



WHISTLER

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF WHISTLER BEAR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, February 8, 2023, STARTING AT 8:30 A.M.

ZOOM

PRESENT	Mtgs. YTD (11)
Recording Secretary, Hillary Williamson on behalf of Tara Schaufele, RMOW Environmental Stewardship	1
Arthur DeJong, Council	1
Juan Pineda, RMOW Bylaw Services	1
Ivana Minic-Lukac, Whistler Wildlife Protection Group	1
Denise Imbeau, GFL Environmental - Waste Management	1
Taylor Green, Member at Large	1
Adrien Baudouin, Member at Large	1
REGRETS	
Hanneke Snijder, Whistler Blackcomb	0
Claire Ruddy, AWARE	0
Simon Gravel, BC Conservation Officer Service	0
Sgt. Nathan Miller, RCMP	0
Brittany Mueller, BC Conservation Officer Service	

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by A. DeJong
Seconded by J. Pineda

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee Agenda of February 8, 2023.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by A. DeJong
Seconded by I. Minic-Lukac

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Regular Whistler Bear Advisory Committee Minutes of December 14, 2022.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Updates

Conservation Officer Service (COS)

A presentation by B. Mueller was given regarding the Conservation Officer Service activities and a discussion was held

- COS has received a couple sightings of bears.
- One or two bears are active in Whistler Cay/ Nesters and they made some appearances in Whistler Village.
- One bear has attempted to access a BBQ.

RMOW Bylaw Services

A presentation by J. Pineda was given regarding RMOW Bylaw Services activities and a discussion was held.

- Bylaw addressed attractant issue: bear attracted to bird feeder in Barnfield Resident was surprised as they only use it in winter because they thought bears had hibernated. This year bears are still around and have not yet hibernated—potential need for education around non-hibernating bears.
- Two commercial properties had issues with overflowing garbage in the vill: and benchlands. Bylaw received compliance from business owners when working with them, however, issues remain with staff being complacent.

Whistler Wildlife Protection Group

A presentation by I. Minic-Lukac was given regarding Whistler Wildlife Protection Group activities and a discussion was held.

- No reports of human wildlife conflict in Whistler neighborhoods
- The Group is looking for a few volunteers to help door to door for May and June. If new volunteers are recruited, an information session by COS is requested.

T. Green

A discussion by T. Green was held.

- T. Green indicated requested a social media post be published to educate public about how some bears do not hibernate and to remind them to cont securing attractants.
- T. Green informed that Steve Rochetta was willing to present on Grizzly be in Callaghan.

A. DeJong

A discussion by A. DeJong was held.

- DeJong inquired about health of bears and possible reasons behind why bears this winter are not hibernating.
- Recommended a comment to council that our WBAC work is not just aimed at reducing human-bear conflict but to continually support community goals to protect bears and work towards the preservation of bear lives in Whistler.

TOR

T. Schaufele presented review of Terms of Reference. The following changes to the TOR were agreed upon:

- Adjust meeting commitment requirement to must make 2/3 of meeting so that committee can ensure communication between bylaw and RCMP stay open
- Alter verbiage of point 6 in the TOR to include language around the protection of bears and the preservation of bear lives.

ACTION ITEMS

T. Green to contact Steve Rochetta about presenting during the March meeting.

T. Schaufele to update TOR and solidify verbiage with WBAC members.

B. Mueller to indicate availability for conducting an info session for new volunteers.

MOTION TO TERMINATE

Moved by A. DeJong

Seconded by I. Minic-Lukac

That the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee Meeting of February 8 2023 be terminated at 10:00 am

Tara Schaufele

Chair, Tara Schaufele

Tara Schaufele

Recording Secretary, Tara
Schaufele