

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

**Meeting Minutes  
May 3, 2012**

**Present: Matthew Schmid, George Giunta, Barbara Roth-Schechter,  
Paul Tedesco, Steve Kruskall, Beth Webb, Jim Palmer**

**Absent: Diane Fielding, Mike Francis, Tim Holiner, Bill Herd**

**1. Review and Approval of the Minutes of April 19, 2012 meeting**

**Minutes were approved unanimously**

**2. DPH Intern Program – All**

**Qualifications of MDPH intern were found excellent, as summarized in her own words:**

“I have completed an introductory Biostatistics course, which covered basic statistics as well as multiple and logistic regression, both conceptually and using R. I am just about to complete an introductory SAS class; I feel like I have a pretty good handle on using SAS to manipulate datasets, and perform t-tests, chi-square, correlation and regression. I hope this answers the question about statistics.”

**Project 1 – Draft of anonymous survey**

**Identification of MDs to be included in survey**

**Logistics**

**It was decided that Ms. Burns should be involved in the drafting of the survey and the logistics of the survey, thus it was postponed until her arrival.**

**Project 2 – Barbara reported that Sam cautioned against this program, as it does not address the efficacy of the Daminix tick tubes:**

“If you want to use Damminix it needs to be put out no later than the 2nd week of May. I'm not sure this is a good project because evaluation of efficacy, unless you trap rodents for looking at immediate repellancy, would have to be done with dragging adult ticks in the fall (Damminix will kill nymphs feeding on mice and thus they would not turn into the fall.

The tubes are very effective, it is just that they are delayed gratification.”

**It was decided that a simplified version could be proposed – to be approved by Sam (Barbara to obtain feedback): compare tick density on the surface of the very shady and damp Caryl Park playground compared to the wide open ball field within 60 feet of it. A similar approach of bi-weekly checking of tick sweeping during the 2.5 months of the internship was proposed. The significance of the public health impact of such an evaluation is obvious.**

### **3. Planning of the BOH-LDC website – All**

- **Design of a town-wide mailing to alert residents of the creation of the LDC website (with or without another LD survey) : It was decided that we would target this mailing for the beginning of fall, i.e., after start of school. Thus, it would be premature to design this mailing/survey now. In addition, an LD survey could potentially be more meaningful after the summer.**
- **Review of website objective(s): Matthew reminded the LDC that the primary focus of this website has to be on Dover and the relevant information should be presented accordingly. Barbara had reviewed other local websites, in particular the Parks and Rec site which was found quite attractive and informative. Upon inquiry about the creators of this site with Rich Oasis it was established that other than a graphic design the work had been done by Bill Clark, the town webmaster.**

**Bill was asked to join the LDC and explained that he could lay out the website design for us. He could also collaborate with a consultant who would provide the graphics. Furthermore, provided the Town Administrator agreed to this commitment, Bill could perform the maintenance of this site for the LDC. Following an extensive question-and-answer session, it was decided to take this option under consideration. All LDC members were encouraged to view and evaluate the Dover Parks and Rec site as well as the site of the Dover Historical Society for comparison and a final decision in the near future.**

- **Review of draft Contract for web designer**

**The draft contract as submitted by Lauren Kruskall was reviewed and it was decided to explore the option of using town resources as**

**discussed above, at least to some extent. Barbara is to write a letter to Ms. Kruskall to that effect.**

- 4. Natick BOH meeting 5/3 at 6:45 Members were invited to this event.**
  
- 5. Approval of new meeting time: 9:00 AM for 5/17, 5/31, 6/14, and 6/28**  
**The earlier start time was approved unanimously.**