WHISTLER

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF WHISTLER BEAR ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2022, STARTING AT 8:30 A.M.

ZOOM

PRESENT	Mtgs. YTD (4)
Chair, Tara Schaufele, RMOW Environmental Stewardship	3
Arthur DeJong, Council	4
Adrian Collum sitting in for Juan Pineda, RMOW Bylaw Services	2
Ivana Minic-Lukac, Whistler Wildlife Protection Group	4
Brittany Mueller, BC Conservation Officer Service	2
Recording Secretary, Ashley Dowling	1
REGRETS	
Taylor Green, Member at Large	2
Adrien Baudouin, Member at Large	0
Denise Imbeau, Carney's Waste Systems	0
Simon Gravel, BC Conservation Officer Service	0
Sgt. Rob Knapton, RCMP	0

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee Agenda of May 11, 2022.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by A. DeJong
Seconded by B. Mueller

That Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Regular Whistler Bear Advisory Committee Minutes of April 13, 2022.

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Updates

RMOW Bylaw Services

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

- 5 calls for service regarding unsecured garbage including a pick-up truck with an open bed full of old food and garbage. Education provided, tickets and warning notices issued
- 1 call for service regarding 2 x bird feeders. Education provided and warning notices issued.

A. DeJong

A presentation by A. DeJong was given regarding bear sightings.

- No longer working for Vail, so cannot provide an update on bear movement reported on Whistler or Blackcomb mountains
- Bear sightings in Nordic of sow and three yearling cubs
- Advised we are about three weeks behind average spring green-up due to La Nina and to expect bears in valley longer

RMOW Environmental Stewardship

A presentation by A. Dowling and T. Schaufele was given regarding RMOW Environmental Stewardship activities and a discussion was held.

- Introduction of new Bear Smart Program Assistant
- Request for a new Co-Chair as C. Ruddy is stepping down
- Conversations have continued with Riverside Campground Manager. Riverside management is moving forward with several strategies suggested in 2021 including stronger carabiners, bear caches and increased signage. A centralized eating area has also been suggested which may be trialed in coming months. Images will be sent to Riverside to assist with messaging
- Researching citizen science techniques which could be adopted in Whistler, an update will be provided
- Wildlife Alerts issued for aggressive bear on Alta Lake Road and valley trail closure implemented at request of COS
- BSPA to contact Air BnB about reaching owners in Whistler area to provide educational information to guests
- BSPA to contact Strata and property rental managers with rental one page document

Whistler Wildlife Protection Group

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

- Patrols performed on Whistler Golf Course (WGC), some nights seeing 14 bears grazing. The course opens May 12th so patrols have now stopped
- Advised by some visitors to WGC they were told to go there to view bears, however not provided with bear viewing guidelines
- Some issues on WGC with dog owners being resistant when asked to stop walking dogs there/put dogs on leash due to bear activity

- Door to door education completed in Creekside, residents asked to remove attractants and bird feeders
- Multiple sightings of bears throughout the valley
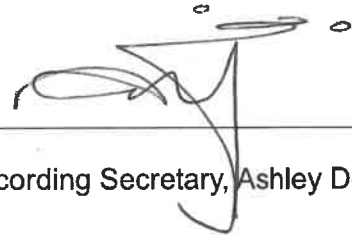- Cars stopping on highway to view bears

MOTION TO TERMINATE

Moved by A. DeJong
Seconded by B. Mueller

That the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee Meeting of May 11, 2022 be terminated at 9:26 a.m.

Tara Schaufele

Chair, Tara Schaufele

Recording Secretary, Ashley Dowling