

Lyme Disease Committee
of the
Board of Health
Dover, MA

Meeting Minutes
October 10, 2013
9:00 AM

Present: Barbara Roth-Schechter, Matthew Schmid, Tim Holiner, George Giunta, Jim Palmer, Mary Hable, Phil Trotter, Kate Cannie

Absent: Angela Wilson-Taylor, Steve Kruskall, Diane Fielding, Mike Francis, Jay Walsh

Guests: Ellen Ishkanian (Boston Globe)

1. Review and Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Minutes of the September 26, 2013 meeting were reviewed and approved unanimously.

2. Internal Communications - Mary

- Kate Cannie was introduced to the Committee and attended the meeting. The Committee voted to approve Kate as a new member. Kate agreed to chair the external communication activities. Next step is to receive approval from the BOH.

3. Deer Management – Jim, George

- Jim and George reported that 62 hunters have completed the approval process for this year's hunt. Additionally there is a lengthy waiting list.
- Background checks on all new hunters and returning hunters have been completed by the Police Chief. A background check for one additional hunter just added will also be completed.
- The triple ID's for the hunters have been completed and are being distributed.
- Barbara noted that the Selectmen's Office has been very helpful with creating the ID's and signs during a time when we are short-handed in the BOH Office.
- George reported that the warning signs for the trails will be posted this week, along with the tick study results signs.
- Barbara placed ads in local papers soliciting more private land for the hunt and received several responses. Jim and George will obtain signed forms from all private property owners in the program (new and returning). Tim will provide wording for the forms going forward that will eliminate the need for participants to sign annually.
- George volunteered to determine and continually update how much acreage (town land and private property) is now in the hunting program.
- Discussion ensued regarding coming up with appropriate volunteer activities for the hunters. Trail clearing and spring clean-up duties were two main suggestions.

- Discussion ensued regarding obtaining a better understanding of the number of deer harvested each season outside of the town-sponsored bow hunting program. Barbara agreed to ask MA Wildlife if numbers of deer harvested by gender in Dover and surrounding towns could be made available.

4. External Communications - Barbara

- Barbara provided a document containing Dr. Rawinski's presentation to Southhold, as well as links appearing in the Suffolk Times. (<http://suffolktimes.timesreview.com/2013/09/42334/editorial-attend-tonights-deer-forum/> and <http://suffolktimes.timesreview.com/2013/09/42392/gustavson-column-yes-deer-your-time-has-come-here/>)
- Barbara contacted Dr. Telford to inquire whether he was aware of any institutions that have funded projects that would be potential collaboration opportunities. Dr. Telford responded that he was not aware of anyone who had funded projects that involved sites in MA.
- Phil contacted Dr. Michael Wong of Infectious Diseases at Beth Israel Hospital to discuss potential collaboration opportunities. Dr. Wong responded that he did not know of any opportunities now but would make inquiries.
- George met with State Representative, Denise Garlick, at the Needham Business Association. He asked her why the Needham BOH was not participating in town-sponsored hunting. She confirmed that deer hunting on town land was not allowed in Needham, but agreed to attend the next Dover LDC meeting and would follow up with the Needham BOH.
- Kate volunteered to track down the status of a bill allowing deer hunting on Sundays in MA. Specifically she will find out where it is in the process and who is sponsoring it. Phil will provide the bill number.
- Discussion ensued with Ellen Ishkanian of the Boston Globe about the work of the Dover LDC. An article is forthcoming.

5. DPH Summer Internship - All

- Dr. Telford has still not had a chance to analyze this summer's ticks for carriage rate.
- The Committee agreed to pass for this meeting on discussing an internship project for next summer.

6. Website - Matthew

- The Committee agreed to include a link to the article about deer management in Connecticut on the website.
- Matthew will be meeting with Bill from IT to obtain an update on the status of GIS system.

7. Database/Archive – Tim

- Tim requested again that Committee members send data files to him for inclusion in the archive.
- Discussion ensued about whether the archive will eventually reside (doverlyme or BOH site).
- Tim is also working on a read-only version of the archive.

8. Adjournment – All

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 am.