

Lyme Disease Committee  
of the  
Board of Health  
Dover, MA

**Minutes**

Of meeting held on May 21, 2009

**Present: Marlayne Brace, William Herd, Steve Kruskall, Barbara Roth-Schechter, Matthew Schmid, Paul Tedesco.**

**Absent: Tim Holinder**

**Resigned from LDC: Karl Sheridan**

**1. In an introductory statement the LDC was informed that as early as 1991 the BoH of Dover was concerned enough about LD to form a committee to research and report on the seriousness of LD. A small section of its Final Report was introduced.**

*“After reading the attached articles and minutes, our committee feels the BoH members will have a good understanding of LD and its implications for the town. The important question at this point is; “Do we have to worry about this in Dover?” It is extremely significant that for the first time, the tick which carries the Lyme Disease spirochete has been identified in several towns west of Highway 128. This happened last summer; and one of those towns in which a tick was definitely identified was Dover.”*

**The members of the LDC agreed that Dover can not afford to wait any longer before acting on the LD problem. The LDC is committed to research the situation and propose possible solutions for the town and hopefully our effort can serve as a template for surrounding towns with a similar problem.**

**2. Therefore, the following MISSION STATEMENT for the LDC was agreed upon:**

**It is the mission of the LDC to assess the impact of the Lyme Disease problem on Dover residents and its environment and to recommend remedies for its management to the Board of Health with the expectation that town government will act expeditiously on these recommendations.**

**3. Results of the LD survey of 2008 in Dover were presented and discussed. It was recalled that this survey simply tried to ascertain the present or past incidence of LD in the household without actually asking for the number of individuals having been affected. The results are as follows:**

- Survey cards were sent out to 2000 Dover households

- 738 households responded amounting to 37 %
- Of the responders, 487 (66%) answered in the affirmative, i.e., that at least one individual in the household had had LD
- Of the responders, 251 (34%) answered in the negative

**It was agreed that these are alarming results of the LD incidence in Dover. Furthermore, this survey will be analyzed in greater depth at some later time, since the number of individuals per household and thus the total number of Dover residents with a history of LD, has not yet been counted.**

**4. Meetings will be held regularly on an approximately 2X per month schedule and a final report will be drafted. Each meeting will consist of a presentation by one member of the LDC or an invited expert guest speaker followed by a discussion. The subject and speaker of any next meeting will be agreed upon in the preceding meeting.**

**5. The next meeting of the LDC will be held on  
June 11 at 8:00 – 9:30 AM**

**The subject is “Tick risk management at the personal level including tick removal, safety and use of DEET and Permethrin. The responsible speaker is Barbara Roth-Schechter, Ph.D.**

**6. The following meetings of the LDC are scheduled for 8:00 AM on:  
June 25  
July 16**

**Both meetings will be held in Town Hall in the lower level conference room. The rest of the LDC schedule will be finalized during the July 16 meeting.**

**7. The LDC has set itself the goal of presenting its final report to the BOH no later than December 1, 2009. This report will contain recommendations based on in-depth investigation and discussion of all aspects and issues of LD together with the most recent reference material available.**

**8. Members of the LDC and their coordinates are listed below:**

| <b>Name</b>              | <b>Tel #</b> | <b>e-mail</b>         |
|--------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Brace,<br>Marlayne       | 785-8103     | mcbrace@yahoo.com     |
| Herd,<br>William         | 785-0474     | elliebill@verizon.net |
| Holiner,<br>Tim          | 785-2918     | holiner@pobox.com     |
| Kruskall,<br>Steve       | 785-1195     | skruskall@gmail.com   |
| RothSchechter<br>Barbara | 785-2663     | bfroth@comcast.net    |
| Schmid,<br>Matthew       | 785-2079     | MFSDOVER@Gmail.com    |
| Tedesco,<br>Paul         | 785-1933     | Pht52@aol.com         |

**Respectfully Submitted**  
**Barbara Roth-Schechter, Ph.D.**  
**6-11-2009**