



WHISTLER

MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING OF WHISTLER BEAR ADVISORY
COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2016 STARTING AT 8:30 A.M.
In the Decker Meeting Room
Public Works Building, Whistler, BC V0N 1B4**

PRESENT:

Heather Beresford, RMOW, Co-Chair, Recording Secretary
Sylvia Dolson, GBS, Co-Chair
Chris Reiss, RMOW Bylaw Services
Paul Kindree, Carney's Waste Systems
Arthur DeJong, WB
Sue Maxwell, RMOW Council
Simon Gravel, Conservation Officer Service
Colin Hedderson, Member at Large
Claire Ruddy, AWARE/C2C Grizzly Bear Initiative

REGRETS:

Nicole Fitzgerald, Member at Large
Brittany Mueller, Conservation Officer Service
Sgt. Rob Knapton, RCMP

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by C. Hedderson
Seconded by S. Maxwell

That the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee agenda of March 9, 2016.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by S. Dolson
Seconded by S. Maxwell

That the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the regular Whistler Bear Advisory Committee minutes of February 10, 2016.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

1. Wildlife Alert Reporting System

Skype presentation by Frank Ritcey, Program Manager for WildsafeBC (formerly Bear Safe)

Viewed Wildlife Alert Reporting System (WARP)
<https://wildsafebc.com/>

Icons representing species and type of attractant are generated from calls to RAPP line and updated every 24 hours. Personal data is removed before posting.

Contains data back to 2010. Site can filter by attractant, species, date range, city, etc.

Community coordinators can use reports to identify clusters, developing situations and conduct public education in specific areas.

If call data is recorded incorrectly (e.g., incorrect or mis-spelled address), site will place an icon in centre of community. Impossible to adjust once placed on WARP.

Access to Whistler data would be through the COS. WARP only shows data submitted to RAPP line. Province publishes quarterly review of all predator calls and outcomes. Available on-line, Frank will send link.

Set up individual user account to enter information as “General Public”. Can receive email alerts for incidents in an area of interest. Can set up “My Wildlife Encounters” to enter your own sightings.

9:10 S. Gravel arrived

WBAC can be set up as a Reporting Group. Historic Whistler data could be entered by F. Ritcey.

Potential for public to be encouraged to sign up, receive alerts, and take action to remove attractants.

9:30 A. DeJong left

All encounter data can be exported as a CSV/Excel file for data analysis.

Signed off Skype call with F. Ritcey.

District of Squamish created its own GIS reporting system and app for community coordinator. Potential for RMOW to do same.

S. Gravel shared COS GIS reporting system that maps all bear reports that go to COS, with locations corrected on Google Earth. WARP uses a different platform so can't share. More information is included about location, type of complaint. COS system not useful for up to the minute reporting or use by the public, but good for overall pattern analysis and planning.

ACTION: S. Gravel will check with GIS technician about how incorrect locations were fixed.

2. UPDATES

CONSERVATION OFFICER SERVICE (COS) UPDATE

- C. Doyle promoted to Deputy Chief of Provincial Operations. Murray Smith is new Inspector for Sea to Sky.
- Quiet, with some bobcat sightings

BYLAW SERVICES UPDATE

- Bylaw Services and COS will meet to discuss working relationship
- Quiet

RCMP UPDATE

N/A

CARNEY'S UPDATE

- Discussed concern that some current large developments may not have solid waste management plans. Problems with space requirements and implementation of new bylaw may occur because of lack of early planning.

ACTION: H. Beresford confirm what information is requested from developers regarding waste disposal facilities.

The Builder's Information Package (Section 3.8.5) alerts developers to Garbage Disposal & Wildlife Attractants Bylaw and provides link.

https://www.whistler.ca/sites/default/files/related/builders_information_package_-_updated_march_2015.pdf

WHISTLER BLACKCOMB UPDATE

- N/A

C2C GRIZZLY BEAR INITIATIVE

- Ongoing work with sign program, etc.
- AWARE is taking over the community garden program

3. RMOW

- Bear Smart Program Assistant starts May 2.
- Garbage Bylaw still aiming for July adoption by Council.
- Conservation Officer Letter of Agreement signed for 2016.
- Special Events waste management process updated with suggestions from H. Beresford based on input from WBAC.
- COS, RMOW and GBS working on bear response plan.

4. GBS

Car-less Residents subcommittee developed draft TOR, and will meet soon.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Actions from previous meetings:
 - COS & Bylaw yet to meet
 - Milestones – COS following up
- Next Meeting – April 13

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by S. Maxwell

That the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adjourn the March 9, 2016
Regular meeting at 10:31 a.m.

CARRIED

CO-CHAIR: Sylvia Dolson