possible rezoning application.

Staff agreed to forward this concern to senior staff for feedback.

### **NEXT MEETING**

March 9, 2017 at 4 pm

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Josie Chuback

**That** Recreation Leisure Advisory Committee adjourn the January 12, 2017 committee meeting at 6:40 p.m.

CARRIED

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CHAIR: Murray Lunn