



WHISTLER

MINUTES

MEASURING UP SELECT COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL
Wednesday, February, 2nd, 2011, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

To be held in the Community Room of the Whistler Public Library

Committee Members
Present

Kevin Damaskie
Sarah Tipler
Tom Thomson
Melissa Deller
Wendy Aitken
Freda Cook
Chris Fudge

RMOW, Sustainability Coordinator
Vice Chair, RMOW Accessibility Coordinator
RMOW Councilor
WCSS SNAP Coordinator
WhistlerBlackcomb, Director, Guest Services
Mature Action Committee
Tourism Whistler

Regrets

Phil Chew
Chelsey Walker
Patricia Stoop
Adam Protter
Christian Rhude

Staff Members
Present

Claire Daniels

RMOW Recording Secretary

Minutes

January 5, 2011 Minutes approved

Introductions/Presentations

- Committee to prioritize areas for accessibility needs in Whistler.
- If you have noticed things that have challenged you, feedback to areas that may need more attention; identify priority areas to present to Council and staff.
- Information is going to Council in the form of minutes; input will also go to staff.
- Depending on what the prioritization is will dictate whether we need a report or only minutes to Council.
- Focus on the Core Commercial areas predominately and the Athletes Centre at Cheakmus Crossing.
- What is not good or problematic is what we are identifying.
- 3 sections: transportation (pink), snow clearing (blue), parks



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and trails (green. These were identified on a map.

- What would give us the biggest leap to accessibility/what is the biggest barrier: is it snow clearing?
- Yes, snow clearing could help, but it is not just one piece.
- What is the biggest priority?
- What is more prevalent over time; why is a particular section of trail never cleared or has bad lighting, or why is getting to a particular bus stop so difficult or unsafe?
- VANOC study on accessibility of the village, are we able to access this information. We should try and take advantage of this study. How does this community get access to the information obtained/researched and studied during and pre-Olympics?
- Kevin to ask John Rae where to find this information.
- Valley trail yellow dividers/fences: are of varying distances apart and some are difficult to navigate.
- Need to make a list and distribute to all member to identify the priority areas to target for improvement.
- Input from the MUSCC has more weight than just one staff member.
- The committee should make some Recommendations to increase the accessibility of these core areas.
- We need to be really strategic with how we frame our ask for funding.
- This is one of the preeminent things this committee needs to focus on over the next 6-8months.
- Grassroots, community-driven accessibility audit is needed. Does this committee want to be the action lead on this type of work?
- Identify inappropriate snow dumping; accessible parking stalls must be maintained to be usable standard year round.
- Report was done for the Olympics identifying all the accessible



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spots in the village; need to highlight these as needing priority of appropriate snow clearing.

- We want to show the “works people” how you can do more with less; where things really need to be done; may just involve the snowplow operator getting out with a shovel and clearing an area of the bus stop.
- Let this committee point out where efficiencies can be effected.
- Use previous accessibility audits as a place to start to create a new audit conducted by this committee.
- Market the accessible aspects of Whistler, supported by the results of an community audit/assessment.
- Champion the Paralympic cause; we have to bring something to the table to show that the changes are going to be meaningful and will enhance the draw to our town.
- Ask the military Veterans participating in WASP last week to see how they thought the accessibility in Whistler was.
- The committee should consider what’s the most important role to increase accessibility within this community.
- This is a good way to go.
- Get report that Dave Calver did; did this report have any effect?
- Increase the functionality of our resort; we do the work.
- Have between now and mid-summer to scope the project.
- Two streams: monthly meeting to support audit and advocacy role.
- Intent is to through on the table a report to show how Whistler Measures Up.
- Can we survey guests to see how their experiences were with regards to accessibility?
- Could we do a survey through WASP; testimonials of people’s



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experience.

- What could be improved upon?
- Accessibility is a developing market, lets work to attract disabled peoples.
- Many people benefit from accessibility, not just people with disabilities.
- Committee wants to pursue this audit project.
- There is a communication avenue here too.
- How do we make the most relevant change understanding the financial environment we are in?
- Share the report from Dave and the WAVE accessibility report with MUSCC.
- Kevin to follow up with John Rey
- Sarah and Kevin to prepare a report to distribute to the group to gather group input.

Business Arising from Current

- Would like to add two new members to the committee: Melissa Deller, SNAP at WCSS and Chris Fudge to replace the TW representative.
- Both additions passed.

Other Business/Action Status Quick Announcements

- Passivehaus: access to foldable chair and accessible parking spot.
- Sarah to send info about Passivehaus accessibility to Kim V as a communication piece.
- Letter to the Museum: museum people feel it would be subject to vandalism will be kept with the museum at the moment. Museum had real concerns.



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- Kevin to make a call to Leah to confirm that this is the course of action that being taken.
- Community forum on elder abuse Thursday March 10, 1-4:30pm in the new Squamish seniors centre; conversation/presentation and breaking up into round tables.
- Jackie stepping away from the life skills support worker. 8hr position will be available and Jackie will send job posting information to Sarah.
- Whistler for the Disabled was to present to this committee; it is a registered non-profit, they do have a functional board of directors, and their main piece is the website. Ongoing non-functional relationship with Mr. Tollet and this committee; trying to break this; want to integrate accessibility with all partners; all of the content produced by WFTD is produced by Mr. Tollet. Facts sheets about WFTD to be distributed to this group after the meeting. Will re-extend the invitation to WFTD to present to the committee. Issue is that all info will have to go through WFTD.

Ajourn: 4:42pm