



WHISTLER

MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAY LONG WEEKEND
COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2015, STARTING AT 4:00 P.M.
In the Piccolo Room
4325 Blackcomb Way, Whistler, BC V0N 1B4**

PRESENT:

Chair, RMOW General Manager, Corporate and Community Services, N. McPhail
Councillor J. Grills
General Manager, Four Seasons Whistler, Peter Humig
Director of Bars and Pubs, Gibbons Hospitality, Terry Clark
Member at Large, Nicole Shannon
RCMP Staff Sergeant, Steve LeClair
RMOW Manager, Village Animation and Events, Bob Andrea
GLC/WB, Peter Goff
Maxx Fish / O&R Entertainment, Kody Kellins
O&R Entertainment, Brenton Smith
Recording Secretary, Rose Lawrence

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by S. LeClair
Seconded by T. Clark

That the May Long Weekend Committee adopt the May Long Weekend Committee agenda of April 23, 2015.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by T. Clark
Seconded by S. LeClair

That the May Long Weekend Committee adopt the May Long Weekend Committee minutes of April 9, 2015.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS

Introduction

N. McPhail presented the Committee focus and direction to the invitees.

Hospitality and Hotel Plans

P. Humig mentioned that most hotels will have increased security measures for the long weekend, building on lessons learned from previous years. No concern of how the weekend will go.

Not one hotel has Go-Fest offer advertising. If information is available earlier it will help hotels; e.g. a few months in advance. B. Smith: remember that you're competing for peoples' festival funds.

Action item: B. Andrea to get back to N. Shannon re: using the Festival slogan 'Come out and Play' for local marketing.

Security

T. Clark mentioned that Village Centre food and beverage locations will have security in place.

B. Smith mentioned that they witness underage youth loitering in large groups. He mentioned that the dispatch line can sometimes take a few minutes to answer; they don't always like to call 911 for business interruption. T. Clark mentioned he had met with R. Knapton last week; R. Knapton mentioned that RCMP could monitor that line during that time.

Action item: S. LeClair to confirm the line will be available and issue a communication notice. B. Smith to inform the restaurant association of the outcome.

N. McPhail asked if the policing plan would benefit from the RMOW hiring private security guards to cover off historical areas of high risk for disturbance and/or property damage to compliment public safety and security – ex. Village North.

N. Shannon mentioned that the Merchants' Association is meeting next week; she will report back to the group on the outcome.

S. LeClair noted that their operational plan is progressing well. Communicating with other detachments for advance intel.

N. McPhail added that the investments RMOW and others have made need to be analyzed in terms of their effectiveness, post-event.

Goals

Trying to reduce crime; trying to ensure that Whistler is a safe place on that weekend; and changing public perception about the weekend. Thoughts on how to improve the weekend?

B. Andrea mentioned re: groups of youth: varying approaches: thoughts on providing entertainment for them or making it difficult for them to congregate. S. LeClair noted that youth will want to be here; strategy should be to mitigate the risks. B. Smith asked whether there are ways to engage youth in Go-Fest. B. Andrea responded that youth want to be in groups, to be seen but no one to interact with them; they are focused on their peers. T. Clark mentioned that there could be an all-ages event at the conference centre. B. Andrea noted that they have held similar for New Year with varying degrees of success; suggestion to be considered.

J. Grills had discussed measurable factors with the Mayor: base level factors such as hotel occupancy numbers, police report; are there any other measurables? Does Go-Fest stay on this weekend, or move to another weekend? Also: let's talk re: funding for 2016. He noted that the Go-Fest website still doesn't have the band line-up on it; but that the whistler.com website does.

N. Shannon suggested a goal be educating locals to stay for the weekend celebrations. B. Smith noted that social media posts are for locals to stay away; similar to the negative communication re: low snow. B. Andrea

mentioned that perhaps the Chamber can be engaged to send positive messages to locals.

OTHER BUSINESS

Next Meeting

Wednesday May 6 at 11:30am.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by P. Humig

That the May Long Weekend Committee adjourn the April 23, 2015 meeting at 4:39 p.m.

CARRIED

Signed Original on File

CHAIR: N. McPhail