

**Lyme Disease Committee  
of the  
Board of Health  
Dover, MA**

**Meeting Minutes  
January 5, 2012**

**10:00 AM - Lower Level Conference Room**

**Present: Steve Kruskall, Bill Herd, Tim Holiner, Matthew Schmid, Beth Webb, Jim Palmer, Barbara Roth-Schechter, Paul Tedesco**

**Absent: Mike Francis, George Giunta, Diane Fielding**

1. **Review and Approval of the Minutes of Dec 15, 2011 meeting**  
The Minutes were approved unanimously

2. **Final Analysis of 2011 DMP – All**

A total of 17 deer were harvested (11 does, 6 bucks). Everybody agreed that in terms of deer culling this year was unusual and disappointing. Most importantly, however, there were no complaints or accidents reported to the BOH, the DMAs, the Dover PD, to the hunters directly, or Town Hall. In addition, all hunters would like to continue in the program. Jim will send out an end-of-year survey to the hunters, similar to the one obtained last year. Thirty-eight deer-vehicle collisions were reported to the PD. Eight hunters participated in the construction of a deer exclosure in Noanet, boy scouts participated in the construction of same in Powissett.

Barbara will write a summary report of the 2011 DMP and send it to all stake holders, the Board of Selectmen and the Dover PD.

3. **Sam Telford Project – All**

No further news as of this date.

4. **Review of informative letter to abutters – Matthew, Tim, All**

Matthew provided a revised draft letter, but Tim did not have time to revise his draft. Both drafts will be circulated to all LDC members for their review prior to next meeting at which time it will be finalized.

5. **Letter and adjacent town information to the Needham BOH – All**

At the time of the meeting, nobody had managed to obtain more information. Billie provided some contacts after the meeting to the

effect that one of the members of the Needham BOS will contact the LDC as Needham appears to be interested in learning about and possibly adopting our program in the future.

**6. Report on cutting fields and MWL contacts - Barbara**

Hale reservation had not cut the field by the Transfer Station (Barbara reported info from Jay Walsh) but Billie reported that The Highway Department planned to do it. Barbara contacted Tom Rawinski about efficacy and feasibility of field cutting to reduce tick density, but he did not feel confident about providing answers. He forwarded the inquiry to Mr. Simmons. A letter from Mr. Simmons (Restoration Ecologist) was received by Barbara after the meeting and will be distributed at the next LDC meeting. Barbara also contacted Tom O'Shea (Assistant Director of MWL) about extension of the hunting season. No definitive answer had been obtained. The LDC discussed the two options of extending the duration of the hunting season (a regulatory change) or opening Sundays for hunting (a statutory change). Barbara will follow up with these alternatives with Tom O'Shea.

**7. Report on invasive plants to protect against deer browsing – Matthew**

Matthew provided a short review and reading material about invasive plants in New England, together with the website [www.newenglandWILD.org](http://www.newenglandWILD.org) It was decided that this subject will have to be discussed in greater detail at our next meeting. It should also be considered for a subject of a potential LD Forum.

**8. Planning of a town-wide Forum on LD and related subjects**

All LDC members were invited to reflect about the usefulness and execution of a town-wide forum during Spring 2012. This will be the main subject at the next LDC meeting which was scheduled for February 16.

**9. Application for a Mass-DPH Master's degree intern**

An application had to be filed by Jan 20, 2012. Barbara will give an update.

**10. Schedule and Next Meeting**

It was decided to take a short break from the bi-weekly meetings until our next meeting ON FEBRUARY 16, 2012.